







English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) Additional Resource: Sample Survey for Identifying Students' Needs for Studying in EMI Courses

Optional Questions to include on a Needs Assessment Survey for Students in an EMI Course

Note: You can use or modify this survey and then give it to your own students or choose the best questions for your course. Use the information you gain from your survey to plan or make minor revisions to your course and to provide the support students need. This survey can be given in paper form during class or as an online form during or outside of class. Before administering this survey, consider leading a brief discussion with your students about your course being taught in English and about the purpose of the survey—that it is for you to gain important information about their experiences in order to best teach the class. Explaining to students the purpose of this survey will encourage them to think carefully about their responses and share useful information.

Studying in an EMI Course: Student Information Sheet

Dear Student: Welcome to our	course. I look forward to working with you in this course and
studying our important content together. A	As you know, this course will be in English, meaning the readings,
discussions, homework, and exams are all in English. In order to better understand your experiences, please	
complete these questions below. There are	e no wrong answers!

- 1. What is your name?
- 2. Which sentence describes your experiences?
 - 1. I have never taken a class that was mostly taught in English
 - 2. I have taken ESL/EFL classes (i.e., classes on how to speak English) that were mostly taught in English
 - 3. I have taken classes on other subjects (e.g., science, business) that were mostly taught in English

Please list any classes you have taken that were taught in English (not English classes):

- 3. How confident do you feel about taking this course in English?
 - 1. not confident at all
 - 2. somewhat confident
 - 3. very confident

Please comment:



4. How often do you use English in any of your classes now?
1. never
2. sometimes
3. often
4. always
Please comment:
5. In your classes in any language, circle which activities you usually do. (circle as many as you want)
1. take notes (in any language)
2. ask questions to the instructor (in any language)
3. ask questions to other students (in any language)
4. participate in discussions (in any language)
5. talk in pairs or small groups (in any language)
6. give presentations (in any language)
7. Other:
6. If you have taken any classes in English (but not English language classes), what helped you understand the content? Please describe.
7. What are you most worried about for this class? (circle as many as you want)
1. exams in English
2. homework in English
3. using English in class
4. understanding lectures in English
5. Other:
Please comment:
8. What kinds of information do you think you would like to have on handouts? (circle as many as you want
1. An outline of the lecture
2. Discussion questions
3. Lecture notes with gaps to fill in
4. Other:
9. Do you feel comfortable asking questions during lectures, in any language?
1. yes
2. sometimes
3. no
Please comment:
10. Please write below study activities (note taking, reading groups, watching YouTube videos, etc.) you do

English, if any.

Reference¹

Fenton-Smith, B., Stillwell, C., & Dupuy, R. (2017). Professional development for EMI: Exploring Taiwanese lecturers' needs. In B. Fenton-Smith, P. Humphreys, & I. Walkinshaw (Eds.), *English medium instruction in higher education in Asia-Pacific: From policy to pedagogy* (pp. 195-217). Dordrecht: Springer.

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