

Addendum to the observation report for Michelle Johnson

1. Based on this observation, comment on the faculty member's general effectiveness as a member of undergraduate faculty:

Michelle is an excellent instructor who makes an effort to engage students in her explanations and discussions. She is approachable, effective and stimulating, as demonstrated by how comfortable students felt asking questions and participating actively in the class.

2. Within the framework of the faculty member's general effectiveness discussed above, comment on his/her classroom effectiveness, handling of scholarly material, teaching technique and classroom atmosphere

In the class I observed, Michelle started the lesson reviewing material previously taught asking questions to make sure students needs were addressed

Next, she continued presenting the distinction between mass vs. count nouns. This was done in a very effective way as students were given examples and were asked to reflect on them and to think about whether they could be included under an "a" column (if they could be used with "a") or under a "some" column (if they could be used with "some"). Next, a discussion on mass vs. count nouns and their properties followed, creating a stimulating learning environment where students were comfortable participating and making interesting questions.

Finally, a distinction between tense vs. aspect was introduced, again, with a question/answer approach that made students participate actively in their own learning process.

Michelle's teaching style clearly shows that she is aware of how important it is to incorporate students backgrounds in her explanations by avoiding pure lecture style and promoting an interactive environment. I felt that the approach taken for this class was perfect and ideal for a class of this nature. My only suggestion (although she may be doing this in other classes) would be to incorporate, whenever possible, pair or group work to give the chance to participate to those students who may be less willing to speak in front of the whole class.

Overall, I can truly say that Michelle is not only very knowledgeable but also very passionate about the subject she teaches, which makes her the kind of teacher who can motivate and inspire easily.