Remind right away

Professor may assume everyone knows this mistake but others are kept in the dark.

Prevent future problems& confusion

Correct mistakes instantly & benefit the audience as a whole/ overall

Increase the efficiency

Without causing further confusion

Prove total engagement/ concentration in class

May get embarrassed being pointed out

Remind later

Increase the efficiency

Without disruption

Show respect

Not interrupting the professor and other attendants

Maintain harmony without embarrassing others

Say nothing

Mislead others

Possibility of repeating mistakes

In our life, we more or less encounter scenarios in which the presenter’s point contradicts ours or theirs are wrong. Therefore, we have to make a trade-off between pointing out the mistake immediately, pointing out the mistake to the presenter after class, or keeping our mouths shut. From my point of view, it is better to note the professor or the presenter after their lecture or presentation is over. My reason is as follows.

Firstly, noting the presenter after the class but not contemporarily will make them feel less embarrassed. No one likes to let their mistakes known by all the others while they are presenting. Take me as an example, when I was in a calculus class, my teacher told us an answer for a derivative of a function. However, I have already previewed this chapter, and I am pretty sure that that is a wrong answer. I hesitated when I found her mistake, and finally, I chose not to challenge her while we are having class. When the class is over, I told my teacher that her derivative was wrong, and she feels thankful for me to tell her, and also happy for my seriousness in listing to her class.

Meanwhile, pointing out mistakes while the professor is lecturing may disrupt the pace of the class, which was usually pre-planned. Not pointing out the mistake will provide a smooth class with a well-calculated timeline, and the lecturer will not have to stop and explain for their mistakes. Still in the previous example, because I did not interrupt her instantly, she is able to finish the class, otherwise, she may not have finished the class on time.

Obviously, not pointing out the mistake may lead to the mistake being repeated for times. Some audiences may not know that they are wrong and will keep reciting these pieces of information. Also, people need critical thinking as well as the courage of challenging authorities, or there will not be any breakthrough such as sun-centered theory. Also, if we correct their mistakes immediately, we may interrupt the rhythm of the whole lecture which may lead to a delay in the ending of the lecture.

From all of above, it is safe to land the conclusion that it is better for students to note professors after class as it will not interrupt the class also not letting the professor getting embarrassed.