

Tips for Preceptors

Preceptor techniques

- Methods
 - Questions
 - Question student in a non-threatening manner
 - Avoid giving “the answer” without exploring understanding
 - Answer questions carefully and precisely
 - End of the day question
 - What did you learn today
 - What will you remember
 - Experience you found interesting and challenging
 - Explore what the student is ready to learn
 - Accept and encourage critical thinking
 - Express opinions
 - Discuss, explain
 - Use examples
 - Emphasize problem solving
 - Share knowledge and experiences
 - Provide useful information in a creative way
 - Encourage active participation
 - Organized
 - Explains clearly
 - Organized manner
 - Summarizes
 - Listen reflectively and attentively
 - Observe
 - Give specific, objective feedback
- Knowledge
 - Discuss current developments
 - Discuss divergent points of view
 - Reveal broad reading
 - Relates topics to other disciplines
 - Direct students to useful literature

Preceptor experience

- Rewards
 - Satisfaction from sharing knowledge and expertise
 - Stimulation of personal growth
 - Honor and recognition
 - Satisfaction from observing student grow
 - Recruitment of future colleagues
- Avoid these pitfalls
 - Evading key concepts due to lack of confidence
 - Lengthy recitations of material to prove one’s own knowledge
 - Sharing excessive detail not pertinent to the student’s goals
 - Feeling the need to prove one’s expertise
 - Unwilling to say “I don’t know”