

## Teaching Tip 14: Ending Well – Starting New

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This teaching tip is for the end of the semester. The end of the semester is a busy time of the year for many reasons; including wrapping up your courses, the start of the holiday or summer season, and the usual flurry of university's activities that occurs at the end of each semester. Before one packs away the semester it is important to take a few minutes to reflect on the semester. Too often, -because it is easy and faculty are busy- we simply write finals, grade the finals, papers and projects, submit final grades and closed the book on the semester. However, the end of the semester is the best time, before your courses are memories, to reflect on the following:



***How happy am I with this semester's teaching?***

***What worked, what didn't work and what would I like to change or improve?***

***What might I change and is it worth changing?***

***What new approach, pedagogy, or assignments might I integrate into next semester's teaching, or will I do what I've always done and hope for the best?***

Instructors often hear about the importance of being a reflective teacher, someone who periodically reflects upon their teaching and student learning and uses the reflections as a guide to improve their teaching and student learning. Being reflective teacher necessitates that one documents thoughts and possible changes, that will be useful in revising and updating the course for the next time you teach it.

Lastly, remember I and [Education Innovations International Consulting, LLC](http://EducationInnovationsInternationalConsulting.LLC) are here to assist you in improving teaching and learning in your courses, so please, let us know how we can help or if there are specific areas where we can be of service.



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