

# Online Course Evaluation Benefits

- **York University's Online Course Evaluation (ONCE) system does it all in one place:** Program staff link and confirm online each course section in the specific dedicated timeline. The ONCE system sends email communications and reminders to students, grants students access to complete the user-friendly online form with authenticated and anonymous Passport York access, collects the data, reports the findings, and stores all this information in a secure online place.
- **Fast access to your results:** Instructors have automatic access to their own result reports (metrics and comments) as soon as the final grades are released to students. The system even provides department evaluation means. Instructors can also track completed evaluations in real time during the evaluation period.
- **Save the Paper!** Thousands of papers and scantron sheets were used every year by LA&PS for paper evaluations, producing waste. Online course evaluations reduce unnecessary consumption of paper and help our Faculty meet the objectives of the [York University Sustainability Strategy \(pdf\)](#).
- **Reduce resources and physical storage space** - Preparing and delivering packages, returning the completed packages, creating spreadsheets for tracking and reporting, scanning the scantron sheets and running the reports manually, organizing and storing results files and the actual paper evaluations, all takes time, a lot of it. Eliminating physical storage needed for paper evaluations for every department in LA&PS adds up to a lot of space. Also, who wants to sort through boxes and dust.
- **Innovative student experience** - Allows students to conveniently complete course evaluations on their smartphones, tablets, and laptops during class time, at home or on the go. If students miss the dedicated class time, they are still able to complete the evaluation.
- **Tenure & Promotion** – ONCE is now able to provide students the opportunity to self-identify and agree to have their course evaluation ratings and answers used for T & P purposes. For this option to be active the following three criteria must be met: at least one short answer question, six or more enrolled students and at least one full time instructor teaching the section.

*The following note is provided in ONCE:* By typing in your name in the space below, you agree that comments you provide in this course evaluation can be used for consideration of a faculty member's Tenure or Promotion. Your input to this process is valuable. Your course instructor will be provided with a list of those who provided comments and the comments themselves but will never see your comments with

your name attached. Only Tenure & Promotion committee can see names with comments in the confidential file.

- **Other surveys** - Instructors may also use ONCE during the term to conduct evaluations and surveys outside of the End of Term Course Evaluation.
- **Completion Rates** – High completion rates can be achieved by providing allocated class time to complete the online course evaluations and promote its usage and benefits. An additional downside to paper evaluations is that some submissions are considered void due to scantron bubble answers not being filled in correctly.