

YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE POLICY

NARRATIVE ASSESSMENT

I. Pre-clinical Commentaries

Commentaries are narrative descriptions that provide students with feedback about their performance as well as opportunities for academic and professional growth and development. Academic Advisors will review commentaries and support students in areas needing improvement.

Commentaries will be provided in the following pre-clinical courses and clerkship:

- Preclinical Clerkship (years 1 and 2)
- Professional Responsibility
- Physiology
- Histology
- Epidemiology and Public Health

Students have the option of requesting additional commentaries from faculty in other courses and modules.

These commentaries are generally a short letter or paragraph. They are based primarily on student participation and performance in small group teaching sessions or laboratories. The areas of evaluation include:

- Collaboration - ability to work with peers, faculty and staff-showing respect for differing points of views, not dominating discussion and *empowering and engaging others to share in the discussion*.
- Preparation - ability to discuss and apply the material thoughtfully showing familiarity with sources and even *evidence of going beyond provided readings*.
- Initiative – *supplementing activities and discussions of the group using additional and outside resources*.
- Professionalism - demonstrating enthusiasm for learning, regular participation in sessions and the ability to accept and respond constructively to feedback.
- Oral and written communication skills - demonstrating clarity and organization.

*Items in italics indicate evidence of leadership and merit recognition and comment

Commentaries are not for inclusion in the Dean's Letter that is submitted as part of the residency application process. Commentaries will be sent to the students, their Academic Advisors and the Office of Student Affairs for inclusion in the students' permanent record.

II. Clerkship & Elective Narratives

A narrative assessment is provided as a component of the student's final evaluation in each of the required clerkships. The narrative assessment may be included in the Dean's Letter (MSTP).