

The Myths About What Faculty Are Thinking

1. **When class is over, the teaching is complete.**
Actually, faculty at Stanford like teaching here because the classroom is only one place where learning occurs. We are not here simply to convey information, we are here to engage in meaningful conversations with you about our shared academic interests.
2. **We've seen and heard every idea already.**
As faculty, we count on students to bring their unique perspectives into the academic dialogue. Discussion around these ideas yields tomorrow's new technological creations, sociological applications, scientific discoveries, political solutions, etc.
3. **When a student asks a question, we know it means they haven't been listening to our lectures.**
Au contraire! Student questions mean you're thinking beyond the lecture. We like that.
4. **After class, all we want to do is hide out at the Faculty Club.**
Nothing makes us feel better than an enthusiastic student who is inspired to seek us out after a lecture to clarify something.
5. **Just because I'm friendly means you can put your feet on my desk without asking.**
We like respect. You may turn out to be smarter than me, but I'm still older than you. Sign up for appointments ahead of time if possible. Come with specific questions and already thinking about what you want to talk about.