*Please share with your faculty:*

**Rubric Essentials**

* **What is a rubric?** 
  + A rubric is scoring tool that describes a students’ level of performance on an often complex or authentic task (e.g. essays, performance assessments, portfolios, oral presentations)
  + Rubrics include rating criteria for important dimensions of performance, and standards of attainment for those criteria
* **Why use rubrics?**
  + **Rubrics enhance reliability of ratings**. This includes consistency in ratings between scorers and consistency in your own scoring of students’ work
  + **Rubrics facilitate valid judgments of performance assessments**. Rubrics help to ensure you are measuring what your purport to be measuring, and that you are drawing accurate conclusions based on assessment results
  + **Rubrics promote learning and improve instruction by**:
    - Making expectations and scoring transparent
    - Providing specific concrete feedback for instructor and learner
    - Enhancing intentional teaching, and students’ motivation and self-regulated learning
* **What are the different types of rubrics?**
  + **Generic rubrics:** Contain criteria that are relevant across tasks
  + **Task-specific rubrics:** Unique to a specific task
  + **Holistic scoring rubrics :** Providean overall judgment about the quality of performance
  + **Analytic scoring rubrics:** assign separate scores to each of the dimensions or criteria of a task being assessed
* **Tips for creating an effective rubric:**
  + **Be specific**. An effective rubric consists of specific criteria that students are expected to show in their work. The criteria should reflect the specific skills you deem as most important for students to demonstrate.
  + **Keep it concise**. The best rubrics are not only specific, but are also simple. As a general rule of thumb, there should usually be no more than four rating levels. In addition, the rubric should focus on listing of the criteria that are deemed most essential for students to demonstrate on a given assignment.
  + **Make it transparent**. Share your rubric with your students. By providing students with the rubric that will be used to score their work ahead of time, students will know exactly what the expectations are for an assignment. This in turn will enable students to self-assess their work prior to turning it in, and will lead to overall greater performance and self-ownership over their learning. In addition, by providing students with the rubric and corresponding feedback when passing back an assignment, students will know exactly what areas they need to work on for next time. This will also lead to greater self-reflection and self-improvement in their learning.

**Check Out**: The Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC& U) has developed and published a set of peer reviewed Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education (VALUE) rubrics including:  critical thinking, written communication, oral communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy and more.  Here is a link to download these rubrics:

<http://www.aacu.org/value-rubrics>

**Please share examples of how you are using rubrics:** If you have examples that you would like to share of how your program has been using rubrics to assess students’ attainment of program and/or course-level objectives, please email them to me, and I will feature those examples on [YU’s Learning Assessment Website](https://owa.yu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=qfPSe4wRYkKrpT3C8vPq8A7wjn94UtMIlXPnm4uIb63uPB_8kYqY2U_p2t2TYINMonFFOW1vbo0.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fyu.edu%2fprovost%2fassessment%2f).

**Important Reminder:** Please contact me if you have any questions about any aspect of your Fall 2018 assessment activities or preparing your end-of-semester assessment reports.

Thank you!