

YU Assessment Tip of the Month!
May 2016

Please share with your faculty:

The Essentials about Rubrics

- **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 enhancing both inter-reliability (consistency in ratings between scorers) and intra-reliability (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 :** Provide an 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

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



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program and/or course-level objectives, please email them to me, and I will feature those examples on [YU's Learning Assessment Website](#).

Important Reminder: Please email me your end-of-semester Spring 2016 Assessment Activity Reports by Thursday May 27th. Thank you!