

Step 5: Writing and Using Rubrics

What is a link that will explain how to create rubrics or show examples of them?

Writing Effective Rubrics by Brophy, T. University of Florida Office of the Provost, Institutional Assessment. http://web.cse.ohio-state.edu/~soundarajan.1/abet/writing_effective_rubrics_guide_v2.pdf

How do we use rubrics when we assess student work? Faculty should collaborate to use rubrics and evaluate student work when there are multiple sections and faculty teaching the course. Programs and departments can decide if they want faculty to assess their own students or if they want to have two or more faculty grade the same student paper. Rubrics set the standard for the work and are usually on a scale. It can be as simple as 0 for did not do the work, 1 unacceptable, 2 acceptable, and 3 exceptional. Faculty should collaborate to develop standards on the ratings and be descriptive enough on each level so everyone understands the criteria. If a multiple-choice test is used and there are three questions on the concept, you may want one to be introductory, one more challenging, and another difficult to help determine where students are in terms of their learning.

How do we do the actual assessment? How you do this is your choice. You can sit down together in a room, share work using methods that meet FERPA standards like Box or pass work and papers back and forth. If you are assessing projects or assignments that students submitted in Moodle, you can add other faculty to your class to access and read the papers or student work. Find a way that works best for you. To track students, download and create a roll sheet from Moodle, for example, and then put the assessment score next to the students' names. If you link assessment with students, make sure you follow what you learned in the FERPA training just as you learned to do for grades. If you connect the assessment score to your students individually, there is the possibility to study outcomes and incorporate demographic data. This can be helpful if your program is working to determine how best to help and support various demographic groups.

Who do we share the rubrics with? Both students and faculty should have access to the rubrics used to assess student work. Rubrics help students understand your expectations. Faculty engaged in evaluating student work for assessment should use the rubrics, but everyone in the program should have access to them. General Education classes have rubrics to use that are posted on the State Board of Education site, but other programs have the flexibility to develop their own.