

Assignment 8: Project and Rubric

Background:

“A rubric is an explicit summary of the criteria for assessing a particular piece of student work, plus levels of potential achievement for each criterion. Rubrics produce assessments that are far more detailed than a single, holistic grade. Instead of concluding that this was a “B- paper,” the rubric-based assessment notes the level of achievement for each of the criteria (e.g., use of evidence, coherence of argument, ...) Rubrics are also popular because, if students see the rubric when they receive the assignment, they have a more clear idea of what the instructor expects.” (Walvoord, 2008)²

Rationale:

As I am sure you have encountered in your time at school, rubrics are all the craze. To a large extent, this is a very good trend. Students should never just be told this was a “B- paper”, they should know exactly what kept it from that “A.” This way they can work on those shortcomings and overcome them in future assignments. However, a good rubric is exceedingly difficult to create, rarely reaching perfection until you’ve given the assignment a few times and had a chance to revise it. Thankfully, there are some technological aids that exist to help you in your rubric creation.

Directions:

You are to craft a project for your class. The project must combine the student use of technology, skill instruction and content coverage. You are to then create your own rubric for this project. The rubric should:

- Breakdown the assignment into at least 4 categories of assessment
- Include four levels of proficiency
- Clearly state the criteria for each level of proficiency in each category
- In your email to me, establish your objectives and target curriculum standards.

Score Guide: 50 points

- Project meaningfully combines student use of technology, skill instruction and content coverage 50pts.
- The criteria necessary to score at each level of proficiency is clearly articulated and quantifiable differentiated from its neighbor. 30 pts.
- The directions and layout are clear and easy to follow 10 pts.
- The lesson plans objectives are clear and measurable 10 pts.
100 pts.

² Walvoord, B. Retrieved 8/12/08 from <http://www.tltgroup.org/resources/flashlight/rubrics.htm>.