Faculty
Development
Workshop

TOOLS FOR TEACHING: RUBRICS

Art Center College of Design



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Tools for Teaching: RUBRICS

A rubric is a tool that can be used to evaluate student work and provide feedback in relation to pre-determined criteria and expectations.

Ideally a Rubric is distributed to the students along with the Project Brief or Assignment Description. The Rubric allows students to measure their own progress and related critique and other feedback to next steps for improvement, increasing autonomy and self-directed work. For faculty, a Rubric can be a tool to use during instruction to create shared definitions and understanding of concepts, and to support critique by focusing on criteria, parameters, and expectations for work at various stages of completion. Once created, a rubric is easy to use for grading by marking level of completion and corresponding score/value.

The essential elements of a Rubric are a list of criteria and a rating scale for evaluation, used with a combination of expectations for student work (in stages or completed). The rating scale is often expressed numerically with written descriptions for clarity. The Assessment Scale below asks for work to be rated on a range from 0-4, with single word corresponding descriptions and a longer detailed description below. The rating scale corresponds to a 4.0 GPA scale and Art Center's grade descriptions (see Appendix for a table of grading scale expectations and rubric score alignment).

Assessment Scale	0	1	2	3	4
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Effective	Highly Effective
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	Consistently demonstrates competency regarding the practices described in the key grading criteria.	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.
Project Criteria					

Criteria & Core Competency Definition

The next step to creating and using a Rubric is to define the Criteria or Core Competencies that you expect students to evidence through their work. These are often stated on the Syllabus as Course Learning Objectives and also appear in Project Briefs or Assignment Descriptions as checklists, parameters, and expectations for production. Once the Criteria have been defined (a process that is often best done with the class) they can be put into different Rubric forms that allow for more or less objectivity, depending on the topic and the nature of the work.

Criteria / Core Competency:			
			_
	1		
Criteria / Core Competency:			
Criteria / Core Competency:			
	_		
Criteria / Core Competency:		 	

The 2 Rubric Templates in this packet (*Criteria & Parameters*, and *Degrees of Quality*) are both derived from definitions of criteria / core competencies and use SWBAT language (*Students Will be Able to...*) for clarification. The different models allow for differing degrees of objectivity based on subject, topic, and instructor preference. In the following pages you will find outlines, samples, and templates for both these models.

Criteria & Parameters

The template titled **Criteria & Parameters** focuses on the Criteria for a project that students are asked to address and the Parameters they are expected to work within. The Criteria are identified in the left column. The assessment score is given in the right column with a field below for specific notes, suggestions, and/or next steps. The row across the top has the Rubric levels with a numeric value, a single-word description for reference, and corresponding detailed descriptions.

Rubric Outline - Criteria & Parameters

Assessment Scale	0	1	2		3			4	
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Ef	fectiv	ective Highly Effective			
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	dem cor rega pi desci key	nsistent nonstrat npetend arding the ractices ribed in gradin criteria.	es cy he the	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.		
Criteria Description						Asse	essment	Score	
Criteria [Criteria for concept and expectat	•	•		or	N/A	1	2	3	4
describes what <i>Students Will be Able to Do</i> at the completion of the project or a period of time is good to use here. This can be written in advance by the instructor then amended and agreed upon by the class. The criteria can also be divided in different ways to reflect complexity, for example; characteristics of a Learner vs. expectations of skills/ability.									
Notes: This space ca	n be used for spec	ific notes, suggestic	ons, or next steps for	a proje	ct.				

Rubric Sample – Criteria & Parameters

Six Eleme	Six Elements of a Professional Presentation: Tony Luna, PHO 2014						College	of De	sign
Assessment Scale	0	1	2		3		4		
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Ef	fective	е	Highly Effective		
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions Criteria Description	the Asse	Consist innovat integrat nuance sophist demonstration	tently ive, ted, ed, and icated stration ts in the g criteria	of e key					
Point of View: After experiencing the presentation do you have a clear concept of the presenter's comprehension of the subject and how they view							2	3	4
the world relative to the	ne subject matter?								
Notes:									
Continuity: Once the move seamlessly, con					N/A	1	2	3	4
Notes:									
Professionalism: We	ere there any distra	ctions due to the pr	esenter's:		N/A	1	2	3	4
- Use of inay - Bad body p - Voice too s - Lack of eye	opropriate vocab or osture oft or too loud, too	fast or slow, or mon		tter					
Notes:									
Take-Away: Were yo simple sentence? In o the audience was able	other words was the	ere a clear and men	•		N/A	1	2	3	4
Notes:									
Originality: Was the	tonic original or wa	s it derivative? Did t	the presenter		N/A	1	2	3	4
Originality: Was the topic original or was it derivative? Did the presenter provide a novel or unique way of presenting the material?									7
Notes:									
Relevance to Audie	•				N/A	1	2	3	4
research the needs of expectations of the au		renand, and did he	meet or exceed the						
Notes:									

Rubric Sample – Criteria & Parameters

Faculty	Development Sam Holtzr	Observation F	Form:	• A	rt Cer	nter C	College	of De	sign
Assessment Scale	0	1	2		3		4		
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Ef	fective	е	Highly Effective		
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	dem con rega pr descr key	nsistent nonstrat npetend arding the ractices ribed in gradin criteria.	es by he the	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.		
Criteria Description						Asse	ssment	Score	
Planning: The exercise to identified goals/object	ectives and student	t learning outcomes	. Supporting materia		N/A	1	2	3	4
instruction is develope Notes:	ed for students in m	nultiple formats whe	n applicable.						
Instruction: The less way, using academic vocabulary. Material copportunity for access	language, appropri covered is introduce	ate terminology, aned in a manner that	d discipline specific		N/A	1	2	3	4
Participation & Enga equitable way and pro to participate in all aca their ability.	vides appropriate	scaffolds as needed	l. Students are exped	cted	N/A	1	2	3	4
Notes:									
Classroom Manager an effective manner, a Classroom administra schedule, and assignr conducive to all stude optimal for differentiat needs.	allowing for a range tive needs are atte ment reminders. O nts being able to a	e of activities to suppended to with regular verall, the classroon ccomplish all tasks	port student learning rity, such as attendar n/studio atmosphere in a safe way that is	is	N/A	1	2	3	4
Notes:									
Assessment & Feed methods throughout the expectations that have description, or presen class. Assessment sh	he lesson/exercise e been established ted that day) and c	day. The feedback (defined in the sylla ontains next-steps	is based on clear abus, assignment for individuals and th	e	N/A	1	2	3	4
Notes:									

Rubric Template - Criteria & Parameters

	Rubric Template						College	of De	sign	
Assessment Scale	0	1	2		3		4			
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Ef	fective	е	H Eff			
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	dem cor rega pi desc key	nsistent nonstrat npetend arding the ractices ribed in y gradin criteria.	es by ne the	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.			
Criteria Description						Asse	ssment	Score		
Criteria:					N/A	1	2	3	4	
Notes:										
Criteria:					N/A	1	2	3	4	
Notes:							•			
Criteria:					N/A	1	2	3	4	
Notes:										
Criteria:					N/A	1	2	3	4	
Notes:										

Degrees of Quality

The template titled **Degrees of Quality** focuses on the expectations for student production as measured through Degrees of Quality – written statements that reference the elements or understanding a project at that level should evidence. The Criteria are identified in the left column. The corresponding rows should have text that differentiates between assessment scores based on elements that the work contains (or is missing). The row across the top has the Rubric levels with a numeric value, a single-word description for reference, and corresponding detailed descriptions.

Rubric Outline - Degrees of Quality

Assessment Scale	0	1	2	3	4
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Effective	Highly Effective
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	Consistently demonstrates competency regarding the practices described in the key grading criteria.	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.
Project Criteria	Neither X nor Y Does not meet expectations or address basic criteria	X or Y Insert Level 1 Description: Work at this stage is missing some basic elements	X and Y Level 2: This is the target – all criteria are present and addressed in a basic way	X! and Y! Level 3: All criteria are present and addressed in an advanced way. Work meets expectations for assignment	X!, Y!, and Z Level 4: Advanced understanding of criteria with the addition of something new. Work exceeds expectations
	(F)	(D)	(C)	(B)	(A)

Rubric Sample - Degrees of Quality

Communication (#		oklet Project - S an - GPK, 2014)	Sample Rubric	Art Center College of Design			
Assessment Scale	0	1	2	3	4		
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Effective	Highly Effective		
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	Consistently demonstrates competency regarding the practices described in the key grading criteria.	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.		
Documentation/ Weekly Workbook	Failure to turn in completed documentation and/or failure to meet the minimal requirements outlined in level 1.	Work missing, organization lacking, analyses incomplete and/or uninformative.	Work complete but organization lacking, analyses are perfunctory.	Content complete and organized, analyses are self-reflective and informative.	Content complete and organized at a level that informs all viewers, analyses are thoughtful and informative.		
Workflow	Failure to turn in completed documentation and/or failure to meet the minimal requirements outlined in level 1.	No/little weekly progress/effort, homework often not ready at start of class, work-in-class (wic) underutilized, critique points not integrated into weekly progress.	progress/effort, homework often not ready at start of class, work-n-class (wic) under-utilized, critique points are not integrated not weekly progress, homework not consistently ready at start of class, wic under-utilized, critique points are not fully integrated into weekly progress.		Weekly progress is robust and well-prepared for critique, progress is made during wic, thoughtful response to critique is evident and enhanced by additional investigation.		
Participation	Failure to turn in completed documentation and/or failure to meet the minimal requirements outlined in level 1.	Classroom presence non- committal / critique participation not forthcoming / personal presentations do not show a full understanding of the project itself.	Classroom presence is perfunctory, critique participation is minimal/ personal presentations lack commitment to work.	Classroom presence is beneficial overall, participation in critiques is thoughtful, personal presentations show an understanding and commitment to the work.	Classroom presence beneficial overall, participation in critiques is topical, thoughtful, and in the interest of progress, personal presentations are meaningful additions to the work itself.		

(See Appendix for Booklet Project Full Grading Rubric Sample - Goodman, 2014)

Rubric Template – Degrees of Quality

	Rubric Te	emplate		Art Center College of Design				
Assessment Scale	0	1	2	3	4			
Single Word Description	N/A	Ineffective	Progressing	Effective	Highly Effective			
Corresponding Detailed Descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	Struggles to demonstrate practices described in the key grading criteria.	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time.	Consistently demonstrates competency regarding the practices described in the key grading criteria.	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.			
Project Criteria								
Project Criteria								
Project Criteria								
Project Criteria								

Appendix

ACCD Grading Expectations and Rubric Score Alignment

	Grad	ling Sy	stem	& Des	criptio	ns				Art Center College of Design			
4.0 scale	0		1			2			3		4	+	
single word description	N/A	In	effectiv	⁄e	Pro	gressir	ng	E	Effective		Highly Effective		
corresponding detailed descriptions	Did not demonstrate, either through absence and/or serious deficiencies, the described criteria.	demonst described	Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time. Performs within the described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time. Consistently demonstrates competency regarding the practices described in the key grading criteria.			described key grading criteria. Showing some improvement over time. demonstrat competency the practice in the key grading		cribed	Consistently innovative, integrated, nuanced, and sophisticated demonstration of elements in the key grading criteria.				
corresponding accd point	0.00	0.75	1.0	1.5	1.75	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	3.5	3.75	4.0	
range and letter grade	F	D-	D	D+	C-	С	C+	B-	В	B+	A-	A	
corresponding 100 pt scale	0-59	60-69				70-79		80-89		90-1	100		
existing accd grade descriptions	An F is a failing grade, which is given to student who have been absent from class 3 or more times and/or have not produced the work required. The quality and quantity of the work in and out of class is unacceptable. The work does not qualify the student to progress to a more advanced level.	A D is a bit of the lower for a delivity Although to the requirement their work to progress of study/p work show understan with the miles of the Different from the Signature of the Different from the Signature of the Circumstar from the Signature of the Circumstar from the Signature of the Class.	st grade predefined production statement of the still qualifies to the net of the net of the still qualifies to the net of the instead of the instead of the instance of the net	ossible uct. It has assic class, ies them ext level The nnection d is the tructor, be attracted as the tructor, be attracted as the tructor, and the tructor and ing student	A C+ is the cumulative accomplish graduation. Undergrad Art Center A C+ is an which dem satisfactor of the sub, accomplish requireme competent flashes of. A C is an a which dem satisfactor of the sub, accomplish requireme initiative, or or ally and acceptable generally lunderstand concepts. The concepts was the reduced the sub or her own.	elevel of ament requirement re	ram at grade, a ension vork of asic mentary ade, a ension r, nimum ys little attes at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension of a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at an I eptable basic while 19, the found a ension at a the same at a the s	A B is an honor grade, which is given to students who demonstrate a solid understanding of the assignments given and have produced work of considerable achievement. The B student is an active listener, and accomplishes more than the minimum work required. The work is good; the focus is clear, however some areas though grasped, have not been used, developed or fully exploited. A B should be considered a high grade given to students of significant potential that have specific areas to be developed.		An A is a h honor gracis reserved exceptiona students we excelled in production for the clase either visus written for work leave no room for improvement is complete; content is substantial addition the has participactively an helpfully in critiques. To student seesides of an integrates previously and anticip next steps progression ideas. The student is example for to follow.	de, which de, which de for all who have the trequired as in all or m. The as little or or ent. The state of the clear and defended defende		

Graphic Design Project Grading Rubric (Sample Courtesy of Allison Goodman, 2014)

Narrative Sequence	Ce 1/3 rd of project grade		category grade	2.4		
overall descriptions/categories	0	1 - Ineffective	2 - Progressing	3 - Effective	4 – Highly Effective	
point of view (pov) and use of motif:		lacking interest, weak, unable to attract	present but not fully utilized √	clear, applicable to topic	fully engaging throughout booklet	
visual prediction and resolution	failure to turn in	absent and/or noticeably unresolved	present but sometimes inconsistent √	successful narrative arc	seamless narrative experience	
photo selection & editing; text/image relationships	completed work and/or failure to meet the minimal requirements outlined in level 1	unremarkable, not in support of pov or motif	predictable and/or successful but without delight √	attractive and in support of narrative	innovative and attractive	
rhythm, pacing, orientation, density & visual distribution		indistinguishable and/or, not in support of pov or motif	intermittently successful, not fully in support of pov or motif	in full support of pov √	flawless	
final output		incomplete and/or technically compromised to the point of distraction	all elements included and in order, but lacking re: paper, printout and/or binding	achieves acceptable technical competence √	technical output complements the design in every way	
Typography 1/3 rd of	project grade		category grade	2.66		
overall descriptions/categories	0	1 - Ineffective	2 - Progressing	3 - Effective	4 – Highly Effective	
connection of typographic approach to narrative	failure to turn in	lacking and/or unclear	evident but not uniformly successful	successful connection of type to narrative	extremely strong editorial quality in the typographic approach	
editorial differentiation and organization	completed work and/or failure to meet the	typographic choices lack visual hierarchy	unclear and/or inconsistent hierarchy	present and consistent visual hierarchy √	obvious and useful visual hierarchy	
technical practices (including but not limited to leading, rags, type density, tracking, hanging quotations, column width(s), etc.)	minimal requirements outlined in level 1	does not meet baseline acceptability	emerging successful practices but not consistent √	competent technical practices	excellent technical workmanship	
Documentation, W	Vorkflow, Participati	On 1/3 rd of project grade	category grade	2.33		
overall descriptions/categories	0	1 - Ineffective	2 - Progressing	3 - Effective	4 - Highly Effective	
documentation/ weekly workbook		work missing, organization lacking, analyses incomplete and/or uninformative	work complete but organization lacking, analyses are perfunctory	content complete and organized, analyses are self-reflective and informative	content complete and organized at a level that informs all viewers, analyses are thoughtful and informative	
workflow	failure to turn in completed documentation and/or failure to meet the minimal requirements	no/little weekly progress/effort, homework often not ready at start of class, work-in-class (wic) underutilized, critique points not integrated into weekly progress	inconsistent weekly progress, homework not consistently ready at start of class, wic under- utilized, critique points are not fully integrated into weekly progress	weekly effort is evident, homework preparation is complete and ready at the start of class, wic is utilized, thoughtful response to critique is evident in the work v	weekly progress is robust and well-prepared for critique, progress is made during wic, thoughtful response to critique is evident and enhanced by additional investigation.	
participation	outlined in level 1.	classroom presence non- committal / critique participation not forthcoming / personal presentations do not show a full understanding of the project itself.	classroom presence is perfunctory, critique participation is minimal/personal presentations lack commitment to work.	classroom presence is beneficial overall, participation in critiques is thoughtful, personal presentations show an understanding and commitment to the work.	classroom presence beneficial overall, participation in critiques is topical, thoughtful, and in the interest of progress, personal presentations are meaningful additions to the work itself.	