SLO Rubric Workshop

Susan McMurray
Joan Thomas-Spiegel
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What is a rubric?

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- Not quite… That is a Rubik's Cube, but in many ways they are similar.

A Rubric Model

- Rubrics are multi-dimensional (remember the cube with six sides).
- They are hard to solve if you have never seen one and don't know what the final product should be.
- They take practice.
- We know when we get it right.

Today's Objectives

- Clarify terminology
  - Holistic and analytic assessment
  - Qualitative and quantitative assessment
  - Formative and summative assessment
  - Content Validity
- Provide examples
- Allow time to think and process

Today's Outcomes

At the end of this session, faculty will be able to:

- Differentiate between holistic and analytic rubrics.
- Test questions or assignments for content validity.
- Implement qualitative and quantitative assessment.
- Create samples of formative and summative rubrics for classroom use.

General Education

- Rubrics have been used a long time in some disciplines such as English, but not in all areas.
- Standards apply to all courses.
- Rubrics serve a purpose.

The Purposes

- Demystify the assignment or task requirements (unless it is a course in mind-reading).
- Create a fair scoring system that is easily replicated from class to class and student to student.
- Help students see the goal to achieve the goal.

Holistic and Analytic Assessment

- Holistic rubrics
  - Most often used as a global assessment of the student's work as a whole.
  - May not be objective enough to guide the student or provide reliability from case to case.
- Analytic rubrics
  - Most often used to identify and assess components of a finished product.
  - Portions may be weighted with either holistic or analytic assessment

Qualitative and Quantitative

- Qualitative
  - Sometimes called indirect measure
  - Involves numbers that are assigned to allow data summary, but have no direct meaning (Likert scale)
- Quantitative
  - Sometimes called direct measure
  - Involves numbers that directly relate to what is being measured (correct answer to a math problem)

Both assessments together provide the richest data.

Formative and Summative

- Formative
  - Evaluation that helps shape the student's knowledge or skills.
- Summative
  - A final assessment of a student's knowledge or skills.
  - A summative assessment can be formative for a coming course or experience with sufficient feedback.

The best semester plan may be to use both formative and summative assessment.

Content Validity

- Are you measuring what you say you are?
- And did you share what you want to measure with students?
- You may want to ask others--students or faculty what they think the assignment asks and if the assignment is measuring what you intended.
- You may want to test run the assignment and rubric with a small group (sample) before you implement it as part of your course.

Creating a Rubric

- Start with one assignment or portion of an assignment (a discreet teaching unit) that directly relates to a course SLO.
- Ask yourself (and another person) if the assignment portion is clear, has face content validity, and is direct or indirect.

Before/During/After

- Share your rubric and discuss the meaning of any higher level terms with students before the assignment, during the process, and after.
- Formative assessment would allow multiple similar assignments or iterations of the assignment to build skills.
- Summative assessment can still help shape the student's learning and understanding for future courses, if they receive feedback afterward.

SLO Assessment as a Bigger Picture

- To expand rubrics and SLO assessment from the student level to the class level (and eventually course, discipline, and college):
  - Consider gathering class level aggregate data.
  - Ask the research department to provide demographics for possible impact studies.
  - Do pre and post comparisons.

The Final Solution

To solve the Rubik's cube,

- We want to see an example or have it explained well,
- Try our hand and receive visual or interactive feedback,
- Know when we reach the goal.

Can your rubric provide a similar experience?

Additional Resources

- In addition to handouts provided today, several websites provide examples by discipline and blank templates.
- http://www.rubrician.com
- http://www.teachervision.fen.com/teaching-methods-and-management/rubrics/4524.html
- http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schrockguide/assess.html
- http://www.tensigma.org/rightbars/rubrics_rbl.html