Why and How to Best Use Rubrics in Blackboard

Subject: Learn the benefits of using Blackboard Learn’s interactive Rubrics. This presentation will also include how-to instructions and some best practices.

Objectives
- Define academic rubric
- pros and cons
- learn how to use
- best practices and pitfalls
We are using clickers to see where we will stand on grading and rubrics. Great concept!

Rubric
Any established mode of conduct or procedure; protocol.

Academic Rubric
Explicit set of criteria that’s used for assessing students’ work.

Pros of a Rubric
- promotes consistent, accurate and fair descriptive assessment
- Promotes self-reflection and self-assessment in students (leads to higher quality work)
- Enables comparison of works across settings (use criteria in several assignments throughout the year to help assess progress in how they are doing to achieve goals)
- Rubrics reduce need for clarification. (Time Savers)
- Promotes Formative Assessment

What does a rubric look like?
Holistic Rubric – applies to the whole of the assignment. Not broken down by criteria.

General Rubric – Contains criteria that are general across all tasks. Clarity of Description 35% Opinions %35 References %10 Structure/Grammar %25

Analytic Rubric – Breaks assignment down by criteria along several dimensions. Puts it into specific things you want the student to do.
Cons of a Rubric

- Too specific, too detail oriented (easy for this to happen)
- Not appropriate for all situations (algebra for example – calculate correctly or not)
- Time Consuming
- Do not capture complexity and creativity of some works

Steps to create Rubric

- Determine learning outcomes
- keep it short 4-15 items
- each rubric should focus on a different skill
- Focus on how students express learning
- Evaluate only measurable criteria
- reevaluate the rubric

Building Rubrics:

- Ctrl Panel > Course Tools > Rubrics > Create Rubric
- Supply Name and Description
- Complete Rubric details (columns are levels of achievement and rows are criteria)

Rubrics can be exported and imported through Blackboard.

Adding Rubric to Assignment:

- Go to assignment > Edit
- Section 3 – Add Rubric (select rubric, create new rubric, create from existing)
- Select the Rubric(s) you created and want to use
- Set points from Rubric to points from assignment (only works for Points based rubrics)
- Click OK
- You can then delete, view and edit rubric as well as change type (grading, secondary eval), show rubric to students (make sure to say “yes with rubric scores”)

Grading with rubric

- Grade Center
- Go to assignment
- find student Grade attempt
• Click View Rubric Button
• Check the appropriate check box for what the student accomplished in terms of levels and criteria
• You can give feedback on specific criteria
• Points are automatically totaled

Student – goes to My Grades > View Rubric