**February 2023**

*Please share with your faculty:*

**Distinguishing between students’ assignment grades and performance on student learning assessments**

When analyzing students’ performance on specific student learning outcomes it is important to separate their performance on a given objective from their grades on the assignment as a whole. That is because there are usually other criteria that factor into a students’ assignment grades than just the specific objective being assessed. For example, if the objective is to determine if students are to show critical thinking skills on an assignment this objective may be one of many criteria that factor into students’ final grades on the assignment. Additional criteria may include writing quality, organization of ideas, or timeliness of handing in work. One way of effectively distinguishing students’ attainment of an objective is to use an analytic scoring rubric to score assignments. An analytic scoring rubric includes all the expected criteria that the student must demonstrate on an assignment. The targeted objective can be one criterion that students are evaluated on and thus results for how students performed just on that criterion can be discussed separately from their final assignment grades. In addition, it is useful to show students the grading rubric along with the assignment directions so that they can see what the expectations are for the assignment, and also know what objectives they are supposed to attain from the learning experience.

**Check out!** DePaul Teaching Commons. Creating rubrics. Retrieved Jan. 17, 2023 from <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching-guides/feedback-grading/rubrics/Pages/creating-rubrics.aspx>

**Please share examples** of how your program uses analytic scoring rubrics to evaluate students’ performance on specific student learning objectives and I will post those examples on [YU’s Learning Assessment Website](http://yu.edu/provost/assessment/).

**Important reminder:** If you have not already done so, please email me your Fall 2022 program assessment report, and contact me with any questions about your Spring 2023 assessment report.