Events Spring 2012

Untangling Grading Complexities with Rubrics

Laurie Abbott
Animal & Range Sciences

Friday, March 2
9:30–11 a.m.
Room 50 Milton Hall

Do you ever give an assignment only to get endless questions about what exact elements are required in the final product? Or worse yet, find that your students’ work does not meet your expectations, even though you thought the assignment and your expectations for performance were crystal clear? How about grading—ever worry that you are not being truly objective? When giving feedback on an assignment, do you find yourself repeating the same comments over and over again? Before you throw in the towel, give rubrics a try. Rubrics are versatile, easy to use assessment tools that can help improve your grading efficiency, clearly convey your expectations for performance on assignments, and help you to provide effective feedback. In this workshop you will learn how to develop different types of rubrics to untangle grading complexities. Bring an example of an assignment that you find challenging to grade, and see how rubrics can alleviate grading woes.

Laurie Abbott, Ph.D., is an associate professor of range science, and joined the faculty in NMSU’s Department of Animal and Range Sciences in 2000. Laurie teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in rangeland ecology, restoration ecology, vegetation measurements, and quantitative plant ecology. She began attending Teaching Academy seminars and workshops in 2003, and has been a regular participant ever since! Over time, as she introduced new types of activities and assessments in her classes, Laurie discovered that improved student learning came at a cost of added time, effort, and frustration in grading and providing feedback. Learning about rubrics helped Laurie solve this dilemma.

Registration is required at teaching.nmsu.edu. If you have problems registering online, call 646-2204 for help.