



Center for
Excellence in
Learning and
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Faculty News You Can Use

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How Rubrics Work

“A rubric is an assessment tool that lists the criteria for a piece of work or what counts...and articulates gradations of quality for each criterion, from excellent to poor.” (p.27) It is a simple grading grid (matrix) such as the one below, with 3-5 gradations in up to 5 categories. An analytic rubric or primary trait analysis articulates levels of performance for each criterion so the teacher can assess student performance on each criterion. In contrast, a holistic rubric does not list separate levels of performance for each criterion. Instead, a holistic rubric assigns a level of performance by assessing performance across multiple criteria as a whole.

Constructing a rubric for evaluation is a very sound 1st step in writing a new course or reassessing an existing one. Writing the rubric first helps with delineation of your expectations of the students (learning objectives.) Content of the assessment is also outlined by the criteria laid out in the rubric. Then your lecture or laboratory plans would follow to present the material to be assessed.

Rubrics are also tremendous study aids when distributed in advance to students: They can judge their own progress against the rubric, or they can be used for peer assessment and study groups.

Also important for faculty is the evidence that the use of rubrics enriches student performance, improves satisfaction and increases inter-rater reliability and decreases grade challenges significantly.

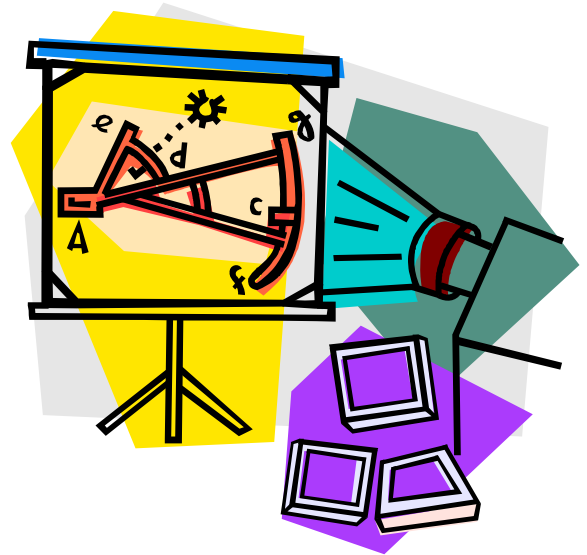
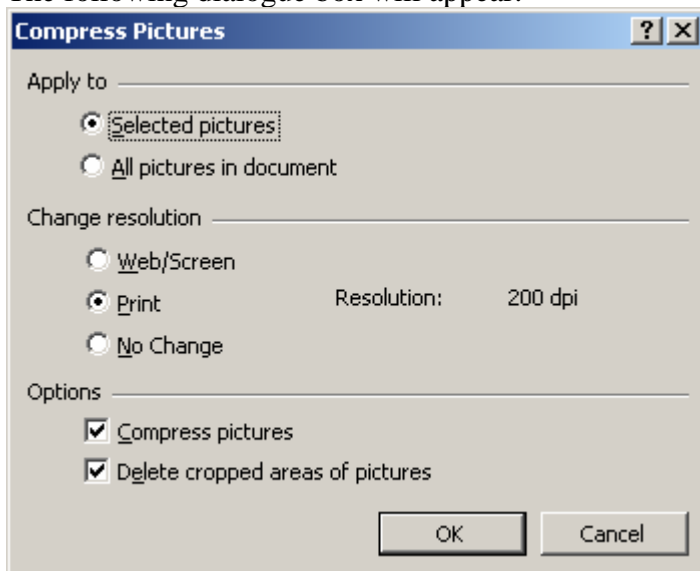
Andrade, H.G. (2005). Teaching with rubrics: the good, the bad, and the ugly. College Teaching, 53(1), 27-30.



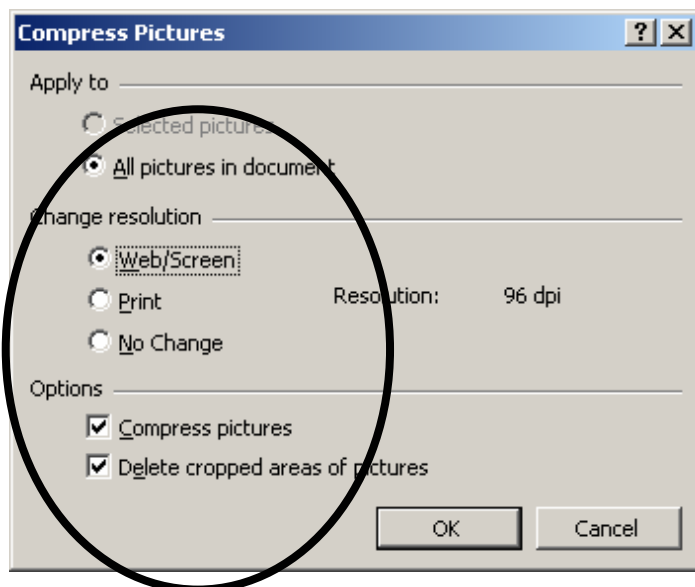
Decrease File Size by Compressing Images in PowerPoint

To activate the Picture Toolbar click on the word **View – Toolbars** – put a check in front of Picture
Click on **Compress Pictures** (icon on the Picture Toolbar)

The following dialogue box will appear:



Change the settings to the following and click OK:



Keep in mind – this will not affect the displaying of the PPT on a monitor or through a projector. It **may** affect the images if you print parts of the PPT. Consider doing a Save AS and adding comp (for compressed) to part of the file name so you can always go back to the uncompressed version for printing.

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