Designing Grading Rubrics

VCON

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A little about me...

- BA in Child Development & Early Childhood Special Education; Masters in Educational Psychology; PhD in Interdisciplinary Education West Virginia University
- Professional Background
- Sixth year at WLU

Agenda

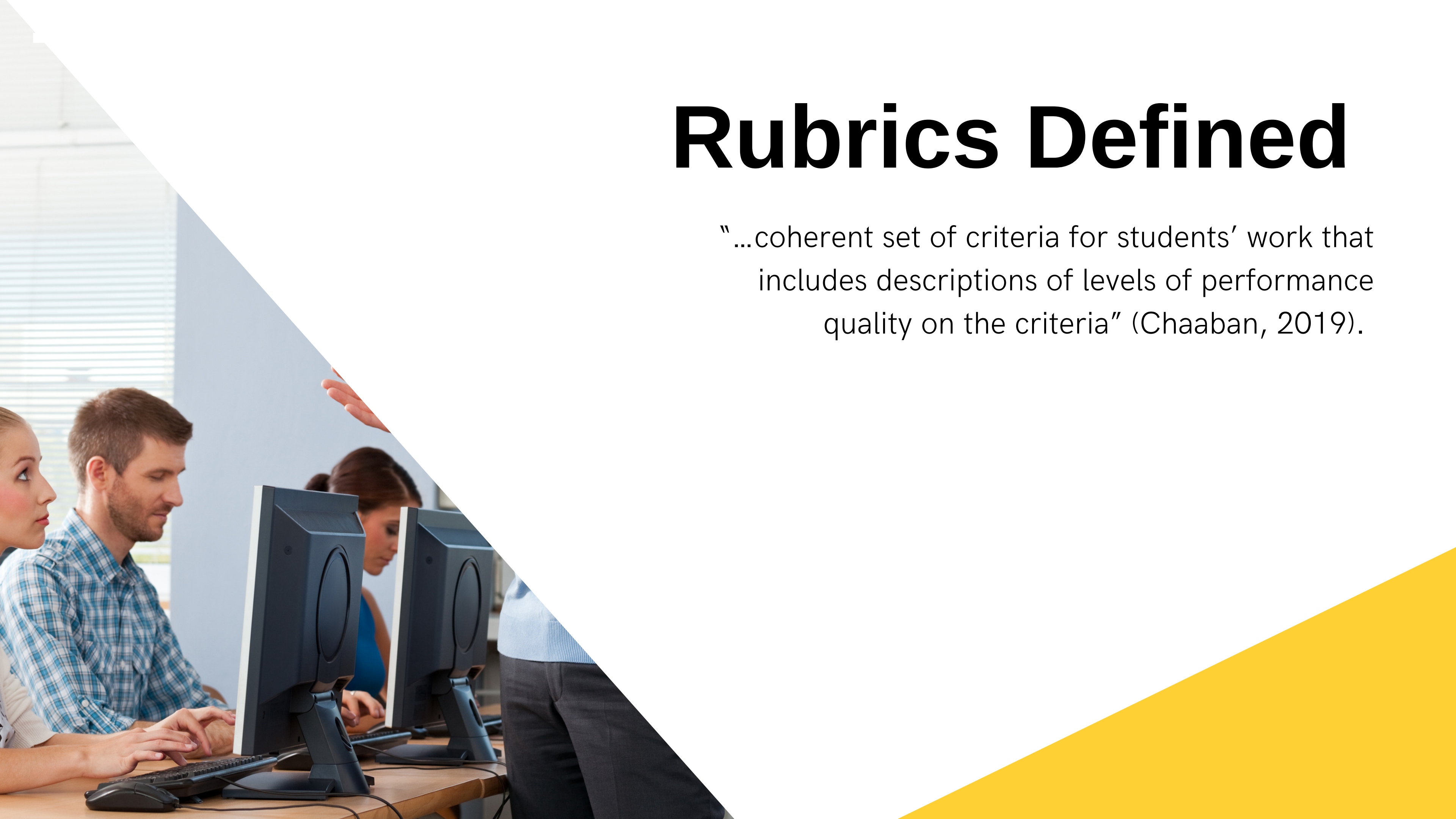**Topics Covered**

Definition & Benefits

Elements of Rubrics

Best Practices in Design

Steps to Rubric Design

Rubrics Defined

"…coherent set of criteria for students' work that includes descriptions of levels of performance quality on the criteria" (Chaaban, 2019).

Benefits of Rubrics

Why utilize grading rubrics?

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Decrease Grading Time

Clear criteria in performance levels and descriptions decreases time spent providing individualized feedback.

Improve Objectivity & Consistency in Grading

When criteria and and levels are clearly defined grader bias is decreased and grading is more objective and consistent.

Clearly Communicate Grading Decisions

When objectives and criteria for grading are clearly defined there is less ambiguity for students.

Inform Teachers and Students on Learning Goals and Objectives

Clearly defined rubrics aligned to course objectives and/or professional standards can inform teachers and students of progress in meeting course objectives.

Elements of Rubrics

Performance Criteria

Performance Levels

Performance Level Descriptors

Performance Criteria

- Categories or areas under evaluation
- Align to course objectives and/or professional standards
- Rows
- **Examples: Research Paper: Organization, APA Style**

Performance Levels

- Levels ascribed to performance within various categories
- Numerical and/or written values ascribed to the levels
- Columns

Performance Level Descriptors

- Written descriptions of various performance levels within the categories
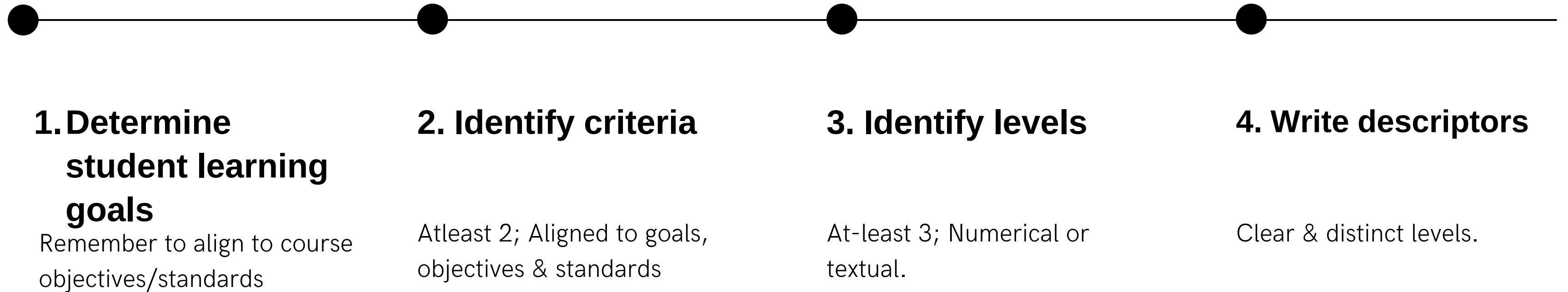- Clear
- Measurable

Best Practices in Design

- 2 or more performance criteria
- 3-5 performance levels
- Clear and distinct criteria between levels
- Rubric measures relevant skills for students
- Aligned to standards/objectives

Steps in Designing a Rubric

1. Determine student learning goals

Remember to align to course objectives/standards

2. Identify criteria

Atleast 2; Aligned to goals, objectives & standards

3. Identify levels

At-least 3; Numerical or textual.

4. Write descriptors

Clear & distinct levels.

Utilizing & Evaluating the Rubric

- Does the rubric reflect my learning goals?
- Is the weighting for various performance criteria consistent with learning goals?
- Interrater reliability

Questions

References

American Association of Colleges and Universities. (n.d). *Value Rubrics.* https://www.aacu.org/initiatives/value-initiative/value-rubrics

Center for Transformative Teaching. (n.d). How to Design Effective Rubrics. https://teaching.unl.edu/resources/grading-feedback/design-effective-rubrics/

Teach Online. (2019, February 8). *Best Practices in Designing Effective Rubrics.* https://teachonline.asu.edu/2019/02/best-practices-for-designing-effective-rubrics/