

State Desired Performance Criteria

Performance criteria express in specific and measurable/observable terms that are acceptable to a specific course or program. Note that grades alone do not provide adequate feedback to students' performance because grades represent overall competency of students and do not identify strengths and weaknesses on specific learning outcomes. However, if the grading system is tied to rubrics, it can be a useful tool to identify areas for improvement that should be addressed. The following is not an acceptable measurable learning outcome:

- ✘ Students will be able to communicate effectively, as demonstrated by obtaining at least a "C" grade in the course.

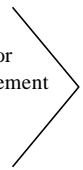
With slight modification, the above learning outcome can be stated in measurable terms.

- ❖ Students will be able to communicate effectively, as exhibited by scoring at least 8 out of 10 for all the components within the grading criteria on the final writing assignment. (see below for an example of grading rubric and how it can help identify areas for improvement)

Example of a
Grading Rubric

Grading Criteria	Student										
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	Ave
1. State the purpose clearly	9	8	8	7	7	8	6	9	8	9	7.9
2. Clearly understand the audiences' values, attitudes, goals, and needs	8	8	7	8	7	7	6	7	8	8	7.4*
3. Consider how an audience will use the information	8	8	9	7	7	9	6	9	8	8	7.9
4. Use vocabulary appropriate to their subject and purpose(s)	9	8	8	8	7	9	6	9	9	7	8.0
5. Use correct reference forms	9	8	7	7	6	8	6	7	9	6	7.3*
6. Use correct grammar, syntax (word order), punctuation, and spelling	8	8	9	6	6	9	9	9	9	6	7.9
7. Present accurate information	7	8	9	8	6	9	8	9	9	6	7.9
8. Develop patterns or organization for ideas	9	8	9	9	9	8	8	8	9	9	8.6
9. Demonstrate good reasoning in writing	9	8	9	9	9	8	8	8	9	9	8.6
10. Summarize the main idea(s) clearly	9	8	8	8	7	9	6	9	9	7	8.0

Areas for Improvement



Examples of criteria for success:

Grading with a scoring rubric:

All Students will score an average of 8.00. Of the ten grading criteria, none will score less than 7.50.

Standardized test:

Sixty-five percent of all students will score at or above the national average. No more than 20% will score lower than one standard deviation from the national average.

Survey:

Eighty percent of students surveyed will demonstrate an increase in appreciation for