



Owning the Rubric

[Researcher names and institution names will need to be modified to suit your context]

Focus Group Schedule for Students – Phase 2

RESEARCH PROJECT AND FOCUS GROUP INFORMATION:

We invite you to take part in this focus group about the process of rubric co-construction. Participation in this research is voluntary. It is completely up to you whether or not to participate. Only people who give their informed consent will be included in the study. Even if you agree to participate you may withdraw at any time without giving a reason. If you decide not to participate, or wish to withdraw from the project at any time, you will not be disadvantaged.

Your participation in this part of the project will take approximately 30-60 minutes. This research is supported by a grant to Avondale College of Higher Education, the University of Technology Sydney and Charles Sturt University from the Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT)/ Department of Education and Training (DET).

If you have any questions or comments about the research, please do not hesitate to contact us (Professor Anthony Williams: tony.williams@avondale.edu.au, Bev Christian: bev.christian@avondale.edu.au or Wendy Jackson: wendy.jackson@avondale.edu.au). Also, please see the attached **Information Statement**. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in this focus group. We appreciate your time and effort.

Regards,

Prof Anthony Williams (Lead Investigator),
Assoc Prof Maria Northcote
Dr Wendy Jackson
Bev Christian
Avondale College of Higher Education

CONSENT:

If you give your consent to participate in this focus group, please select the **Yes** option below.
If you do not give your consent, please select the **No** option below.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

NAME:

Signature:

Instructions for focus group facilitators

The purpose of the focus group is to provide further clarification of issues identified from the student pre- and post- questionnaires. It also allows for the raising of issues or ideas not identified in the questionnaires. Therefore, in addition to the questions provided, the lecturers may wish to add some questions of their own.

Introduction to focus group discussion

Thanks for joining our focus group discussion today.

[Ensure students all have copies of the information statement and have already signed a consent form before the focus group discussion begins.]

[Clarify that students have understood the purpose of the research, have a copy of the Information Statement and have signed the Consent Form.]

During our discussion, I'll ask you a few questions about the rubric co-construction process.

[Explain that the discussion will be audio recorded but future transcriptions of the discussion will not include participants' actual names.]

This focus group discussion today should take from 30 minutes to an hour. Throughout this discussion, please feel free to stop me and ask me to repeat or clarify any of the questions.

1. What did you learn about rubrics by engaging in the rubric co-construction process?
2. What perceptions about rubrics, if any, changed throughout the rubric co-construction process?
3. Was the time allowed for co-construction of the rubric sufficient?
4. How well did the final rubric reflect the collaborative efforts of the group?
5. What aspects of this co-construction process were the most useful to your understanding?
6. If you were to engage in this rubric co-construction process again for another unit, what might you do differently?

Conclusion to the focus group

Thank you for your contribution to the focus group discussion today. Your contributions to this study will help your lecturers to understand how effective rubric co-construction is. You will soon be emailed a letter of acknowledgement for your contribution to this research project. Please provide your preferred email address.

Questions

If you have any questions about this process, please contact: Prof. Anthony Williams (tony.williams@avondale.edu.au), the lead researcher, Bev Christian (bev.christian@avondale.edu.au) or Wendy Jackson (wendy.jackson@avondale.edu.au).