

Goal 1 Write, refine, test, and publish an institutional level THINK rubric to assess student learning at the program level and higher. This rubric is intended to be a model for the development of program, discipline, or course-level Think rubrics by faculty and others at the College in 2005.

Progress: Completed June 2005

Evidence:

- Three rubrics were developed by the Think Project work group (a subset of the Learning Evidence Team):
 - One for holistic scoring of critical thinking ("Rubric for the Holistic Assessment of Critical Thinking across the Curriculum");
 - One for analytical scoring of critical thinking (Rubric for the Analytical Assessment of Critical Thinking across the Curriculum"), and
 - One for student self-assessment of critical thinking ("Measuring My Critical Thinking").
- These rubrics were written after studying the literature of assessment and attending an AAHE Conference on Assessment. They were refined in collaboration with members of the faculty.
- They have been published and are available at:
<http://www.valenciacc.edu/learningevidence/rubrics.asp>

Goal 2: Gather and evaluate student work for evidence of Think and use the institutional rubric to provide evidence of the inclusion of core competencies in the general education curriculum.

Progress: In-progress and ongoing through 2005-06

Evidence:

- An automated "Course Outline Builder" was developed, approved by the Curriculum Committee and endorsed by the Learning and Faculty Councils. This builder makes possible the collaborative creation of course outlines and focuses outlines on the core competencies, as well as the continuous updating of course outlines as required by the Department of Education. Several course outlines are completed. The goal is updating course outlines on a two year cycle.
- The Think Project work group is planning the collection of evidence from faculty volunteers during Fall Term 2005-06, with holistic scoring of samples taking place during Spring Term 2005-06 and publication of the results in Summer Term 2005-06. A four-year cycle for the assessment of the Valencia Core Competencies was Outlined and the first year, the *Year of Think* was initiated.

Goal 3: Gather and evaluate direct and indirect evidence of students' ability to think. Interpret and publish these findings college wide to spread awareness of achievements and areas for improvement and challenges.

Progress: In-progress; expected completion Summer Term 2005-06

Evidence:

- The Think Project work group will gather direct evidence of students' ability to think from the samples of work collected in fall term and scored in spring term.
- An on-line survey, "Measuring My Critical Thinking," which will be administered via a link in Atlas, will collect indirect evidence: students' perceptions of their critical thinking abilities that can be correlated with credit hours and GPA. Results from this survey will be published.
- Comparison of the direct and indirect evidence should yield insights into differences between students' perception and performance.

Goal 4: Sponsor workshops about developing course level rubrics to improve student learning and using holistic scoring to evaluation student learning.

Progress: In-progress; expected completion Spring Term 2005-06

Evidence:

- The team has sponsored one workshop on Critical Thinking Rubrics and Holistic Scoring, May 13, 2005, and plans to offer more in the fall term.
- Follow-up workshops will be offered in Spring Term 2005-06 to train faculty teams that will score samples of student work to assess critical thinking skills.
- With input from our consultants, we have decided to pursue the voluntary, rather than enforced, use of rubrics. The Learning Evidence Team feels that this will lead to a more profound and lasting transformation of student learning.

Goal 5: Gather and publish assignments that highlight Think in order to promote best practices and improve learning.

Goal 6: Populate, revise and refine our webography and searchable database about our core competency, Think, and publicize this college wide.

Progress: In-progress; expected completion Summer 2004-05

Evidence:

- These goals have been combined into a single Web site, currently under development, that will be ready for use in Fall Term 2005-06.

Goal 7: Plan and hold a kick-off banquet and celebration banquet for Think to draw attention to student, faculty and staff achievement centered on Think.

Progress: Completed June 10, 2005

Evidence:

- In partnership with Destinations 2005, the Think Kickoff was a luncheon and celebration of the rubrics produced by the Learning Evidence Team.

Goal 7: Improve the communication of our work to College in order to spread knowledge of our work and to include more voices in this work.

Progress: In-progress; continuous and on-going

Evidence:

- Throughout 2004-05, articles in the Bulletin called attention to the work of the Learning Evidence Team and sought input for this work.
- A Learning Evidence Team Web site was established in the college Web pages and is available at <http://www.valenciac.edu/learningevidence> .
- Copies of the three rubrics developed by the Learning Evidence Team were distributed to all participants in Destinations 2005 and, for some participants, became the focus of action research.
- Administrators, college wide, were invited to the *Year of Think* Kickoff.
- Rulers that include the self-scoring rubric, "Measuring My Critical Thinking," were designed and are in production. These will be distributed to all students in Student Success and Prep Math courses in Fall Term 2005-06.
- An attempt was made to develop a marketing plan for the *Year of Think* with the College Marketing Division.
- A Marketing work team (a subset of the Learning Evidence Team) met and formulated a plan for the promotion of the *Year of Think*
- A workshop on Critical Thinking Rubrics and Holistic Scoring was offered in June 2005; more workshops are planned for Fall Term 2005-06. These will be of two types: workshops on using a critical thinking rubric and workshops on holistic scoring.
- Workshops for training faculty in holistic scoring of samples of student work demonstrating critical thinking will be offered in Spring Term 2005-06 in order to train disciplinary and interdisciplinary teams of faculty who will score the samples of student work collected in Fall Term 2005-06.
- Advertisements for new members for the Learning Evidence Team were conducted during Summer Term 2004-05 through the appropriate councils. New members will be oriented and introduced at the September 2005 meeting of the Learning Evidence Team.

Goal 8: Revise and expand our Learning Evidence Team Action Plan to include the information currently captured in our Assessment Inventory in order to make it clearer and more useful.

Progress: In-progress; expected completion Summer 2005

Evidence:

- The Learning Evidence Team Action Plan is being redesigned to reflect the work of the team—rather than the work of the College.
- Additionally, the Assessment Inventory is being redesigned and will reflect the assessment work being done at the College.

Goal 9: Form a work team for the competency Communicate and develop a plan to measure and improve students' communication skills in course work, college wide. The plan will promote awareness of all the core competencies and bring coherence to the general education program at the College.

Progress: **Begins Fall Term 2005-06**

Evidence:

- The Learning Evidence Team will advertise for new members of the Communicate work team through the appropriate councils.