

*University of Wisconsin Colleges
Analytical Skills Assessment Rubrics
June 2007*

A1. Interpret and synthesize information and ideas

Exceeds Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesizes information and ideas (i.e., evidence, statements, graphics, and questions) very well • Interprets the information and ideas accurately
Meets Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesizes information and ideas (i.e., evidence, statements, graphics, and questions) adequately • Interprets most of the information and ideas accurately
Fails to Meet Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to synthesize information and ideas (i.e., evidence, statements, graphics, and questions) • Fails to interpret information and ideas accurately

A2. Analyze and evaluate arguments

Exceeds Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzes and evaluates alternative points of view • Draws conclusions and examines implications • Can provide evidence and/or explain fallacies and inconsistencies • Refutes bias, if present
Meets Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies or offers alternative points of view, where possible • Draws conclusions • Accurately recognizes/identifies fallacies and inconsistencies • Detects bias, if present
Fails to Meet Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not recognize alternative points of view • Fails to draw conclusions • Fails to recognize/identify fallacies and inconsistencies • Fails to note bias, if present

A3. Construct an argument in support of a conclusion

Exceeds Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argument has a clearly stated conclusion • Everything within the argument is directed toward supporting the final conclusion • Argument utilizes a reasonable degree of evidence appropriate to the conclusion • Argument expresses a thorough understanding of the complexities of an issue • Argument anticipates then effectively responds to likely counterarguments
Meets Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conclusion of the argument is reasonably clear although there may be some ambiguity about the precise nature of the conclusion • Most of the argument supports the conclusion but there is some extraneous material • Argument is supported with some evidence appropriate to the conclusion • Argument acknowledges some complexities connected with an issue • Argument acknowledges some potential counterarguments then offers at least some indication of potential responses
Fails to Meet Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conclusion of the argument shifts and changes as the argument progresses • A significant portion of the argument offers no real support for the conclusion • The argument relies heavily on emotional appeals as opposed to evidence and reasoning • Argument oversimplifies a complex issue presenting everything in black and white terms • Argument ignores obvious counterarguments

A4. Select and apply scientific and other appropriate methodologies

Exceeds Expectations	<p><u>Selection of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student indicates an understanding of the concept of multiple methodologies for solving problems <p><u>Application of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected method is correctly applied and documented (if applicable) with at most insignificant errors
Meets Expectations	<p><u>Selection of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The method selected is appropriate to the problem <p><u>Application of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected method is generally applied correctly with few errors
Fails to Meet Expectations	<p><u>Selection of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The method selected is inappropriate to the problem <p><u>Application of Methodologies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application of the methodology is incorrect, incomplete, or has key steps omitted

A5. Integrate knowledge and experience to arrive at creative solutions

Exceeds Expectations	<p><u>Solution:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed solution addresses all aspects of the problem, and the implementation is both practical and reasonable <p><u>Knowledge:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student is able to identify and use relevant knowledge (research, lecture, experimentation, class discussion, and/or experience) to arrive at a solution
Meets Expectations	<p><u>Solution:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed solution addresses the key aspects of the problem Some thought has been given to implementation strategy <p><u>Knowledge:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student is able to identify and use basic knowledge (through using research, lecture, experimentation, class discussion, and/or experience) to arrive at a solution
Fails to Meet Expectations	<p><u>Solution:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed solution does not solve the problem as stated or the proposed solution is wholly impractical to implement <p><u>Knowledge:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student is not able to either identify or use relevant knowledge to arrive at a solution

A6. Gather and assess information from printed sources, electronic sources, and observation

Exceeds Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can articulate the credibility or reliability of all or most sources Gathers information from multiple points of view that target the task, project, or problem at hand
Meets Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knows the differences between types of sources, e.g., newspaper vs. professional journal Understands the differences in types of information between each type of source Can articulate the credibility or reliability in many sources Gathers appropriate information for assignment
Fails to Meet Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not know the differences between types of sources Does not understand the differences in types of information between each type of source Does not articulate the credibility or reliability in many sources Does not gather appropriate information for assignment

A7. Construct and support hypotheses

Exceeds Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hypothesis shows advanced understanding of concepts• Hypothesis is testable and realistic (practical)• Hypothesis is based on observations and/or experimental results• Background information supports the hypothesis
Meets Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hypothesis shows adequate understanding of concepts• Hypothesis is testable• Hypothesis is based on limited observations and/or experimental results• Background information supports part of the hypothesis
Fails to Meet Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hypothesis shows little or no understanding of concepts• Hypothesis is not testable• Hypothesis is not based on observations and/or experimental results• Background information does not support the hypothesis