



### Communicating Student Progress with Rubrics

Rubrics detail how a project or assignment is scored based on a listing of each of its required components, and how those components will be weighted individually. It is one of the best ways of informing students what they need to do to achieve a 100% on the task, and make grading easier and more consistent.

In a rubric each task element of an assignment may be described briefly, but would probably be accompanied by a detailed explanation as part of the assignment's description or during a course lecture. Each task element is weighed according to its level of importance for the assignment as a whole.

GRADING CRITERIA	
Your project is worth 100 points and will be graded as follows:	
<b>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS 40 PTS</b>	
20	Primary goal defined
20	Primary audience defined
<b>WIRE FRAME COMPONENTS 60 PTS</b>	
10	Placement of navigational items
10	Placement of section headers
10	Placement of images/multimedia objects
10	Placement of text blocks
10	Suggest a basic visual layout
10	Avoids committing to any specific appearance

Rubrics take time to create, but once a well-crafted rubric is in place it is fully reusable, and can actually be time-saving and organizing, as pinpointing how each student performed on each element becomes rote. Grading based can be performed readily by TAs with little experience. Finally, students recognize its value as a reliable method of interpreting

--Jared Stein, Instructional Designer & Director of Development

### WebCT Tip of the Day: Calculated Columns

The WebCT Manage Students tool features *calculated columns*, which allow you to add columns, apply formulae, etc.

You create a calculated column the same way you create a normal column, except that **the column type must be calculated (Figure 1)**.

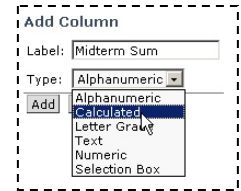


Figure 1

To set up a simple formula that sums columns:

1. In **Manage Students**, find the calculated column and click **Formula** below its name.
2. From **Functions**, choose **sum** and click **Start list (Figure 2)**.
3. **Select a column** from the Column dropdown menu and click **Insert**.
4. To insert another column, click **Next item**, then repeat step 3.
5. When your column list is complete, click **End list**, then click **Update**.

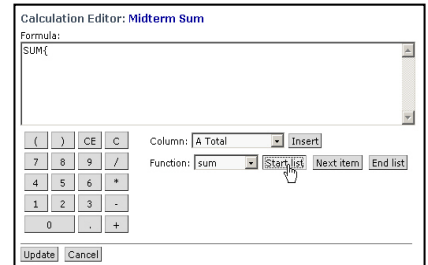


Figure 2

For more information on this tool, contact Jared (x8929) or Nate (x8928).

## This Month's Workshops and Trainings

Title	Date	Time	Place
WebCT Semester Rollover	4/4	3-4pm	CS615B
WebCT Semester Rollover	4/5	12-1pm	CS615B
Intro to WebCT *	4/12	12-1pm	CS615B
WebCT Communication Tools*	4/19	12-1pm	CS615B
WebCT Grades*	4/19	1-2pm	CS615B
WebCT Easier w/ PowerTools*	4/26	12-1pm	LC227
WebCT Semester Rollover	4/26	5-6pm	LC227



This newsletter was published for Distance Education by the Technology Enhanced Teaching Center at Utah Valley State College.

### For more information on this newsletter or how you can contribute:

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\*To sign up for these workshops and more, visit our website:  
[www.uvsc.edu/disted/tetc/workshops](http://www.uvsc.edu/disted/tetc/workshops)

## The TETC has MOVED!

The Technology Enhanced Teaching Center is moving to the Learning Center (library) between Distance Education and the Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence, room **LC 227**.

## Don't Forget to Rollover

Each semester you are responsible to rollover your course for the upcoming semester. Get training this month through the TETC!

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### Mail To:

#### *Did You Know?*

John Krutsch has developed a unique set of *PowerTools* that make WebCT more flexible and easier to use! Download them now at <http://www.uvsc.edu/disted/powertools>

### *On Topic...*

Farmer, L. (1997). Authentic assessment of information literacy through electronic products. *Book Report*, 16 (2), 11-14.  
Svnicki, Marilla. (1998). Helping Students Understand Grades. *College Teaching*, 46:3, 101-105.

