



Using the Quality Matters Higher Education Rubric, Seventh Edition for Continuous Quality Improvement





QM Higher Education Rubric, Seventh Edition

Background of the Rubric Revision

What prompted the revision?

- The pivot to ERL paved the way for increased popularity of various online modalities
- 2021 QMC survey on Rubric adaptation and use solidified this need
- Interest in expanding and deepening the impact of inclusive design



You're a part of it!

- QM HE Rubric, Sixth Edition survey link was sent to 85,000 MyQM account holders
- Over 800 responses and 1,500 individual comments collected
- Your feedback helps guide the revision



QM HE Rubric Revision Cmte

- Over 200 nominations
- Year-long commitment, 3-6 hours per month

Qualifications:

- Well-versed in QM HE Rubric
- Expertise in: Inclusion, equity, belonging, diversity, GS 8, CBE, Continuing Ed, and Synchronous & Multi-modal digital learning environments



QM Staff Co-Chairs



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Co-Chair, QM Higher Education Rubric,
Seventh Edition



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QM HE Rubric Cmte, 7th Edition

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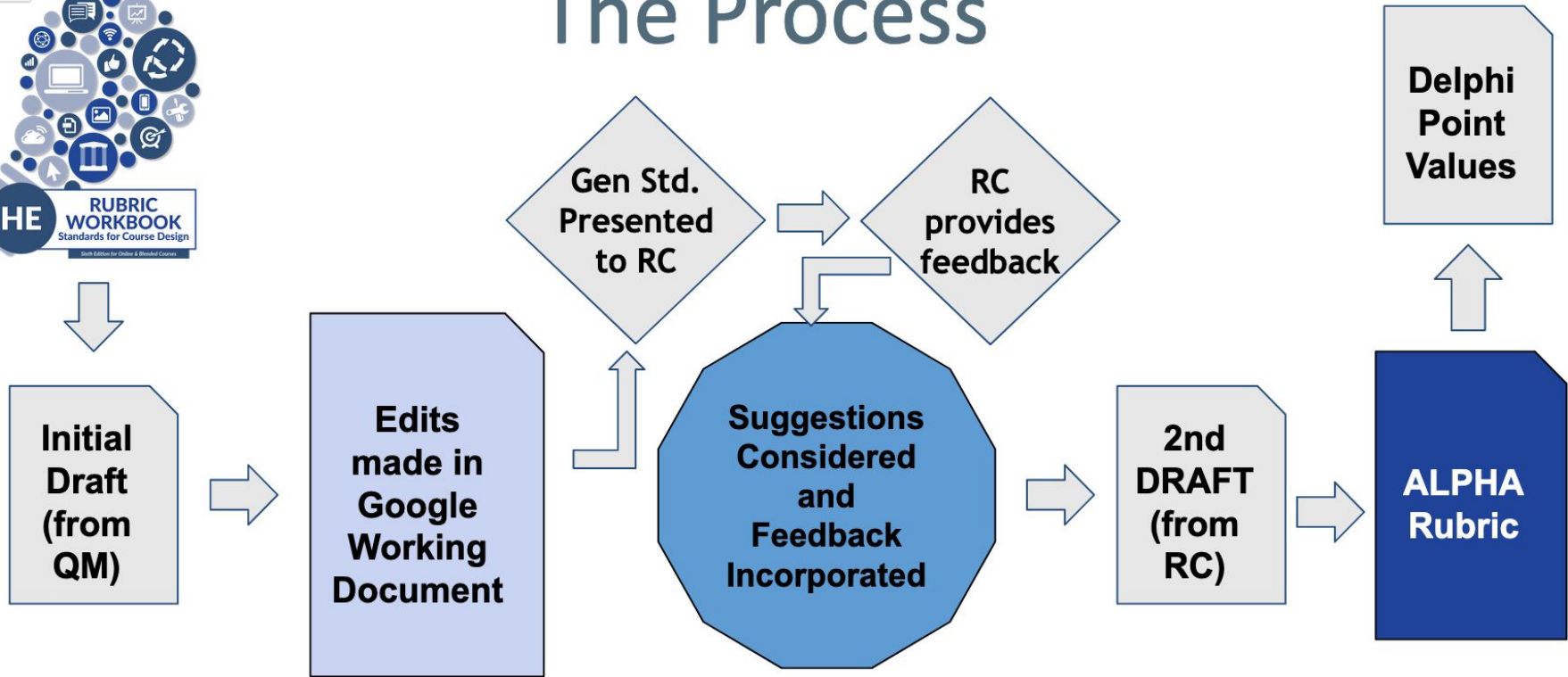
Legacy Committee

- Eddie Andreo, Cowley College
- Kathy Chatfield, Clark College
- Julie Porosky Hamlin, MarylandOnline
- Kevin Kaatz, Cal State U., East Bay
- Karen May, New Mexico State University
- Melissa Walter, U of Southern Alabama
- Mary Wells, Quality Matters
- Lonni Wilson, Milligan University





The Process



The Process, continued

- After the Draft Rubric is created, certified Reviewers from the Rubric Committee “test drive” it by applying it to sample courses.
- Feedback from these reviews then prompts further considerations and refinements.
- This becomes the final draft of the new Rubric





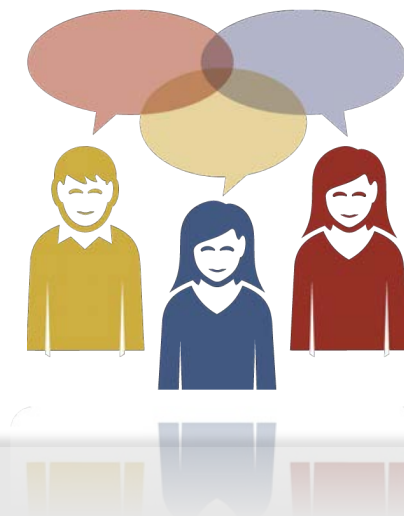
Changes from the Sixth Edition

Highlights: HE Rubric, Seventh Edition

- **Synchronous online courses** may be reviewed if information is available to Reviewers in an online course site regarding what happens during real-time meetings.
- Higher education institutions may use the Rubric to review both **credit-bearing and non-credit bearing** (e.g., continuing ed) courses.
- A focus on **inclusion and belonging** was integrated to emphasize the importance of helping students recognize that they belong in the course and to support persistence.

Updates to Ancillary Supports

- **Course Worksheet** - Course Maps are now required
- **Course Format Chart** -
New Evidence Requirements by Modality
- **Glossary**- Updated definitions,
a few new terms



Language Changes

- **“Blended”** will now be referred to as **“Hybrid”**. The meaning did not change, but the current, prevailing term is hybrid, so the QM HE Rubric has aligned to that.
- **“Objectives and Competencies”** will now be termed **“Objectives”**, for simplicity and to reduce wordiness throughout the Rubric. “Objectives” is a blanket term in this instance; institutions might refer to these as objectives, outcomes, competencies, or goals.



Language/Definition changes:

Activities & Assessments

Activities - Allow for practice, and help prepare learners for assessments.

Think of these as “practice learning activities”, where learners can *apply and practice* working with new information in low-stakes ways.

- GS 5 works in tandem here with SRS 3.5, so learners have multiple opportunities to practice application in low-stakes ways, with feedback, prior to a more formal assessment.

Assessments - Measure incremental (e.g., formative) and more full (e.g., summative) achievement of learning objectives.

Annotations Enhancements

- Emphasis on guidance to **Reviewers**
- Information about when the SRS is “**Met**”
- Updated examples, and more context
- Synchronous and Continuing Ed call-outs
- Focus on belonging and creating community



By the Numbers

	Sixth Edition	Seventh Edition
Essential (3)	23	22
Very Important (2)	12	13
Important (1)	7	9
Total Specific Review Stds	42	44
Points Possible	100	101
Points to meet expectations (All 3-pt Essentials must also be “Met”)	85	86



QM Standards Walk-Through

GS 1: Course Overview & Introduction

- Annotations for Synchronous, Competency-Based, and Continuing Education courses were added.
- Changes in language to a few of the SRSs
- Focus on creating community



GS 2: Learning Objectives

- Language streamlined to use “objectives”
- New examples for SRS 2.2 Annotation
- SRS 2.4 added assessments; connection is “made clear”
- New examples for 2.5 Annotation



GS 3: Assessment & Measurement

- Addresses alternative grading approaches
- **SRS 3.5:** Connects types and timing of assessment with tracking and timely feedback
- **NEW SRS 3.6:** The assessments provide guidance to the learner about how to uphold academic integrity.



GS 4: Instructional Materials

- Publisher materials are included in review.
- **SRS 4.4:** current thinking goes beyond publication dates
- **SRS 4.5:** 2 new types of variety were added
 - different perspectives
 - different representations



GS 5: Learning Activities & Learner Interaction

- **SRS 5.1:** clarification between assessments and activities
- **SRS 5.3:** Substantive interaction at regular intervals
- **SRS 5.4:** Recognizes that different types of interactions can be culturally impacted



GS 6: Course Technology

- **SRS 6.3:** Recognizes a variety of aligned technology
- **SRS 6.4:** Inclusive of webcams and their usage for synchronous courses



GS 7: Learner Support

SRS 7.1: addresses digital divide,
how learners can access free or low cost
resources for connectivity and
hardware/software needs



GS 8: Accessibility & Usability

- **SRS 8.1:** Updated strategies for ease of use
- **SRS 8.2:** Two kinds of readability are addressed:
 - Presentation
 - Content
- **SRS 8.3:** Text accessibility



GS 8: Accessibility & Usability cont.

- **SRS 8.4:** Image accessibility
- **SRS 8.5:** Video and audio accessibility
- **SRS 8.6:** Focus is on ease of use of multimedia
- **SRS 8.7:** Point value declined for VPATs

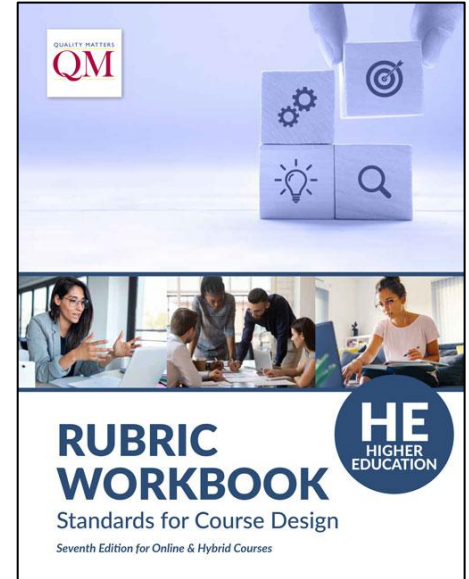




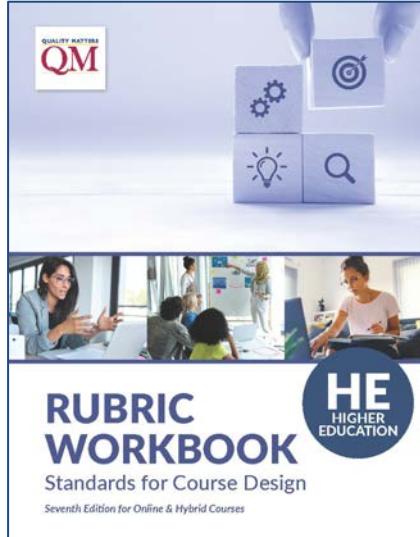
Rubric Workbooks & Rubric Update

Higher Ed Rubric, Seventh Edition

- Rubric Update Session available for all QM Members
- Rubric available in Course Review tools (CRMS)



Rubric Workbooks



- Order now; great for sharing with instructors, handy reference
- Bulk discounts are available

Quantity	Cost
1-5 count	\$30 each
6-24	\$22.50 each
25-49	\$18.00 each
50-99	\$13.50 each
100-499	\$12.75 each
500-999	\$12.00 each
1000+	\$11.25 each

Rubric Update

Available June 5, 2023 - January 5, 2024

- Free
- Self-paced
- Online, asynchronous
- Allow 6-8 hours to complete



Who Must Complete?

All QM-Certified role holders...

- Peer Reviewers
- Master Reviewers
- Facilitators
- Course Review Managers





Become a
QM-Certified
Peer Reviewer!

Pathway to Peer Reviewer



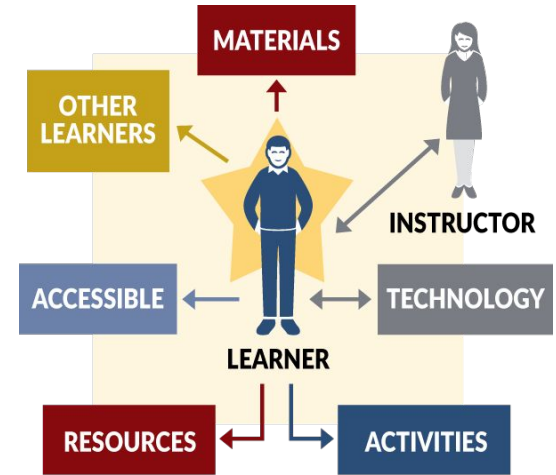
Applying the QM Rubric (Sixth Ed. okay)
+ Peer Reviewer Course
+ Recent experience designing
online/hybrid courses
= QM-Certified Peer Reviewer



Engaging Faculty

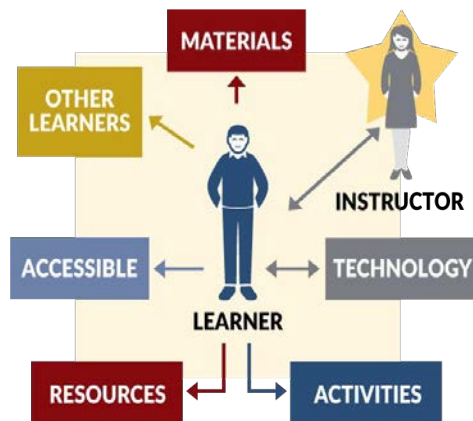
QM Supports Learners

- Focus on learners
- Alignment
- Usability/accessibility
- Setting expectations
- “Quiet quality”- LMS supports



QM Supports Faculty

- Faculty driven Specific Review Standards
- Save time with organization
- Meet the LOs and streamline the course
- Framework for feedback/turn-around times



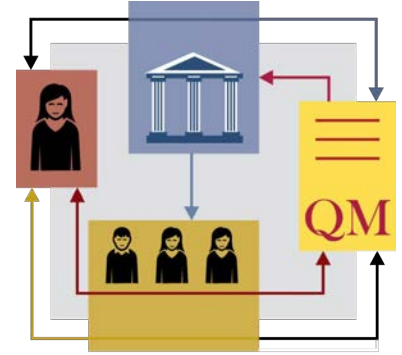
QM is Research Supported

- Research-focused faculty appreciate the research supports for the QM Rubric
- Research Library available to everyone



Incentives

- Leadership recognition
- Integrate into existing awards
- Faculty Learning Communities
- Request funding/course releases
- Provide QM professional development



Questions? Comments?



Thank you for all you do!



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