ABOR Tri-University Written Communication Rubric

Criteria	Accomplished [4]	Expanding [3]	Developing [2]	Emerging [1]
Context of and Purpose for Writing	The writer *clearly and consistently* defines a purpose that *addresses a target* audience and responds to *a precise writing situation*. The purpose, audience, and writing situation are *carefully articulated through effective alignment of elements* such as structure, language, and use of information.	The writer *clearly* defines a purpose, audience, and writing situation. There *is alignment between the writing situation and most elements* such as structure, language, and use of information.	The writer communicates a purpose, audience, and a sense of the writing situation, but *evidence of awareness of these contextual features is inconsistent*. There is *minimal alignment between elements* such as structure, language, and use of information.	The writer references a *vague* purpose, audience, or writing situation and *relies on patterns or models that are not appropriate to the writing situation*. The context and purpose are inadvertently reduced to the self.
Content Development	Using narrative, description, analysis, critique, and/or synthesis, the writer *formulates a knowledgeable perspective, integrating diverse points of view* about the selected topic. The writer *integrates credible, sufficient, timely, and relevant evidence or sources* that offer substantive support of the purpose.	Using narrative, description, analysis, and/or critique, the writer *demonstrates a nuanced perspective* of the selected topic. The writer *discusses credible, sufficient, and relevant evidence or sources* in support of the purpose.	Using narrative, description, and/or analysis, the writer demonstrates a *developing, although perhaps inconsistent, understanding* of the selected topic. The writer *incorporates relevant evidence or sources* that connect to purpose.	The writer demonstrates *minimal understanding* of the selected topic. The writer *references or is informed by evidence or sources* related to the purpose of the writing situation.
Conventions of Organization	The writer *sustains purposeful attention to and applies genre or disciplinary features of organization in cohesive support* of the writer's purpose.	The writer demonstrates *purposeful attention to features of organization consistent with genre or discipline in support* of the writer's purpose.	The writer presents an organizational strategy that *is inconsistent with the genre or disciplinary features of structure* in support of the writer's purpose.	The writer illustrates an organizational strategy, but some *features* of organization *detract from meaning and/or are not appropriate for the writing situation*.
Conventions of Syntax and Mechanics	The writer sustains *precise attention to* grammar, mechanics, and syntax in a manner *consistent with the purpose, audience, and writing situation and that enhances the clarity of the writer's message.*	The writer develops grammar, mechanics, and syntax *in a manner that clearly aligns with purpose, audience, and writing situation*.	The writer uses grammar, mechanics, and syntax that convey purpose, audience, and context **with** *a few instances where meaning is unclear*.	The writer uses grammar, mechanics, and syntax with *frequent instances that impede meaning* and that sometimes do not align with purpose, audience, and context.