Rubrics are a guide that indicates how assignments should be completed and the benchmarks that must be met for the student to achieve various grade marks. In addition a rubric should cover all areas of a course, explaining the weight of an assignment type (i.e. Quiz, Homework, Class work, etc.) on a student’s overall grade.

There are two kinds of rubrics, analytical rubrics and holistic rubrics. Both rubrics measure success via criteria. However, the analytic rubric has levels of achievement for each criterion, while the holistic rubric judges achievement over multiple criteria.

Why
Communicating high expectations.
Written proof of requirements for student’s work.
A structure students can use to prepare and improve the quality of their assignments.
Clarification of your expectations of a good final product.
Structuring the feedback you provide on assignments.

Best Practices to Consider
Reflect on your learning objectives and what degrees of accomplishment each level represents (i.e. “what is the worst performance on the assignment?”, “what is the best performance on the assignment?”).
Make sure you clearly explain the levels and criterion.
Group your learning objectives together when possible.
Include a “Netiquette” statement to communicate expectations for communication.
Inform students about extra-curricular activities related to course material.

More Information
Seven Principles Collection of TLT Ideas
- Think link below contains information regarding students actively learning using technology, extended research, and other tools/ methods that will further their learning in an online course.
- URL: http://www.tltgroup.org/Seven/3_Active.htm

68 Tips for eLearning Engagement and Interactivity
- This link provides a variety tips that contribute to a student’s interactivity and engagement in a learning environment. The source suggests that students must be engaged in course material; interactivity accompanies engagement.
**Promoting Active Learning in Hybrid/Online Courses**

- The link below explains the effectiveness of active learning of online/hybrid courses through case studies. The case studies are accompanied by online discussions that welcome students to participate in discourse.
- URL: http://bamabydistance.ua.edu/docs/pdfs/fac-staff/activelearning.pdf

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