

Project EMIT Episode 40

Welcome back to project EMIT. I'm Dan Greenwood and in episode 40, I'll introduce the essential components of General Standard 2 of the Quality Matters rubric.

General standard 2 states that "Learning Objectives are clearly stated and explained. They assist students in focusing their efforts in the course. "For online and hybrid courses this is critical. Since students are not meeting weekly in the classroom, you as the instructor have fewer opportunities to reinforce what is expected of them and how their work will be reviewed.

Standard 2.1 states that "The course learning objectives describe outcomes that are measurable." This means that students have been informed as to what they are expected to learn and accomplish in the course as a whole. The measurement requirement means that both the student and the instructor are completely aware of how each student's performance will be measured in meeting these objectives. Keep in mind that some course objectives are set by the institution and may not be measurable. However, there must be measurable objectives from the instructor.

Standard 2.2 extends the course-wide objectives to individual learning modules. This standard also requires that module objectives be consistent with the course-level objectives. These module objectives should be prominently stated in the online course, perhaps in the syllabus or an addendum. Again the information provided must include both learning objectives AND how student performance will be measured.

Learning objectives need to be clearly written and additionally they should be written from the student's perspective. This is required in standard 2.3. This means you should not use education jargon or language that the student may not understand.

The last essential requirement for General standard 2 is number 2.4 which states that the instructions to students on how they meet the learning objective is adequate and stated clearly. An example would be a module checklist which has step-by-step instructions on what is to be done and expectation of the student for this work.

So now you have the four essential requirements for General Standard 2 of the Quality Matters rubric. I'll review some more standards in the next episode of project emit.