PROBLEM SOLVING RUBRIC

Problem Solving: Design and evaluate an approach to answer an open-ended question or achieve a desired goal.

OBJECTIVES *(Items in italics below are definitions or examples)*	ACCOMPLISHED (4)	SATISFACTORY (3)	PROGRESSING (2)	EMERGING (1)
Define Problem *contextual factors: constraints (such as limits on cost), resources, attitudes (such as biases), and additional knowledge which affect how the problem can be best solved*	Constructs a clear and insightful problem statement that includes all relevant contextual factors.	Constructs a clear problem statement that includes most relevant contextual factors.	Constructs a simplistic problem statement that includes most relevant contextual factors.	Constructs a problem statement that is unclear or incomplete or the relevant contextual factors are incomplete.
Identify Approaches	Identifies multiple approaches for solving the problem that applies to a specific context.	Identifies multiple approaches for solving the problem, only some of which apply to a specific context.	Identifies only a single approach for solving the problem that applies to a specific context.	Identifies only a single approach for solving the problem that does not apply to a specific context.
Propose Solution/Hypothesis	Proposes one or more solutions/hypotheses that are sensitive to contextual factors and the ethical, logical, <u>and</u> cultural dimensions of the problem.	Proposes one or more solutions/hypotheses that are sensitive to contextual factors and ethical, logical, <u>or</u> cultural dimensions of the problem.	Proposes one solution/hypothesis that is "off the shelf" (simplistic or common) rather than designed to address the specific contextual factors of the problem.	Proposes a solution/hypothesis that is difficult to evaluate because it is vague or only indirectly addresses the problem.
Evaluate Potential Solution(s)	Evaluates solution(s) thoroughly and insightfully and does all of the following: considers the history of the problem, reviews logic/reasoning, examines feasibility of the solution, and weighs impacts of the solution.	Evaluates solution(s) thoroughly and does most of the following: considers the history of the problem, reviews logic/reasoning, examines feasibility of the solution, and weighs impacts of the solution.	Evaluates solution(s) thoroughly and does some of the following: considers the history of the problem, reviews logic/reasoning, examines feasibility of the solution, and weighs impacts of the solution.	Evaluates solution(s) and does the following in a limited way: considers the history of the problem, reviews logic/reasoning, examines feasibility of the solution, and weighs impacts of the solution.

This rubric was inspired by the AAC&U VALUE rubric.

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