APPLYING THE QUALITY MATTERS RUBRIC (HIGHER EDUCATION VERSION)

Facilitator: Evangeline (Litsa) Varonis, The University of Akron, Quality Matters Master Reviewer, Workshop Facilitator, and Member of 2014-2016 Rubric Committee, United States

Workshop objectives

Upon completion of this Quality Matters (QM) workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify the underlying principles of QM.
- Identify the critical elements of the QM quality assurance program, including the QM Rubric, materials, processes, and administrative components.
- Apply the QM Rubric to review online courses in higher education.
- Make decisions on whether the SPH113 course meets selected QM Rubric standards.
- Apply the concept of alignment.
- Write helpful recommendations for course improvement by citing annotations from the QM Rubric and evidence from the course.

Methods

This workshop includes both a formal presentation and discussion of the QM process and rubric and hands-on work in small groups as participants apply the eight rubric standards to an actual online course.

Outline

Celebrating its 11th anniversary this year, Quality Matters is a non-profit organization focusing on online course design and reviews. Currently, there are subscribers in 47 U.S. states as well as 7 other countries, with enrollment of over 30,000 reached in QM professional development workshops. This workshop is intended for a broad audience, including but not limited to faculty, instructional designers, administrators, and adjunct instructors who wish to understand more about best practices in online course design, the QM Rubric, and the process of course review. It will prepare participants to be part of an initiative that positively impacts the design of online and blended courses and ultimately, student learning and success.

QM is designed to improve the quality of online and blended courses by establishing a peer-reviewed quality assurance review process. All participants will receive a copy of the current Quality Matters Rubric, which includes annotations that explain each standard. You will become familiar with the Quality Matters standards and participate in a practice peer course review of an online course using the review tools. After successfully completing this workshop, you will be able to print a certificate of completion and be eligible to enroll in the Online Peer Reviewer Certification course. In addition, you will gain ideas to improve your own courses using the QM Standards. Although this is normally a fee-based workshop, through special arrangements with Quality Matters and since the facilitator is volunteering her services, you will be able to take this workshop as a part of your regular conference registration.

Participants are encouraged to bring laptops or tablets in order to access the online demo course. At least one laptop will be needed for every 2-3 people.

Maximum number of participants: 30