ORAL COMMUNICATION/CRITICAL THINKING RUBRIC
University of San Francisco

Criteria	Exemplary 4	Competent 3	Developing 2	Unsatisfactory 1
Central Message and Organization	Central message and organization are focused, consistent, and responsive to the assigned task. Organizational pattern enhances the central message and is structured for ease of audience comprehension.	Central message and organization are clear and responsive to the assigned task. Organization pattern is coherent and consistent.	Central message is responsive to the assigned task and can be deduced but is not explicitly stated. Organizational pattern is intermittently observable.	No central message and/or does not have an observable organizational pattern.
Delivery Techniques and Language (vocal expressiveness, movement, gestures, eye contact)	Delivery techniques enhance connections with audience and understanding of central message. Language is engaging, conversational, and appropriate for audience and situation.	Delivery techniques support connections with audience and understanding of central message. Language is mostly conversational and appropriate for audience and situation.	Delivery techniques are inconsistent in supporting connections with audience and understanding of central message. Language is minimally conversational and somewhat appropriate for audience and situation.	Delivery techniques detract from central message and audience comprehension. Language is not conversational and/or not appropriate for audience.
Content (e.g. ideas, arguments, research, information)	Content is developed to enhance audience engagement and acceptance. Uses supporting material that is relevant, appropriate, and sufficient, given the purpose and assigned task.	Content is developed to engage audience. Uses supporting material that is mostly relevant, appropriate, and sufficient, given the purpose and assigned task.	Content is not adequately developed. Supporting material is not fully relevant, appropriate or sufficient given the assigned task.	Content is not developed. If used, supporting material is not relevant, sufficient, and appropriate given the assigned task.
Assumptions (demonstrates ethical awareness of position in the world)	Demonstrates clear and focused awareness of own assumptions in relation to others' views and assumptions; and/or fairly and accurately summarizes others' views and synthesizes within own perspective.	Demonstrates some awareness of own assumptions in relation to others' views and assumptions; and/or mostly fairly and accurately summarizes others' views and synthesizes within own perspective.	Demonstrates minimal awareness of own and others' assumptions; and/or contains issues with summarizing other's views and/or synthesizing within own perspective.	Does not demonstrate awareness of own or others' assumptions; and/or does not fairly or accurately summarize others' views or synthesizes within own perspective.
Student's Position (considers complexities and limits)	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis, central purpose) is thoughtful, clearly taking into account the complexities of an issue; and/or follows evidence to a reasonable conclusion that may or may not acknowledge counter-arguments.	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) takes into account some of the complexities of an issue; and/or mostly follows evidence to a reasonable conclusion that may or may not acknowledge counter-arguments.	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is inferred or does not clearly take into account some of the complexities of an issue; and/or sometimes follows evidence to a reasonable conclusion that may or may not acknowledge counter-arguments.	No specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is stated.