

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND HELPFUL IDEAS

ABOUT USING THE DSD CRQs

Q. What are the CRQs which are being used as the assessment for this goal? Where can they be found?

A. CRQs are Constructed Response Questions. Basically they are a series of related short-answer questions which generally move from more simple to more complex thinking and which must be answered in prose. You can find the CRQs for your course at www.tiny.cc/dsdcrq.

Information: If you have additional questions about the CRQs or if you can't access them online, please call Chris Hall at 801-402-5328.

Q. How many CRQs do I have to administer each year? When do I give them?

A. Four for a semester-length course and eight for a year-long course? Any time you want: at the end of a related lesson, as part of a unit test, etc.

Information: You don't necessarily need to complete two CRQs each term. You can do three in one term and one in another or you can do four at the end of a semester. When you do the CRQs is completely up to you as the classroom teacher. Good teachers will use the CRQ format as part of their regular instruction and evaluation. They will be doing many more than just an average of two per term.

Q. Who grades the CRQs?

A. Using the provided rubric, the classroom teacher grades the students' work.

Information: Don't forget to keep track of the scores students receive on the CRQs which you are using as part of your academic goals. That data will need to be used to see how close you come to the learning "targets" you set for your students. You will share that information with your administrator in your final evaluation interview.

Q. Can I develop my own CRQs to use instead of those from the district?

A. You can (and should) develop and use your own CRQs as part of regular instruction but only the CRQs provided by the district can be used as part of the Evaluate Davis Academic Goal.

Information: The CRQs provided by the district were created by small teams of teachers from different schools and represent ideas from across the district. Using them helps us have degree of curricular consistency between schools.

Q. What kinds of things should I be using as "Action Steps"?

A. Your action steps are the things you plan to do to prepare students to do well on the CRQs. They may include things such as:

- Develop lessons, find resources, etc. to prepare students for the CRQs on topics I haven't taught in the past. (List the specific topics you plan to research.)

- Coordinate with department members/PLC to develop lessons and strategies for the CRQs.
- Create multiple choice quizzes/activities to pre-assess student knowledge on the topics.
- Create multiple choice quizzes/activities that can help prepare students for the CRQs.
- Conduct a “writing seminar” with classes to teach/practice academic writing styles which will be used when answering CRQs.

Q. What kind of “Target” should I set for my students?

A. The target portion of the goal is the quantifiable part of the goal. Each of the CRQs are worth 8 points so you might set a learning target like one of the following:

- US History 2 students will score an average of 5.8 over all 8 assessments
- Less than 10% of all students in my US History 2 classes will receive ANY score on any single CRQ of lower than 3.
- The average score, across all students in my course, will increase with each successive CRQ. (This could be easily tracked and presented with a line-graph with 8 data points.)

Information: Your target will depend your class – is in an honors class? a regular class? an AP class? – and may also depend on school demographics. Not all teachers will set the same targets and in subsequent years teachers will have better understanding of what target levels work best for them. Also, targets may have multiple parts (as above) or be a single statement; this is entirely up to the teacher. Remember that the data you gather when scoring the CRQs and the records you keep should enable you to report how actual student performance compares to the targets at the end of the year.