CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK: PREPARED

The unit's commitment extends beyond preparing candidates to each or continuing the professional development of practicing teachers; for, the unit also prepared principals, school psychologists, counselors, mental health professionals, speech language pathologists, and physical education specialists for a broad range of professional roles in education.

Associated Goals and Outcomes:
- Grounded Thinker
- Critical Thinker
- Content Specialist
- Effective Practitioner
- Reflective Practitioner

UNIT CANDIDATE PROFICIENCIES (DERIVED FROM STATE AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS)

- Dispositions (D) - The candidate demonstrates good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Content Knowledge (CK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of academic content.
- Pedagogical Knowledge (PK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of different teaching strategies.
- Pedagogical Skills (PS) - The candidate understands the elements of effective teaching.

Additional matrices that align the unit's candidate proficiencies with specific program standards are available in individual program portfolios, together with matrices that indicate how each course in a particular program of study assesses each of the program competencies. In addition, a third matrix is available that shows which courses in each program address the unit-wide Candidate Proficiencies.
**Reflection**

This is the process by which candidates are provided opportunities to be meta-cognitive and engage in thoughtful questioning and problems-based learning.

Associated Goals and Outcomes:
- Critical Thinker
- Effective Practitioner
- Reflective Practitioner
- Problem Solver

**Effectiveness**

This refers to the content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions that candidates utilize to ensure that all students learn. Assessment of candidate effectiveness is performance-based, uses multiple measures, and is authentic. The preparation of effective practitioners addresses the mandates of *No Child Left Behind* and the demand for "highly qualified" and "effective" professionals.

Associated Goals and Outcomes:
- Grounded Thinker
- Content Specialist
- Effective Practitioner
- Technology Proficient Educator

Dispositions (D) - The candidate demonstrates good interpersonal and communication skills.

Pedagogical Skills (PS) - The candidate understands the elements of effective teaching.

Assessment of Student Learning (A) - The candidate understands principles of assessment and various assessment techniques.

Multi-culturalism/Diversity (MC) - The candidate understands principles necessary to work with diverse learners.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pedagogy</th>
<th>Technology (T) - The candidate demonstrates effective technology skills.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pedagogical Knowledge (PK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of different teaching strategies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pedagogical Skills (PS) - The candidate understands the elements of effective teaching.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The unit's and the candidate's educational and clinical practices are grounded in the general concepts, theories and research pertaining to effective teaching.**

**Associated Goals and Outcomes:**
- Grounded Thinker
- Critical Thinker
- Content Specialist
- Effective Practitioner
- Reflective Practitioner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Assessment of Student Learning (A) - The candidate understand principles of assessment and various assessment techniques.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pedagogical Knowledge (PK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of different teaching strategies.</td>
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</table>

**This encompasses the formal and informal procedures for eliciting evidence related to unit effectiveness, and both candidate and student learning. The unit's assessment system is based on professionals, state and institutional standards. It includes measures that are systematically used to collect data at predetermined transitional points in order to predict candidate success and improve programs. Candidates also gain expertise in the principles of classroom assessment.**

**Associated Goals and Outcomes:**
- Effective Practitioner
- Problem Solver
- Technology Proficient Educator
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theories, investigations, and policies drive the work of the unit and undergird candidate preparation and practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associated Goals and Outcomes:
- Reflective Practitioner
- Problem Solver

*Advanced Program Candidates demonstrate Content Knowledge (CK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of academic content.

Technology (T) - The candidate demonstrates effective technology skills.

Pedagogical Knowledge (PK) - The candidate demonstrates knowledge of different teaching strategies.

Pedagogical Skills (PS) - The candidate understands the elements of effective teaching.

Assessment of Student Learning (A) - The candidate understand principles of assessment and various assessment techniques.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This is the continuous process for determining the unit's realization of its stated Mission, Goals and Outcomes. Both the unit and candidates use rubrics to evaluate their effectiveness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associated Goals and Outcomes:
- Effective Practitioner
- Problem Solver
- Technology Proficient Educator

Pedagogical Skills (PS) - The candidate understands the elements of effective teaching.

Technology (T) - The candidate demonstrates effective technology skills.

Assessment of Student Learning (A) - The candidate understand principles of assessment and various assessment techniques.
**Diversity**

Candidates, faculty, and students represent differences in gender, ethnicity, race, socio-economic status, language, religion, sexual preference, regional culture, and ability-level. The unit provides opportunities for candidates to work with diverse students and to demonstrate dispositions that value fairness and the belief that all students can learn.

**Associated Goals and Outcomes:**
- Grounded Thinker
- Critical Thinker
- Effective Practitioner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Multi-culturalism/Diversity (MC)</th>
<th>The candidate understands principles necessary to work with diverse learners.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Needs (SN)</td>
<td>The candidate understand principles necessary to work with students who have exceptional needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispositions (D)</td>
<td>The candidate demonstrates good interpersonal and communication skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>