

## UTEC Standards for the Conceptual Framework

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1. The competent candidate knows, reflects on, acts in accordance with, and is committed to professional standards governing his or her subject matter, expectations for learners as described in the appropriate content standards, and making such content meaningful and empowering for all learners.
2. The competent candidate knows, reflects on, acts in accordance with, and is committed to research-based best practices that promote the growth, development, learning, and empowerment of all individuals representing the social fabric of our diverse society.
3. The competent candidate knows, reflects on, acts in accordance with, and is committed to research-based principles governing the planning of instruction, the creation and maintenance of positive, safe learning communities, the implementation of appropriate technological tools, and the use of varied approaches to impact, assess, and empower learning.
4. The competent candidate knows, reflects on, acts in accordance with, and is committed to the importance of professional dispositions, especially those that advance fairness and the belief that all individuals can be empowered to learn.
5. The competent candidate knows, reflects on, acts in accordance with, and is committed to the principles that govern the application of his or her knowledge of subject matter, the empowerment of learners, and the acquisition of practical and professional skills during field and clinical experiences, and to the continual improvement of professional performance.

## HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION *Western Illinois University*

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### Western's Vision

Western Illinois University will be the leader in educational quality, opportunity, and affordability among its peers.

### Western's Mission

By enacting our values and supporting the synergy between instruction, research, creativity and service, Western Illinois University prepares a socially responsible, diverse student, faculty, and staff, population to lead in the global society.

### Western's Values

Academic Excellence  
Educational Opportunity  
Personal Growth  
Social Responsibility



WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

## *Teacher and Professional Education Programs*



## *Conceptual Framework*

## Our Vision

Our graduates will be empowered educational professionals deeply committed to continuous learning and the empowerment of all learners.

## Our Mission

The WIU Teacher and Professional Education Programs empower candidates to become educational practitioners who engage in informed action that is grounded in knowledge and reflection; who are deeply committed to the highest standards of professional practice; who are able to adapt to emerging social, economic, and cultural landscapes; who are skilled in the use of technological tools that promote teaching and learning; and who are committed to empowering all learners.

## Our Values

Knowledge  
Action  
Reflection  
Commitment  
Empowerment

## *Commitment*

A deep emotional and intellectual investment to becoming a caring and compassionate professional dedicated to personal growth, excellence, and service to one's professional community, with the ultimate aim of empowering all learners.

## *Action*

Professional practice that embodies the focused and skillful application of knowledge and understanding informed by reflection and a deep commitment to learners and their ultimate empowerment.



## *Knowledge*

Informed, critically examined, research-based, data-driven, and experientially grounded understanding of learners, content, pedagogy, technology, and the standards associated with one's professional practice.

## *Reflection*

Analytical and thoughtful examination of one's knowledge, understanding, and practice resulting in more targeted and refined action that empowers student learning.

## *Empowerment*

The creation of a professional community wherein candidates develop the capability, confidence, efficacy, and sense of authority, enabling them to create a community that positively transforms the lives and actions of all learners and engages them in attaining their full potential.