

Standard 4: Content Knowledge

The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline.

	Emerging/Minimal	Effective	Highly Effective
a. <i>Knows the content of the discipline and conveys accurate information and concepts.</i>	Knows the content of assigned teaching area.	Knows the content of the discipline(s) taught and conveys accurate information.	Pursues opportunities to learn new developments in the discipline and continually deepens content knowledge.
b. <i>Demonstrates an awareness of the Utah Core Standards and references them in short- and long-term planning.</i>	References the Utah Core Standards in the preparation of lesson plans.	Bases instruction on approved content standards and current research to create rigorous and relevant learning activities.	Continually updates knowledge in the discipline(s) taught and connects concepts across disciplines to support student understanding.

	Emerging/Minimal	Effective	Highly Effective
c. <i>Engages students in applying methods of inquiry and standards of evidence of the discipline.</i>	Understands methods and standards used in a specific academic discipline.	Teaches methods of inquiry, problem-solving, and critical thinking consistent with the standards of the academic discipline.	Develops opportunities for self-directed student inquiry and problem-solving across multiple disciplines.
d. <i>Uses multiple representations of concepts that capture key ideas.</i>	Teaches key concepts of the discipline.	Uses multiple representations and explanations to convey concepts of the discipline.	Regularly adapts various methods and materials to convey key ideas of the discipline.
e. <i>Supports students in learning and using academic language accurately and meaningfully.</i>	Uses the vocabulary of the discipline.	Incorporates academic vocabulary to enhance learning.	Expects students to use academic language accurately and meaningfully.

