

Northwestern University

Conceptual Framework for Teacher Education

Mission

Our mission is to prepare knowledgeable, reflective, and innovative teachers who will lead and inspire students.

Vision

The Teacher Education Program at Northwestern University is guided by a conceptual framework for teacher education, organized around a vision of learning, learners and teaching. The conceptual framework focuses on

A vision of learning that includes:

- 1.1. how students come to understand and think about subject matter;
- 1.2. an emphasis on inquiry and reflection;
- 1.3. the importance of collaboration and social interaction; and
- 1.4. experiential activities that are relevant and engaging.

A vision of learners that includes:

- 2.1 the belief that every person is capable of learning;
- 2.2 that development is shaped by social contexts; and
- 2.3 equitable experiences for all.

A vision of teaching that includes:

- 3.1 connecting theory and practice;
- 3.2 inquiry, reflection, collaboration, and innovation;
- 3.3 creating a climate of learning for all students; and
- 3.4 acting professionally, responsibly, and ethically.

Dispositions

Insert inTASC definition of disposition. The program will help candidates acquire the following dispositions to the level of proficiency:

1. *Ability to systematically reflect on one's own practice and make changes as appropriate. (NUCF 3.2)*
2. *Belief in the value of seeing students as individuals. (NUCF 2.1)*
3. *Sense of responsibility to support every student. (NUCF 2.1)*
4. *Commitment to collaborate with all stakeholders. (NUCF 3.2)*
5. *Ability to engage students. (NUCF 1.4)*
6. *Willingness to incorporate innovations in teaching, including the use of new technologies. (NUCF 3.2)*
7. *Commitment to conducting one's self professionally, responsibly, and ethically. (NUCF 3.4)*