

Teaching Effectiveness Framework

The Teaching Effectiveness Framework (TEF) is a tool within the Developing and Evaluating Teaching Toolkit that provides faculty with a set of pedagogical competencies to help focus their developing teaching practice. The TEF is comprised of seven essential, interrelated domains of effective teaching practices—for face-to-face and online instruction—each grounded in the scholarship of teaching and learning. The framework toolkit includes leveled criteria within each domain, a goal-setting process, a collection of teaching practices to improve student learning, and materials for instructors and administrators to measure growth in teaching effectiveness. All professional development from TILT aligns with the domains of the framework, so that instructors can easily find experiences and resources that can help meet their teaching goals.



Principles of the Teaching Effectiveness Framework

Grounded in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

- The TEF provides theory and evidence-based practices that support effective teaching, and thus, student success. It includes strategies relevant to face-to-face and online instruction.
- The TEF was developed over a 36-month period with input from numerous CSU stakeholders (VP of Diversity, Committee on Teaching and Learning, Committee on Non-Tenure Track Faculty, Provost for Faculty Affairs, Deans, Chairs, Faculty, TILT Equity Advisory Group) and an in-depth literature review of effective teaching. The TEF is a living document that will be updated periodically, as research on teaching and learning develops.

Developmental and Self-reflective

- The TEF is the foundational component of the comprehensive *Developing and Evaluating Teaching Toolkit*. The toolkit includes a recommended process for annual review, options for goal setting, and tools for measuring teaching effectiveness. The recommended process for developing and evaluating teaching incorporates the TEF as a starting point for annual goal setting.
- The TEF is designed to be developmental and self-reflective; it is not intended to be used as a stand-alone evaluative tool but rather as a resource for goal setting and reflection within an iterative process for annual review.
- Meaningful measures of teaching must separate the impact of the instructor from the many other factors that affect the attainment of educational outcomes. Teaching is a developmental process that takes time, experience, reflection, and support; the TEF is intended to be used as a **supportive** and **self-reflective** tool to improve teaching effectiveness and student success.


Asset-based

- The TEF acknowledges that just as students bring assets to their learning, instructors have a set of assets and strengths that they bring to their teaching.
- The TEF is designed to honor variety in effective teaching. Students benefit from the cultural wealth instructors bring to their teaching; the TEF encourages instructors to find their own path to teaching effectiveness, beginning with their strengths.
- **The TEF is not intended to be used as an evaluative tool** but as a starting point for self-reflection, setting goals and building on strengths.

Collaborative

- The TEF provides a common language and definition of teaching effectiveness that facilitates discussion of best practices in teaching among CSU faculty and between faculty and students.
- Effective teaching occurs when students attain course outcomes and goals that departments and/or instructors set. The TEF provides the components proven to consistently promote student success. The complexity of developing teaching effectiveness is reflected in the depth of the seven criteria in this framework. The TEF provides the foundation for faculty both within and across disciplines to collaborate with and support each other as they support students in their learning.

Grounded in DEISJ (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Social Justice)

- The TEF threads socially just and inclusive pedagogy throughout each of the domains. While Inclusive Pedagogy is identified as its own domain, fundamental inclusive practices are identified in and woven throughout each of the other domains.
- The TEF honors the challenging and dynamic nature of teaching and elevates the role of teaching faculty at an R-1 institution.
- The TEF fosters an equitable approach to feedback on teaching and supports teaching success for all faculty demographics.
- The  icon indicates inclusive teaching practices essential to being “Proficient” or “Advanced” in the other domains of the TEF.

Inclusive Pedagogy

Inclusive pedagogy is a student-centered teaching approach that considers all students' backgrounds, experiences, and learning variabilities in the planning and implementation of student engagement activities, equitable access to content, mutual respect, and a more robust learning experience for all learners.

<p>Inclusive Excellence Training, Reflection, and Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning about Inclusive Excellence • Awareness of student-identities in the classroom • Mitigation of assumptions, biases, and microaggressions in the classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has participated in many trainings on inclusive excellence in teaching and regularly engages in further reading and reflection. • Has a developed awareness of student identities in the classroom and uses this knowledge to support student success. • Successful in mitigating their own and students' assumptions, biases, and microaggressions in the classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has participated in some trainings on inclusive excellence in teaching and has explored some further reading and reflection • Has a developed awareness of student identities in the classroom and is beginning to use it to make instructional decisions that support students. • Has awareness of their own and students' assumptions, biases, and microaggressions and is beginning to mitigate them in the classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has participated in some training or reading on inclusive excellence in teaching • Is developing a good awareness of the student identities in the classroom and is beginning to use it to support students. • Is developing awareness of their own and students' assumptions, biases, and microaggressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not yet participated in training or reading on inclusive excellence in teaching • Is not yet aware of all students' identities in their classroom or what impact it has on student success • Has not yet considered their own assumptions and biases in relation to teaching
<p>Inclusive Teaching Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of best practices that are fundamental to Inclusive Pedagogy (see below) 	<p>Intentionally and actively incorporates inclusive pedagogical practices within all aspects of the curriculum and the classroom to increase awareness, content knowledge, cognitive sophistication, and sense of community for every individual.</p>	<p>Regularly incorporates inclusive pedagogical practices in planning and delivery of content.</p>	<p>Incorporates some inclusive pedagogical practices in planning and delivery of content.</p>	<p>Instructor has not yet developed inclusive content or pedagogy.</p>

Inclusive Excellence

- Engage in DEI [trainings](#) and [reading](#)
- Keep current on issues of racism/sexism, current racial tensions, and contemporary cultural issues in the United States
- Address bias and [macroaggressions](#) in your classroom

Curriculum and Curricular Alignment

- Adopt practices grounded in inclusive curriculum (see Curriculum/Curricular Alignment domain)
- Know the implications of religious perspectives regarding course content
- Create course materials that have been examined through the lens of CSU [assistive technology resource guidelines](#).
- Add an [inclusivity statement](#) to your syllabus

Classroom Climate

- Create a [welcoming and inclusive environment](#) (see Classroom Climate domain)
- Ensure inclusivity and cultural awareness in your non-verbal communication, language, and symbolic representations
- Help students learn how to communicate equitably and productively with each other
- Model productive disagreement, showing how to critique a statement or idea rather than the speaker
- Provide opportunities for students to work with others - and for students to see the value of diverse perspectives

Pedagogical Content Knowledge

- Assess prior knowledge of learners; use it to plan/revise class sessions
- Connect the content to the lived experiences of a variety of students

Student Motivation

- Get to know students individually and personally: backgrounds, interests, reasons for taking the course; share professional research interests and experiences
- Make content relevant to all students' lives; clearly link concepts/lessons to industry, a broader purpose, future classes/activities, or a transferable skill.

Feedback and Assessment

- Create rubrics for assignments, papers, group presentations; share rubrics with students along with assignment directions
- Provide transparent [assignment directions \(template\)](#)

Instructional Strategies

- Use [accessible slide presentations, documents, videos and other course materials](#)
- Provide [transparent assignment directions \(template\)](#)
- Use a variety of teaching methods and modalities (verbal, interactive, didactic, etc.)

Curriculum/ Curricular Alignment

The curriculum and corresponding instruction are most effective when they intentionally provide links among learning objectives, assignments, activities, and assessments, encourage students to think critically about the application of content to both the broader discipline and the world, and are representative of the diversity of scholars in the field.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Learning Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives are specific, measurable, and integrated into instruction 	All learning objectives are measurable and require evidence of critical thinking and abilities appropriate to the course level.	Most learning objectives are measurable and require evidence of critical thinking and abilities appropriate to the course level.	Some learning objectives are measurable and require evidence of critical thinking and abilities appropriate to the course level; others need specificity.	Learning objectives require more specificity to be measurable and/or require evidence of critical thinking and abilities appropriate to the course level.
Course Alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment between learning objectives, course materials, assessments, and other course content Alignment within the broader discipline Alignment with relation to the greater community/ world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections between objectives, course materials, and assessments are an intentional and consistent aspect of class. Instructor provides clear guidelines and frequent opportunities for students to make connections within the course, the broader discipline, and the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections between objectives, course materials, and assessments are intentional. Instructor provides clear guidelines and some opportunities for students to make connections within course content and across courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections between objectives, course materials, and assessments are in the syllabus but not an intentional or consistent aspect of class. Instructor occasionally provides opportunities for students to make a connection within course content. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections between objectives, course materials, and assessments are inconsistent and unclear. Instructor attempts to provide an opportunity for students to make connections within course content but connections need development.
Inclusive Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of assessments and curricular materials. Representation and use of materials from scholars from minoritized groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentional variety is incorporated into most assignments and assessments. Wide and purposeful use of materials outside the text – with good representation from scholars from minoritized groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentional variety in several of assignments and assessments. Several curricular materials outside the text -- with a few from scholars in the field from minoritized groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal variety of assignments and assessment type. A few curricular materials outside the text -- with a few from scholars in the field from minoritized groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little to no variety in assignments and assessment type. May be aware of the need for a variety of materials outside the text and need of materials from scholars from minoritized groups but has not yet integrated them.
Syllabus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcoming and supportive word choice Inclusivity statement Purposeful content; succinct; useful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The syllabus sets a supportive, welcoming tone, contains an inclusivity statement, a visual representation of the course, and campus resources for students. It is a succinct and meaningful document that is used throughout the semester. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus sets a welcoming tone and contains most of the components in the “Advanced” column. It is sometimes referred to during the semester. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus has a neutral tone and contains some of the components of the “Advanced” column. It may contain too little, too much information or the information may need to be more organized to be useful to students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word choice in the syllabus sets a negative or unsupportive tone. It does not contain much of the crucial information that supports student success as detailed in the “Advanced” column or the information is not organized in a navigable manner.

Inclusive Curriculum

- Choose/Create content that deliberately reflects the diversity of contributors to the field
- Use visuals, examples, analogies, and humor that do not reinforce stereotypes but do include traditionally marginalized people or perspectives to ensure inclusivity
- Consider the needs of a wide range of learners. Visit CSU [Accessibility by Design](#)
- Ensure texts with an online component are accessible for users of assistive technology
- Vary assignment and assessment types to appeal to learning preferences of all students
- Provide low-stakes assignments and assessments



Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Use [Bloom's](#) or [Fink's](#) Taxonomy to write clear and measurable learning outcomes
- Write outcomes that align with the cognitive demands of the course
- Write short term outcomes for units, modules, or daily activities

Course Alignment of Activities and Assessments

- Use [Backwards Design](#) to align all course content, assignments, and assessments
- [Align assessments, assignments, and class activities with student learning outcomes](#)
- Align rigor of class activities, discussions, clickers questions, etc. with rigor of exams
- Design activities where students make connections between content and outcomes

Syllabus

- Design a [learner-centered](#) syllabus
- Add an [inclusivity statement](#) to your syllabus 
- Make sure your syllabus is [accessible to all learners](#) 
- Provide a visual map of the course, including alignment of objectives to assessments
- Use the syllabus as a teaching and student reflection tool
- Include campus resources: [TILT tutoring](#), [Student Resources and Campus Life](#)

Classroom Climate

Classroom climate refers to the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical environment in which students learn. It is the responsibility of the instructor to intentionally create a safe space to foster a community of diverse learners.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Welcoming and Inclusive Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructional techniques that build safety and community for all students 	Institutes teaching practices that foster CSU Principles of Community and create an immediate sense of community for all learners – one that is safe, challenging, supportive and engaged.	Employs several teaching practices that foster CSU Principles of Community and create a challenging, safe, supportive, mostly engaged classroom.	The instructor periodically attempts teaching practices that build and reinforce CSU Principles of Community throughout the semester.	Attempts teaching practices that build community mostly during the first week of class.
Instructor-Student Rapport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency of opportunities for participation Expectation of participation 	Teaching practices/ activities promote curiosity, critical thinking, intrinsic motivation, and participation from all students throughout the semester.	Teaching practices promote curiosity, critical thinking, intrinsic motivation, and participation from most students throughout the semester.	Students are encouraged to participate, and some attempt is made to keep them engaged.	Individual participation is encouraged by the occasional asking of questions. Student responses may/may not be required.
Student-Student Rapport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency and quality of student-student interaction 	The instructor recognizes and takes action to mitigate implicit bias of classroom interactions and brings this awareness to students.	The instructor recognizes and takes action to mitigate implicit bias of classroom interactions.	The instructor recognizes and seeks resources to take action to mitigate implicit bias of classroom interactions.	The instructor is beginning to recognize implicit bias that affect classroom interactions.
Student Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency and level of student participation 	Nearly all students engage with and support each other on a regular basis – with and without prompting from the instructor.	Many students engage with and support each other on a regular basis – with and without prompting from the instructor.	Some students engage with and support each other; some students engage only with prompting from instructor; some do not engage with others at all.	Most students generally do not engage with each other about course content. The instructor does little to promote student-student engagement.



Create a Welcoming and Inclusive Environment

- [Believe in all students](#) – that they can succeed; communicate this with them
- Use students' names and pronounce them correctly – use name tents or seating charts in large classes
- Instructor/students [create class norms](#) and establish a system to adhere to them
- Connect the content to the lived experiences of a variety of students
- Add a [diversity statement](#) to your syllabus
- Incorporate practices that create a sense of belonging for students in your class: [international](#) students, [students of color](#), gender [identities](#) and disabilities
- Incorporate [Principles of Community](#) into your class
- Do not ask individuals to speak for an entire group of people
- Assess the physical space of the classroom; consider the space and movement for discussions and activities
- Ensure inclusivity and cultural awareness in your non-verbal communication, language, and symbolic representations

Instructor-Student Rapport

- Make time to answer student questions/create a system where all students ask questions
- Talk *with* students instead of *at* them
- Engage students in the content – through [discussion](#), activities, and time to think
- Ask students for feedback on your teaching several times a semester; do something with their feedback
- [Be authentic and vulnerable](#); tell students when you don't know something, and find out for next class
- Create a sense of belonging; tell students outright that they *belong* in your class

Student-Student Rapport

- Create a system for everyone to [call each other by name](#)
- Help students learn how to communicate equitably and productively with each other 
- Encourage students to be experts; allow them to teach concepts to each other
- Provide opportunities for students to work with others - and for students to see the value of diverse perspectives 
- Teach and model [appropriate small group behaviors](#) so everyone feels included in the group work

Pedagogical Content Knowledge

Pedagogical content knowledge combines content knowledge and pedagogical expertise within a content area in order to employ appropriate instructional strategies that successfully address the most common misconceptions of students; the most difficult concepts for students; the most effective sequencing of concepts; important relevant connections; and the most crucial knowledge and skills students should master by the end of a course.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Knowledge of Content and Instructional Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Alignment Sequencing and level Instructional Strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor consistently demonstrates alignment of content and pedagogical expertise in the content area. Instruction and assessments are effectively sequenced, appropriate for the level of students in the course, and consider abilities of current students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor demonstrates frequent alignment of content expertise with best practices in content area teaching. Most instruction and assessments are effectively sequenced, appropriate for the level of learners in the course, and consider abilities of current students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor demonstrates some alignment of content expertise with best practices in content area teaching. Some instruction and assessments are effectively sequenced, appropriate to the level of learners in the course, and consider abilities of current students. Much instruction is rote. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor demonstrates little alignment of content expertise with best practices in content area teaching. Instructor is unaware or unsure of whether or not concepts are effectively sequenced or appropriate for the level of learners in the course or consider abilities of current students.
Knowledge of Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misconceptions, alternative conceptions, and preconceptions Connections within the course, curriculum and beyond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructor knows and relays misconceptions, alternative conceptions, or preconceptions of content to students. The instructor regularly makes essential connections between course content, other courses in the curriculum and to contemporary issues in the field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructor knows and relays misconceptions, alternative conceptions, or preconceptions of content to students. The instructor makes relevant connections between course content, between courses in the curriculum and to contemporary issues in the field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructor knows and relays some misconceptions, alternative conceptions, or preconceptions of content to students. The instructor makes occasional connections between course content, between courses in the curriculum and to contemporary issues in the field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The instructor relays an occasional misconception, alternative conception, or preconception of content to students and/or does little to make clear connections between course content, other courses, and contemporary issues in the field
(If applicable) LA and GTA implementation	The instructor acts as pedagogical guide to other faculty, GTA's, and LA's in content area teaching and learning.	The instructor acts as pedagogical guide to LA's and GTA's in content area teaching and learning.	The instructor encourages LA's and GTA's to assist students when asked.	The main role of LA's and GTA's is to grade student work. Little to no interaction with students is encouraged.

Knowledge of Content and Instructional Strategies

- Determine breadth and depth of content necessary for course level: align with pre- co-, and subsequent courses
- Present information in a sequence that makes sense to a (new, intermediate, advanced) learner
- Use a variety of instructional strategies to engage a variety of learners 🧑🏫
- Scaffold lessons and activities to support students in reaching the level of critical thinking needed to master course content
- Provide explicit learning strategies for your content/field so students know how to work more effectively.

Knowledge of Students

- Proactively address common student misconceptions 🧑🏫
- Assess prior knowledge of learners; use it to plan/revise class sessions
- Align instruction with assessment, frequently check for understanding
- Connect content to other course content, other courses, and contemporary issues in the field
- Connect the content to the lived experiences of a variety of students 🧑🏫
- Plan activities, discussions, and formative assessments for concepts that are typically difficult for students

Student Motivation

Motivation is triggered by the perceived value or benefit of the academic content or task. Student involvement and commitment to learning increases when an instructor uses a variety of researched motivation techniques.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Research-based Motivation Techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of motivation techniques 	The instructor uses a variety of appropriate research-based or innovative techniques to keep students motivated during every class.	The instructor uses several research-based or innovative motivation techniques during most classes.	The instructor occasionally uses motivation techniques during some classes.	The instructor attempts to use motivation techniques, but the successful employment of these needs further development or the instructor does little to attempt to motivate students.
Instructional Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency and quality of motivational/ inclusive language used during class 	The instructor consistently uses language that includes all students, encourages students, honors effort, and demonstrates belief in student abilities.	The instructor often uses language that includes all students, encourages students, honors effort, and demonstrates belief in student abilities.	The instructor occasionally uses language that encourages students or demonstrates belief in student abilities. The language might not feel inclusive to all students.	Instructor occasionally uses standard phrases to encourage students (e.g., “good job,” “you can do it,” “if you read (study, pay attention…), you’ll do better on the test).
Approached to Teaching Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misconceptions, alternative conceptions, and preconceptions Connections within the course, curriculum and beyond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction includes strategic variety of activities, discussions, and connections to engage students with content. Instructor frequently models how students can best engage with content and each other. The class analyzes/discusses student-generated exemplars of assignments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction includes some variety of activities, discussions, and connections to engage students with content. Instructor sometimes models how students can best engage with content, each other, and provides some student-generated exemplars for high stakes assignments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction includes a little variety of activities, discussions, and connections to engage students with content. Instructor occasionally models how students can best engage with content, each other, and provides some exemplars for high stakes assignments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction includes minimal to no variety of activities, discussions, or connections to engage students with content. Instructor attempts to model how students can engage with content, each other. Exemplars are not provided.
Student Engagement and Interest Levels	Most students remain engaged in classroom activity and demonstrate active pursuit of content knowledge.	Many students remain engaged in classroom activity and demonstrate interest in content.	Some students are actively engaged in classroom activities.	Few students remain engaged in classroom activity.

Research-based Motivation Techniques

- Get to know students individually and personally: backgrounds, interests, reasons for taking the course; share professional research interests and experiences 🧑🏫
- [Make content relevant](#) to all students’ lives; clearly link concepts/lessons to industry, a broader purpose, future classes/activities, or a transferable skill. 🧑🏫
- Engage students’ [emotions](#) to see their potential to make the world a better place.
- Teach from everywhere in the room, not just from behind the podium.
- Acknowledge student effort; allow room in your grading for risk-taking and error.
- Promote growth mindset and students’ [resilience](#) by shifting attention to problem solving and working through failure.
- Choose appropriately scaled challenges for students.
- Provide opportunities to learn in a [variety of learning modalities](#): group learning, peer learning, individual learning, learning with technology, etc.
- Guide students in analyzing/discussing student-generated exemplars of assignments
- Believe in your students’ abilities. Your perceptions are critical to their success.
- Allow students to share in groups; provide opportunities for students to teach and learn from their peers 🧑🏫
- Welcome all students; develop a learning community among you and your students.

- Challenge students with deep learning (case studies, community-based learning, collaborative projects, etc.)
- [Gauge the rigor of your instruction](#). Is it at a level that will provide the correct learning edge for students?
- Use low stakes assessments early in the semester to help students become familiar with what is expected, enhance learning, and provide frequent feedback on areas of confusion and misunderstanding.

Instructional Language

- Learn and use students’ preferred names and how they pronounce them.
- [Use varied names](#) and socio-cultural contexts in stories, test questions and assignments 🧑🏫.
- Use the appropriate language when referring to social groups. 🧑🏫
- Use positive language when discussing challenging topics. If students struggle, remind them that they don’t know it “yet” to reinforce that you believe they will eventually reach their goal.
- When giving feedback, use language that honors attempts, promotes growth, and provides hope to students.

Feedback and Assessment


Frequent formative assessments and low-stakes assignments inform instructors and students of how much, and the extent to which, content or skills are mastered. Teaching strategies can then be adjusted to meet students' needs. Integrating a variety of assessment strategies provides all students with multiple opportunities to succeed.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Alignment and Communication of Assessment Criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment rubrics Class activities related to assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All assessments of assignments, projects and tests are effectively sequenced, appropriate for the level of learners, and aligned with daily learning outcomes and overall course objectives. Assessment criteria are clear and communicated to students in a timely manner to be used as a learning opportunity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most assessments of assignments, projects and tests are effectively sequenced, appropriate for the level of learners, and aligned with daily learning outcomes and overall course objectives. Assessment criteria are clear and communicated to students in a timely manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some assessments of assignments, projects and tests are purposely sequenced, appropriate for the level of learners, and aligned with overall course objectives. Assessment criteria are mostly clear. Criteria are typically communicated to students when they receive the grade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests, quizzes, projects, and assignments are given throughout the semester and are aligned with course objectives. Assessment criteria are unclear or unknown, or not effectively communicated with students.
Formative Assessment and Low-Stakes Assignments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class activities Low-stakes assignments Formative assessments 	The instructor regularly uses formative assessment strategies and low-stakes assignments/quizzes to gauge student understanding, modify future lessons, make in-the-moment instructional adjustments, and give timely feedback.	The instructor uses several formative assessment strategies and low-stakes assignments/quizzes to gauge student understanding, modify future lessons, make in-the-moment instructional adjustments, and give timely feedback.	The instructor uses one or two formative assessment strategies and low-stakes grades to give students feedback.	The instructor does not use formative assessment strategies or low-stakes grades to give students feedback.
If applicable: Early Performance Feedback (EPF)	The instructor opts into the CSU EPF program and provides an ample number of low-stakes assessments and feedback to students, especially during the first four weeks of class.	The instructor opts into the CSU EPF program and provides some low-stakes assessments and feedback to students, especially during the first four weeks of class.	The instructor may not opt into the CSU EPF program, but 1 or 2 low-stakes assessments provide feedback to students within the first four weeks.	The instructor does not opt into the CSU EPF program and does not provide feedback to students until week five or later.

Assessments


- Convey learning objectives in student friendly language with measurable verbs; align assessments with objectives
- Use variety in formative and summative assessments: quizzes, exams, assignments, papers, projects, simulations, presentations, etc.
- Use [Classroom Assessment Techniques](#) as formative assessments to promote mental retrieval and deep learning; this can be done in [residential, hybrid, and online courses](#)
- Use technology tools to engage students and check for understanding: ([iClickers](#), [Kahoot](#), [Jamboard](#), Google)
- Use “on the fly” in-class checks for understanding: Fist to five, think-pair-share, think-ink-pair-share, thumb-o-meter, etc. to inform your teaching in the moment
- Consider group quizzes or tests in addition to individual testing
- Provide structure and guidelines for student group work and group assignments

First Four Weeks

- Use low stakes assessments during the [First Four Weeks](#) of class
- Administer a mini-test at the same difficulty level as larger tests
- Structure time for students to engage in [self/peer](#) assessment 
- Make sure students know that formative assessment is a form of supportive feedback

- Assess students' group skills; guide and reteach skills for productive, inclusive groups

Assignments and Rubrics

- Create rubrics for assignments, papers, group presentations; share rubrics with students along with assignment directions 
- Align assignments and rubrics with learning outcomes
- Engage students in [project “exemplar” analysis](#) before an assignment is due
- Scaffold large assignments: assign small chunks of assignments, allow for rough drafts, revisions, and peer feedback. Give students opportunities to engage in self/peer assessment of a draft of their assignment using the rubric.
- Create real-life, authentic assessment opportunities

Feedback

- Give specific feedback; don't presume that “good job” or “this needs work” will motivate
- If students will be giving feedback to each other, provide guidelines, practice, and support
- Give timely feedback (evidence shows that long time lags between student performance and getting feedback limits the utility of the feedback)

Instructional Strategies

The classroom, whether it be on campus or virtual, draws students from different backgrounds with various experiences and abilities. Using a variety of instructional strategies increases student engagement, critical thinking, connections to learning outcomes, and student success for all learners. Being an effective teacher requires the implementation of creative and innovative teaching strategies that work best for your course, your students, and your teaching style.

Evidence	Advanced	Proficient	Developing	Emerging
Active Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of instructional strategies Frequency of opportunities for participation 	The instructor uses a variety of instructional strategies appropriate to course content during all class sessions to increase student engagement, critical thinking, understanding, and connections to learning objectives.	The instructor uses a variety of instructional strategies during many class sessions to increase student engagement, critical thinking, understanding, and connections to learning objectives.	The instructor uses a few instructional strategies during some class sessions to increase student engagement, critical thinking, understanding, and connections to learning objectives.	The instructor uses one or two instructional strategies during some class sessions to increase student engagement, critical thinking, understanding, and connections to learning objectives.
Learning Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation slides Canvas content Student response prompts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of visual presentation and technology aligns with research-based best practices. All course materials and instructional communication practices have been examined through the lens of assistive technology resource guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most visual presentation and technology use align with research-based best practices. Most course materials and instructional communication practices have been examined through the lens of assistive technology resource guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some visual presentation and technology use align with research-based best-practices. Some course materials and instructional communication practices have been examined through the lens of assistive technology resource guidelines. 	Visual presentation and technology use do not yet align with research-based best practices or assistive technology resource guidelines.
Science of Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure of assignments and class activities 	All curricular decisions and instructional practices align with the science of learning.	Many curricular decisions and instructional strategies align with the science of learning.	At least one instructional strategy aligns with the science of learning.	Instructional practice does not align with the science of learning.
Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency and level of student participation 	Strategies increase student engagement and/or interaction with content and peers.	Most strategies increase student engagement and/or interaction with content and peers.	Some strategies increase student engagement.	The strategies employed do little to increase student engagement.

Active Learning Techniques

- Use a variety of teaching methods and modalities (verbal, interactive, didactic, etc.) 🧑🏫
- [Individual processing activities](#)
- [Partner processing activities](#)
- [Small group activities](#)
- Self-reflection and [metacognition](#)
- Discussion Techniques - [Small group](#), discussion protocols, [think pair share](#), fishbowl, and other [classroom assessment techniques](#)
- Classroom management strategies – setting a timer for activities, writing and posting directions for activities
- [Chunking class time into 10 - 15 minute segments](#) with processing time after each part
- Service learning
- In class problem solving - Problem Solving Models
- First day, [first five minutes](#), [First Four Weeks](#)
- [Writing to learn](#)
- [Peer to peer instruction](#)
- [Cultural learning projects](#)

Learning Technology

- [Canvas](#)
- [Classroom technologies](#)
- Student response systems: ([iClickers](#)), colored cards, Numbered Heads Together
- Use [accessible slide presentations, documents, videos and other course materials](#) 🧑🏫

Science of Learning

- Provide [transparent assignment directions \(template\)](#) 🧑🏫
- Provide students with many opportunities to determine what they don't yet know or understand ([CATS](#))
- [Questions \(variety of levels of rigor and types of questions\)](#)
- [Predicting, Interleaving, Connecting, Practicing](#)

Activating Prior Knowledge

- Avoid cognitive overload for students
- Incorporate [elaboration](#), [spacing](#), and [frequent quizzing/testing](#)