Principles of Learning and Teaching & PRAXIS Content
(or what some lovingly refer to as PRAXIS II)

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The PRAXIS Umbrella

- **PRAXIS I**
  - Nickname is the PPST Pre-Professional Skills Assessments).
  - Assesses BASIC skills in reading, writing, and math.
  - Many UNIVERSITY STUDENTS take this exam to get admitted to the College of Education.
  - DO NOT WORRY ABOUT.

- **PRAXIS II**

- **PRAXIS III**
  - Assessment used for beginning teachers.
  - Some states use it as a licensing assessment.
  - ACTUAL CLASSROOM OBSERVATION.
There are two exams that teachers need to be aware of:

- Exam 1: Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)
- Exam 2: Content
Principles of Learning & Teaching

- Part of EYE: Entry Years Enhancement
  - Pass the PLT
  - Successfully complete your district evaluations
  - Have an assigned mentor
  - Complete a portfolio review
  - Be NCLB “highly qualified” in at least one license area or endorsement.

- This test is required to move from a Level I license to a Level II license

- Source:
THE PLT TEST NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED EFFECTIVE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

Assessment to measure candidates’ knowledge of the general and specific pedagogical skills and knowledge

- PLT (30621): Early Childhood
- PLT (30622) Grades K-6
- PLT (30623): Grades 5-9
- PLT (30624): Grades 7-12
Principles of Learning & Teaching

● Computer Exam
● Available July 2012

● Assessment to measure candidates’ knowledge of the general and specific pedagogical skills and knowledge
  ○ PLT (35621): Early Childhood
  ○ PLT (35622) Grades K-6
  ○ PLT (35623): Grades 5-9
  ○ PLT (35624): Grades 7-12

SOURCE: http://www.ets.org/praxis/ut/requirements
The PLT is designed to assess a beginning teacher’s knowledge of a variety of job related criteria:
  - Educational psychology
  - Human growth and development
  - Classroom management
  - Instructional design and delivery techniques
  - Evaluation and assessment
  - Communication, Profession, and Community
Educational Psychology

- Theoretical foundations about learning
- Important theorists
- Terms that relate to learning theory
Human Growth and Development

- Physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive development
- Learning styles
- Multiple Intelligences
- Gender differences
- Cultural expectations
Classroom Management

- Accommodations for various styles, intelligences, or exceptionalities
- Motivation and behavior
- Procedures and routines
- Discipline
- Rewards and punishments
- Pacing
Instructional Design and Delivery Techniques

- Cognitive processes and critical thinking
- Cooperative learning
- Questioning
- Direct instruction
- Student-centered models
- Madeline Hunter lesson plan
Evaluation and Assessment

- Types of assessments
- Characteristics of assessments
- Scoring assessments
- Assessment terms
Communication, Profession, and the Community

- Verbal and non-verbal communication
- Cultural and gender differences
- Role of school in the community
- REFLECTIVE PRACTICE
## Test Percentages: Multiple Choice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Categories</th>
<th>Approximate Number of Multiple Choice Questions</th>
<th>Approximate Percentage of Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students as Learners</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Process</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development, Leadership and Community</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Test Percentages: Constructed Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Categories</th>
<th>Approximate Number of Constructed Response Questions</th>
<th>Approximate Percentage of Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of Instructional Scenarios</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Students as Learners</td>
<td>1-2 Questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Instructional Process</td>
<td>1-2 Questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Assessment</td>
<td>0-1 Question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Professional Development, Leadership and Community</td>
<td>0-1 Question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Test Percentages: Final

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Exam</th>
<th>Number of Questions</th>
<th>Percentage of the Exam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Choice</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constructed Response</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINAL TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>70 Multiple Choice</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Constructed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Test Format

- Two hour time limit
  - 70 multiple choice questions
  - 2 case studies
    - 4-6 documents
    - 2 questions per case study
      - (for a total of 4 essay questions)

- Total Exam
  - 70 multiple choice questions
  - 4 essay questions
Essay Suggestions

- Read the questions before you read the documents
- For most of the essay questions:
  - Identify 2 “somethings”
    - Example, “Identify how the teacher can…
    - Example, “Identify strengths in the lesson plan…”
  - JUSTIFY what you have identified
    - Example, “By meeting with the parents, the teacher…”
    - Example, “By building on students prior knowledge…”
- Use bullets
  - Answer the question then move onward and upward
The best resource is the study guide. If you know the information in these pages you will pass.

The other resources for the PLT, tell you what you need to know and not what you want to know.

The PRELIMINARY passing score 160 out of 200 has been set as the minimum score that a teacher should achieve.
**FAQ: PRAXIS II: Principles of Learning & Teaching (PLT)**

- **"What if I don't pass the PRAXIS?"**
  - You may continue to take the PLT until you pass it. Until the PLT is passed, teachers will remain on a Level I License.

- **"What is the toughest part of the PRAXIS?"**
  - Registering for the exam 😊
  - Pacing yourself to stay within the two hour time frame.
“What is the PRAXIS Content?”
- The PRAXIS Content is an exam to ascertain an educator’s knowledge of the content that they will be teaching daily in a classroom setting.

“Why do I have to take the PRAXIS Content?”
- As part of the “Elementary Secondary Education Act” (ESEA) or what some lovingly refer to as “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB) individual states were tasked with developing a process in which teachers demonstrate that they are “highly qualified.”
- Thus, this process was a state mandate from the federal government.
“What content exam do I take?”

- **Elementary:**
  - PRAXIS 0014
  - PRAXIS 0012
  - PRAXIS 5014
  - Only take one of the above.

- **Special Education:**
  - Follow the instructions for Secondary educators
  - Call the USOE or your Human Resource Director

- **Secondary:**
  - Identify what exam you need to take. This varies from person to person depending on your major, teaching assignment, and level of teaching.
  - Contact your Human Resource Director
  - Utah State Office of Education licensing office: 801.538.7740

**SOURCE:** http://www.ets.org/praxis/ut/requirements
What’s new last year?

- Beginning October 12, 2010, ETS is offering the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge in a computer-delivered format. The computer-delivered versions cover the same content as the paper-delivered version and are scored on the same scale. The computer-delivered tests have new test codes: Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (5014) (PDF). This computer-delivered assessments is given by appointment through a national network of Prometric™ Testing Centers.

- Source: http://www.ets.org/praxis/ut
Beginning October 15, 2010, ETS is administering a new series of World Language tests in French, German and Spanish. The new tests replace the previous Content Knowledge and Productive Language Skills tests. The new tests are computer-delivered and given by appointment through a national network of Prometric™ Testing Centers. These tests will be administered during several testing windows throughout the year. Visit Test Centers and Dates to find test dates and testing centers near you. For information on each of the new tests, click the test title.

- [French: World Language (PDF)](#) (Test Code 5174)
- [German: World Language (PDF)](#) (Test Code 5183)
- [Spanish: World Language (PDF)](#) (Test Code 5195)
What’s new last year?

- Beginning with the September 2010 administration, ETS is administering a new version of the Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision (PDF) test. The test will have a new test code: 0411. The new test covers the same content as the previous test. However, scores are reported on a different scale, so requirements will vary from previous versions. All scores for discontinued tests are reportable for 10 years from the date the test was taken. Consult the Test Requirements table for specific score requirements.

- Source: http://www.ets.org/praxis/ut
Elementary Education: Content Knowledge

“The test is not intended to be a test of your teaching skills. It is intended to demonstrate that you possess fundamental knowledge in the subject areas you will be required to teach.”

“It is comprehensive.”

“It requires you to synthesize information you have learned from numerous sources and to understand the subjects as a whole.”
### PRAXIS 0014...so what does it mean?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Approximate Time</th>
<th>Percent of Total Score</th>
<th>Number of Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts and Reading</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>30 mins.</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>120 mins.</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRAIXS 0014: Language Arts & Reading

“Covers understanding of literature, text structures and organization, the components of language in writing, literacy acquisition, reading instruction, and communication skills.”

(Taken from ETS pg. 15)
PRAXIS 0014: Mathematics

- "Covers understanding of basic mathematical concepts and operations, the ability to solve problems using basic algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics, and the ability to read and interpret data presented in various kinds of charts and graphs. Mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills underlie many of the questions in this section."

- YOU MAY USE A FOUR FUNCTION CALCULATOR...TAKE ONE WITH YOU!

- (Taken from ETS Publication pg. 39)
PRAXIS 0014: Social Studies

- “Covers geography, world history, United States history, political science, economics, anthropology, sociology, and psychology.”
- “Components of the test focus on understanding important social, economic, cultural and political concepts, geographical thinking, the workings of governmental systems, important historical events, and contributions of noble individuals within their historical and cultural context.”
- “There are no specific state history questions.”
- (Taken from ETS Publication pg. 53)
“Covers Earth science, life science, physical science, science as inquiry, science in personal and social perspectives, history and nature of science, and unifying processes.”

“Focuses on fundamental scientific concepts, principles, and interrelationships within the context of real-world, meaningful scientific, phenomena, problems, and issues.”

(Taken from ETS Publication pg. 73)
“Prospective teachers should be able to analyze situations, synthesize material, and apply knowledge to specific examples. In short, they should be able to think as well as recall specific facts, figures, and formulas.”

(Taken from ETS Publication pg. 87)
PRAXIS Content Suggestions

- You can answer the sections of the test in any order.
- There are no trick questions on the test.
- Don’t worry about answer patterns.
- There is no penalty for guessing.
- It’s OK to write in your test booklet.
- Bring a four function calculator.
- (Taken from ETS Publication pg. 93)
PRAXIS Content Suggestions

- Put your answers in the right “bubbles.”
- Skip the questions you find extremely difficult.
- Keep track of time.
- Read all of the possible answers before selecting one.
- Check your answers.
- Don’t worry about your score when you are taking the test. Your actual score doesn’t matter, as long as it is above the minimum required score.

(Taken from ETS Publication pg. 94)
Scores & Resources

- A score of 150 out of 200 has been set by the USOE as the minimum score that a teacher should be able to achieve.

- What Your 1st Grader Needs To Know (they are available for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th grades) Edited by E.D. Hirsch Jr. $12.95 each


- How To Prepare For PRAXIS by Baron’s (ISBN 0-7641-7480-0) $29.95 (pgs.450-483)

- Student text books

- ANY PUBLIC LIBRARY
The Content Exams are all over the board as far as number of questions, essays, computerized, paper-based, use of a calculator, etc... GENERALLY SPEAKING:

- Content Exams have a two hour time limit... this is the most difficult part of this exam. You have the knowledge, it is just a matter of getting it onto the test sheet.

- Other than that, good luck! 😊
Resources:

Content Specific Study Guides

- These came directly off the ETS web-site
- How did I determine what Exam you need
- Distribute ETS on-line study guides
Content Specific Study Guides

- **Cover Sheet:**
  - Test Name
  - Test Code
  - Time
  - Pacing (suggested)
  - Number of Questions
  - Format (content categories, approximate number of questions, approximate percentage of the exam, approximate and suggested time per section in minutes)
Content Specific Study Guides

- About the Test or Advice to Test Takers
- Topics Covered (don’t freak out!)
- Sample Questions
- Sample Essays (maybe?)
- Answers
## Content Specific Exams & Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Exam</th>
<th>Passing Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0012 or 0014 (Paper) or 5014: Computer (Elem. Content)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0041 (English Language, Literature, and Composition)</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0061 (Mathematics)</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0069 (Middle School Mathematics)</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5174 (French)</td>
<td>160 PRE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5195 (Spanish)</td>
<td>165 PRE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0235 (Biology)</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0265 (Physics)</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0435 (General Science)</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0571 (Earth Science)</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0920 (Geography)</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Exam</th>
<th>Passing Score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0081 (Social Studies)</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0181 (German)</td>
<td>160 PRE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0600 (Latin)</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0245 (Chemistry)</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0481 (Physical Science) E-mail Sean if taking</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0910 (Economics)</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0133 (Art K-12 Endorsement)</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0091 (Physical Education Endorsement)</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0941 (World &amp; US History)</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0411 (Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision)</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCE:**
Frequently asked questions:

- "Will I lose my job if I am not “highly qualified?”
  - The worse thing that can happen to a teacher is a letter will be sent home to the students and their parents saying something to the effect, “Your child’s teacher, Mr. Hickenlooper, in not highly qualified under the “No Child Left Behind” law.”

- Who knows what the future will bring in this regard though…
Frequently asked questions:

"I did not pass the ______PRAXIS Content. I studied the resources suggested in this PowerPoint presentation...now what?"

For a refresher course go to www.nea.org/academy

- Continuing Education
- Search our course catalog
- Identify the Curriculum Area or Grade Level
- Take an NEA Academy Course
How to register for the PRAXIS

- If you can register for the PRAXIS you can pass the PRAXIS 😊
- ASAP, register for the exam
- Go to www.ets.org
- Click on PRAXIS II
- Click on Register For An Exam
- Create a screen name and password. Write this down for further reference
- Print off your Testing Ticket and don’t lose
2011-2012 Test Dates

- September 17, 2011 (August 18, 2011)
- November 12, 2011 (October 13, 2011)
- January 14, 2012 (December 15, 2011)
- March 10, 2012 (February 9, 2012)
- April 28, 2012 (March 29, 2012)
- June 9, 2012 (May 10, 2012)
- July 21, 2012 (June 21, 2012)

Source:
http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates/praxisii_deadlines
2-3 months before the exam

PLT:
- Review materials
- Study instructional strategies
- Study learning theorists
- Study assessment strategies
- Study communication techniques
- Form a study group
- Go beyond memorization and think of applications in teaching situations

Content:
- Take pre-test and identify your strengths and weaknesses
- Develop a plan of study around your weaknesses (if you have any 😊)
- Ask colleagues for help
- Form a study group
- Review, “What Your ___ Grader Needs To Know” (review one grade a week)
- Review teacher or student textbooks

BOTH EXAMS Download Study Guide at http://www.ets.org/praxis/ut/requirements

Principles of Learning and Teaching by Sean L. Mabey
1 month before the exam

**PLT:**
- Practice under the time constraints
- Continue to review strategies
- Form / attend a study group
- Practice writing essays
  - Identify & Justify

**Content:**
- Reassess your individual study plan
- Practice under the time constraints
- Continue to review strategies
- Form / attend a study group
On the day of the exam

- Do a dry run the night before the exam. Road construction, parking, location of building, sporting events...
- Arrive 30 minutes early to the test center
- Take Testing Ticket
- Take Photo Identification
- Take sharpened pencils, pens, highlights
- Take a watch
- No gum or food. Water might be alright.
2-3 weeks after taking the exam, you may access your scores on the ETS web-site.

Check your CACTUS report to make sure they are listed.

Keep your scores in your professional file.
From a test taker:

“To study, I followed your handouts and studied that thoroughly. I did NOT go beyond the handout and research more in depth. There was a few times that I was regretting not knowing more in depth about certain topics. My score was 176. What a relief to have that out of the way. Thank you for the training and information to help me prepare.”
After you have taken (and PASSED!) the exam

- This is new territory for all of us. Thus, when you have taken (and PASSED!) the exam would you please e-mail me and let me know:
  - What exam you took
  - Did you pass (of course the answer will be yes!)
  - What suggestions would you make for the training
  - What do you wish you had known
  - Any other feedback

- If you have questions, need clarification, or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at: smabey@neamb.com

- Best wishes! 😊

- QUESTIONS???