

Competence Best Practices Handout

1. Help students learn the material
2. Help students learn how to think differently, consider multiple perspectives
3. Help students build reasoning skills
4. Help students reason from evidence
5. Help students develop the ability to draw conclusions from reason
6. Help students confront paradigms
7. Help students confront problems
8. Help students rethink assumptions
9. Help students think through problems
10. Embody the kind of thinking and acting expected for life
11. Provide frequent feedback in advance of and separate of summative evaluation
12. Convey trust in students capacities and abilities
13. Help students think critically
14. Help students look at evidence
15. Help students examine quality of thinking from using intellectual standards
16. Allow students to come up short, receive feedback on their efforts and try again
17. Expose students to problems similar to what others in the field might undertake and encounter
18. Expose students to applicable and relevant problems
19. Guide students to understand the signification of the questions posed
20. Embed the discipline in a broader concerns
21. Engage students in higher order thinking and activities: Compare, apply, evaluate, synthesize.
22. Move away from tasks which only require listening and remembering
23. Help students feel like they can do it
24. Expect students to listen
25. Help students learn outside of class
26. Use class time to help students do the work
27. Use class time to help students think about the information presented
28. Help students think like scholars in the discipline
29. Help students build understanding of concepts
30. Start with the end in mind. Start with what you want the students to master
31. Begin with a strong intention to help your students learn
32. Help students construct knowledge
33. Emphasize the process instead of the outcomes
34. Emphasize understanding instead of being right