

**NSTA Portfolio Assessment #8
Contextual Content Knowledge**

This rubric addresses contextual content knowledge (NSTA 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a, 4a). The rubric presents the performance standards for those wishing to earn a license in either biology or chemistry education (7-12 grades).

The portfolio will be completed by the candidates and assessed by the instructor during the Methods of Science Teaching Course (BIO 435 or CHE435). In order to earn a recommendation, the candidate must earn an overall acceptable rating with no unacceptable score in any one category. For the purpose of scoring the scores will be multiplied by 5. The maximum points a candidate can earn is 100. To earn an exemplary rating, candidate must earn 90-100 points with no unacceptable score in any category. To earn an acceptable rating, the candidate must earn 70-89 points with no unacceptable score in any category. If the candidate earns below 70 points, he/she will receive and unacceptable score. In order to receive a passing grade for the course Methods of Science Teaching, a student must earn an acceptable rating on this assignment.

Standard	Unacceptable (0 points)	Acceptable (1-2 points)	Exemplary (3-4 points)	Score	Score x 5
Unifying Concepts (NSTA 1b)	Unifying concepts was missing.	All components of unifying concepts were addressed and candidate discussed how to incorporate each component into a science lesson. An activity was included.	All components of unifying concepts were addressed and candidate discussed how to incorporate each component into a science lesson. An activity was included and the unifying concepts were related to the activity.		
Nature of Science (NSTA 2a and 2b)	One or more components of the nature of Science were missing and/or candidate did	Each component of the Nature of Science was addressed and candidate	Each component of the Nature of Science was addressed and candidate		

	not address how each component could be incorporated into a science lesson and/or case study missing.	discussed how to incorporate each component into a science lesson. Case Study was either not accurate and/or not complete.	discussed how to incorporate each component into a science lesson. Case Study was accurate and complete.		
Inquiry (NSTA 3a)	One or more learning models were missing and/or benefits of each were not listed.	All learning models were addressed. Benefits of each were listed and an activity was included.	All learning models were addressed. Benefits of each were listed and an activity was included. The learning model was correlated to the activity.		
Issues in Science (NSTA4a)	Case Study is not complete or errors were found.	Case Study is complete and accurate.	Case Study is complete and accurate. Candidates analyzed the problem, considered risks and costs, as well as the benefits of alternative solutions and discussed how well these relate to the goals and values of the community.		
Quality of portfolio	Portfolio was incomplete or not well-organized or had more than 2 grammatical errors.	Portfolio was complete and well organized with 1-2 grammatical errors.	Portfolio was complete, well organized with no errors in grammar.		
Total Score					

The maximum points a candidate can earn is 100.

Exemplary 90-100 points with no unacceptable score in any category.

Acceptable 70-89 points with no unacceptable score in any category.

Unacceptable Below 70 points

Assessment 8
Candidate's name
Semester
Overall score

Standard	Score	Comments
Unifying Concepts (NSTA 1b)		
Nature of Science (NSTA 2a and 2b)		
Inquiry (NSTA 3a)		
Issues in Science (NSTA4a)		
Quality of portfolio		
Total score		