

The teaching and learning framework

A framework for what we teach, how we teach it, how we know it's working, and where it leads

ASU Prep | The Four Tenets | Teaching and Learning

WHAT WE TEACH

Guaranteed & Viable Curriculum

- Essential standards clearly defined and consistently taught
- Coherent skill progressions that build K–12
- Equitable access to grade-level content for every learner
- Intentional sequencing toward transfer and generalization
- The ASU Prep Profile of a Learner

HOW WE TEACH

Instructional Core

- Instructional Hierarchy: acquisition → fluency → generalization → Adaptation
- Dynamic Dozen student-facing learning strategies
- High Leverage Practices (HLPs) across every classroom
- Academic discourse and evidence-based reasoning in every subject

HOW WE KNOW

Assessment & Response

- Formative feedback loops embedded in daily instruction
- PLC cycles driving data-informed instructional decisions
- MTSS/RTI for targeted, timely intervention and extension
- Mastery evidence required before advancing to next learning

WHERE IT LEADS

University-Connected Pathways

- Authentic tasks explicitly tied to ASU programs and careers
- College knowledge and transferable skills embedded at every level
- Students positioned as college students and not just applicants
- Real postsecondary outcomes, visible and meaningful to all learners

Images for above sections:

1. <https://asuprep.asu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/supporting-students-learning-solar-system-blue-blob.png>
2. <https://asuprep.asu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/faculty-helping-student-with-laptop-orange-blob.png>
3. <https://asuprep.asu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/smiling-girl-computer-notes-yellow-bq.png>
4. <https://asuprep.asu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/elianna-haro-graduating-student-green-blob.png>

Every Student. Every Day.

The framework is the answer to one question: Is every student learning at high levels and headed somewhere that genuinely matters?

Four questions

| What do we teach? | How do we teach it? | How do we know it's working? | Where does it lead? |
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| Essential standards, coherent progressions, and equitable access for every student in every course. | Research-aligned practices that move students from acquisition to fluency to transferable mastery. | Embedded formative cycles, PLC collaboration, and a tiered response system that catches and closes gaps. | Real postsecondary pathways where students who see themselves as college students before they graduate. |

Research Foundations

The Core integrates four research traditions that have been translated into the ASU Prep professional development infrastructure: Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum (Marzano); the Instructional Hierarchy (Haring, Lovitt, Eaton & Hansen); Hattie and Donoghue's Model of Learning including the Dynamic Dozen; DuFour's PLC at Work model; and RTI at Work/MTSS (Buffum, Mattos & Malone).