

What is a good rationale?

A good narrative rationale will tell **why** the chosen artifact is good evidence of the outcome. The rationale should describe how the artifact relates to the outcome.

Read the prompt (or narrative) under each outcome in the Candidate Portfolio template to see what the College of Education considers to be important aspects of the outcome. Also read the conceptual framework outcome descriptions.

For example: Here is the “prompt” for resourceful curriculum planner.

[prompt] Show how your content knowledge and pedagogical knowledge work together to plan appropriate curricula for your teaching area. Include lesson plans, units, projects, etc. that show your knowledge of technology, instructional strategies, and multiple explanations that present content in such a way that all students learn.

- **Resourceful curriculum planner:** (artifact: a lesson plan)

Bad rationale

Rationale: (artifact: lesson plan)

I chose this lesson plan because I worked hard on it and thought it was a fun lesson.

Good rationale:

Rationale: (artifact: lesson plan)

This lesson plan shows my ability to integrate subjects across the curriculum and to use a variety of teaching resources to meet diverse learner needs. The learning experiences and learning materials are appropriate to the developmental level of the learners and are appropriate to attainment of the identified curriculum objectives, which are based on the Alabama Course of Study for Social Studies. The lesson also integrates technology for teacher presentation as well as for collaborative student activities.

- **Capable Classroom Manager:** Rationale: (artifact: article critique)

[prompt] Include items that demonstrate your knowledge and skills to make learning accessible and meaningful to all students. Examples: rules and procedures, management plans, classroom environment designs, etc.

Good rationale:

I chose this article critique as an example of capable classroom manager because my critique focuses on good strategies to create a community classroom. I also discuss how important it is to teach students about good moral character as well as to strengthen the ability to problem solve and to use positive thinking. My critique stresses the importance of developing positive relations and developing group responsibility. I have learned that these are important to effective classroom management.