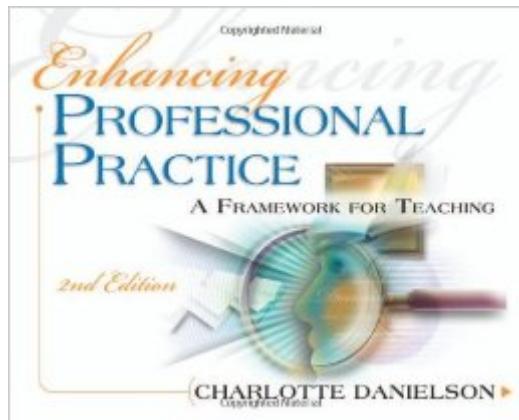


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# Enhancing Professional Practice: A Framework For Teaching, 2nd Edition (Professional Development)



## **Synopsis**

This acclaimed framework for successful teaching practice--a benchmark for thousands of school systems and educators around the world--is now fortified with applications for state standards, formative assessments, and school specialists. Use the book's 22 components of successful teaching practice to support novice teachers who are concerned with day-to-day survival, experienced teachers who want to improve their effectiveness, and highly accomplished teachers who want to acquire advanced certification and help their colleagues. (Based on PRAXIS III Classroom Performance Assessments criteria developed by Educational Testing Service.)

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Now in a revised and updated second edition, *Enhancing Professional Practice: A Framework for Teaching* presents a framework for K-12 educators that is based on Praxis III: Classroom Performance Assessment criteria as developed by Educational Testing Service, compatible with INTASC standards. Chapters cover the four domains of teaching responsibility (planning & preparation, the classroom environment, instruction, and professional responsibilities), methodologies for maintaining a professional attitude, specific concerns for specialist positions, a tutorial on how to use frameworks & charts to maximum effect, and much more. The framework system, along with sample logs and unit plans, is highly organized, and easy-to-use in this solid all-around guidance and structure tool.

Danielson, in Enhancing Professional Practice, has managed to deconstruct the art of teaching into 22 discrete elements, grouped under four broad domains, and has then subjected each element to a painful and tedious catalog of skills, each supplied with a rubric to demonstrate the success or failure of a teacher in that aspect of the profession. It is a labor that compares well with the most artful dissection and labeling of an earthworm, yielding a keen insight to the function of each organ, but leaving one in wonder of what the whole body might have accomplished. Without a doubt, a microscopic eye on each element she has identified has its uses, the overall effect is to leave even a veteran teacher with a sense of frustration and incapacity. However, she does have a very keen eye, and some of her observations are useful. In each of the four domains under which she grouped teaching skills, some practical and applicable nuggets of information and reminders of what we are all about can be found.

When I first started into this book I had a bad attitude because I felt I was being forced to adopt a program that just meant more work for me, with little return benefit. As I got into the book, my feelings gradually changed and I began to appreciate the entire structure of this framework. This book will help anyone who teaches anything, but will be especially helpful if adopted by an entire faculty.

I have been using the first or second edition of Enhancing Professional Practice for several years now. The book holds a constructivist view of learning and teaching, and we use the book at our school for our mentorship program. Enhancing Professional Practice is centered around four domains of teaching responsibility - planning and preparation, the school environment, instruction and professional responsibilities. Within those four domains are 22 components and 76 descriptive elements that give greater details concerning the teaching profession. The descriptive elements are organized into four levels (distinguished, proficient, basic and unsatisfactory) and can really help teachers see where they are at and what they need to improve. The second edition of Danielson's book contains a few additions and revisions. This made the second edition about 60 pages longer. Some of these additions and revisions include an emphasis of the importance of state curriculum frameworks and standards, frameworks for a host of education specialists and expanding the providing feedback to students component to incorporate other elements of using assessment in instruction. I can't say Danielson's book is the most exciting read ever, but it is a solid book that can help teachers improve their practice.

Danielson has written a book that teachers and administrators can actually use to improve their schools. Her Framework for Teaching sets out what teachers really do, in four domains, each of which has multiple components and those have multiple elements. She also provides a rubric for evaluating performance for each element. I've recommended that my principal buy a copy of this book, and I'm going to be recommending it to my district, as well.

The layout of the Kindle version of this book is much different than the conventional version. I already own the conventional version of this text. I am a big fan of rubrics in my classroom and also a big fan of rubrics when I am being observed or evaluated (if the administrator knows how to apply the rubric.) I downloaded the Kindle version during a staff meeting this morning only to find the layout did not include the rubrics in a table format; tables make viewing data quick. I was prompt about refunding my money. I am very disappointed, though. A Kindle version would be nice.

It's a lot of reading, which teachers never seem to have the time to do. However, the material found in this book will help you create an enriching environment and maybe even reduce some of your daily stress.

Sadly, this book is getting a bad rap in many states where it is being used as a basis for a new teacher-evaluation instrument. The author goes very in-depth with all the little pieces that make up the art and science of teaching. In training teachers and administrators using this book, I am very careful that they understand its intended purpose is always first and foremost as a reflection and action piece for teachers who want to refine their own teaching practice. PS: for any teachers or administrators who read this book, please remember this: "Distinguished is a good place to vacation, but you can't expect to live there."

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