

**Student Learning Outcome: Demonstrate knowledge of basic principles and concepts of one of the natural sciences**

<b>Insufficient (1)</b>	<b>Developing (2)</b>	<b>Competent (3)</b>	<b>Exemplary (4)</b>	<b>Rating</b>
<p>Student does not exhibit clear understanding of scientific principles and concepts. Displays little or no comprehension of basic ideas, their scope, and their interrelationships. Often unable to rely on basic principles to solve problems or to identify applicable principles when faced with unfamiliar problems.</p>	<p>Student displays limited understanding of scientific principles and concepts. Displays comprehension of basic ideas, but fails to understand their scope and interrelationships. Occasionally relies on basic principles to solve problems, and sometimes identifies applicable principles when faced with unfamiliar problems.</p>	<p>Student displays frequent but inconsistent understanding of scientific principles and concepts. Displays thorough comprehension of basic ideas, but exhibits occasional confusion about their scope and interrelationships. Often able to rely on basic principles to solve problems or to identify applicable principles when faced with unfamiliar problems.</p>	<p>Student manifests a thorough understanding of scientific principles and concepts. Displays thorough understanding of basic ideas, how they interrelate, and their domain of validity. Able to call upon correct scientific arguments when faced with unfamiliar problems.</p>	

**RIT**

**Benchmark:** 70% of students will achieve a rubric score of Competent (3) or higher.

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***Perspective – Natural Science Inquiry***

Science is more than a collection of facts and theories, so students will be expected to understand and participate in the process of science inquiry. Courses in this category focus on the basic principles and concepts of one or more of the natural sciences. In these classes, students apply methods of scientific inquiry and problem solving in a laboratory or field experience.

***Perspective – Scientific Principles***

The courses in this category will focus on the foundational principles of one or more of the natural sciences or will provide an opportunity to apply methods of scientific inquiry in the natural or social sciences. Courses in this category may or may not include a laboratory experience.