Instructional Framework

Marketing

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This Instructional Framework identifies, explains, and expands the content of the standards/measurement criteria, and, as well, guides the development of multiple-choice items for the Technical Skills Assessment. This document corresponds with the Technical Standards endorsed on January 25, 2023.

Domain 1: Marketing Foundations and Promotion Instructional Time: 35 - 45%	
STANDARD 2.0 EXAMINE FOUNDATIONS OF MARKETING	
2.1 Describe the role of marketing in building customer demand for products (e.g., goods and services)	 Role of marketing in building customer demand for products Goods and services
2.2 Identify the components and goals of a marketing plan	 Define the problem Target markets Conduct research/collect data Analyze data Marketing strategy Budget Metrics
2.3 Define the elements of a marketing mix (e.g., product, price, promotion, and place)	 Elements of a marketing mix Product Price Promotion Place
2.4 Define the functions of marketing (e.g., promotion, distribution/channel management, marketing information management, selling, product service management, pricing, and market planning)	 Functions of marketing Promotion Distribution/channel management Marketing information management Selling Product service management Pricing

	Market planning
2.5 Describe the wide scope of marketing (e.g., business-to-consumer, business-to-business, consumer-to-consumer, non-profit, government, and e-commerce)	 Scope of marketing Business-to-consumer Business-to-business Consumer-to-consumer Non-profit Government E-commerce
2.6 Investigate how changing technology affects marketing decisions (i.e., social/traditional media, digital, connected tv, etc.)	 How changing technology affects marketing decisions Social/traditional media Digital Connected tv, etc.
2.7 Compare and contrast legal (i.e., fair housing, disclaimers, HIPAA, CAN-SPAM, etc.) vs. ethical marketing practices (i.e., bait and switch, price discrimination, etc.)	 Legal marketing practices Fair housing Disclaimers HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) CAN-SPAM Email fraud/regulations, etc. Ethical marketing practices Bait and switch Price discrimination, etc.
2.8 Explain the consequences of unethical marketing practices [i.e., government regulations, company image, loss of sales, public image, copyright infringement (i.e., music, symbols, etc.) incarceration, etc.]	 Consequences of unethical marketing practices Government regulations Company image Loss of sales Public image Copyright infringement Music Symbols, etc. Incarceration, etc.
2.9 Investigate the ways competition affects marketing decisions	 Pricing Company differentiation Product positioning Competitive advantage

2.10 Explain the usefulness/value of economic utilities and their relationship to customer satisfaction and decision making (i.e., time, possession, form, place, information, etc.)	 Usefulness/value of economic utilities Time Possession Form Place Information, etc. Relationship to customer satisfaction Relationship to decision making
STANDARD 4.0 ANALYZE THE ELEMENTS OF THE MARKETING MIX	
4.1 Identify marketing mix strategies for each product classification and how they relate to the buying decision (e.g., extensive, limited, routine, and impulsive)	 Marketing mix strategies for each product classification Extensive Limited Routine Impulsive
4.2 Examine how packaging and placement is used in the marketing functions	 Sell the product Communicate information Protect consumers Protect product Reduce theft
4.3 Explain issues of ethics and social responsibility in packaging (e.g., sustainability, false and misleading claims, and durability)	 Ethics and social responsibility in packaging Sustainability False and misleading claims Durability
4.4 Identify the qualities of an effective brand identity (i.e., logo, colors, graphics, images, etc.)	 Qualities of an effective brand identity Logo Colors Graphics Images, etc.
4.5 Identify elements of an effective brand strategy (i.e., brand awareness, brand identity, mission, vision, value, target market, community impact, positioning, endorsement, sponsorship, etc.)	 Elements of an effective brand strategy Brand awareness Brand identity Mission Vision Value

	 Target market Community impact Positioning Endorsement Sponsorship, etc.
4.6 Explain the impact of brands on consumer behavior	 Brand loyalty Brand perception Types of brands Endorsements
4.7 Evaluate the rationale behind various brand strategies and product and/or service positioning (e.g., individual branding, family branding, mixed branding, and co-branding)	 Brand strategies Individual branding Family branding Mixed branding Co-branding Rationale of brand strategies Rationale of product and/or service positioning
4.8 Identify the factors that contribute to a product's price (e.g., specialization, volume, cost, quality, competition, and brand loyalty)	 Factors that contribute to a product's price Specialization Volume Cost Quality Competition Brand loyalty
4.9 Differentiate among sales channels (i.e., online auction, marketplace, e-commerce, tradeshow, retail, brick and mortar, partners/affiliates, etc.)	 Sales channels Online auction Marketplace E-commerce Tradeshow Retail, brick and mortar Partners/affiliates, etc.
4.10 Explain the facets of branding (i.e., visual, emotional, functional, social, product placement, sponsorship, endorsement, etc.)	 Facets of branding Visual Emotional Functional Social

	 Product placement Sponsorship Endorsement, etc.
STANDARD 6.0 EXAMINE PROMOTIONAL AND ADVERTISING STRA	TEGIES
6.1 Define promotion	InformPersuadeRemind
6.2 Analyze the importance of promotion (i.e., sales, business success, etc.)	 Importance of promotion Sales Business success, etc.
6.3 Explain the components of a promotional mix [i.e., advertising (traditional/digital), publicity, sales promotion, public relations, personal selling, retargeting, etc.]	 Components of a promotional mix Advertising (traditional/digital) Publicity Sales promotion Public relations Personal selling Retargeting, etc.
6.4 Differentiate among marketing deliverables (i.e., marketing plans, creative briefs, presentations, pitch decks, etc.)	 Marketing deliverables Marketing plans Creative briefs Presentations Pitch decks, etc.
6.5 Analyze the components of marketing campaigns (i.e., promotional mix, deliverables, visuals, messaging, pricing strategy, placement, etc.)	 Components of marketing campaigns Promotional mix Deliverables Visuals Messaging Pricing strategy Placement, etc.
6.6 Differentiate among marketing tactics (i.e., viral, influencer, guerilla, grassroots, etc.)	Marketing tactics Viral Influencer Guerilla

	Grassroots, etc.
6.7 Describe the purpose (i.e., to encourage repeat purchases, to increase visibility, etc.) of sales promotions (i.e., sweepstakes, coupons, contests, specialty products, etc.)	 Purpose of sales promotions To encourage repeat purchases To increase visibility, etc. Types of sales promotions Sweepstakes Coupons Contests Specialty products, etc.
6.8 Identify factors of a promotional budget that maximizes impact and minimizes cost (i.e., segmentation, channels, etc.)	 Factors of a promotional budget that maximizes impact and minimizes cost Segmentation Channels, etc.
6.9 Identify methods of evaluating the effectiveness of various advertising media (i.e., costs, key metrics, placement, reach, engagement, etc.)	 Methods of evaluating the effectiveness of various advertising media Costs Key metrics Placement Reach Engagement, etc.

Domain 2: Consumer Behaviors and Selling Instructional Time: 30 - 40%	
STANDARD 3.0 ANALYZE THE CHARACTERISTICS, MOTIVATIONS, AND BEHAVIORS OF CONSUMERS	
3.1 Design a targeted customer profile based on market segmentation (e.g., psychographics, demographics, geographics, personas/avatar/anti-avatar/archetype, and behaviors)	 Targeted customer profile based on market segmentation Psychographics Demographics Geographics Personas/avatar/anti-avatar/archetype, and behaviors

3.2 Distinguish between rational (cognitive) and emotional (affective) buying motives (e.g., Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and psychological motivators)	 Rational (cognitive) buying motives Emotional (affective) buying motives Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Psychological motivators
3.3 Describe how personal values and cultural differences and diversity influence buying behavior (i.e., life stages, benefits sought, usage rate, brand loyalty, socioeconomic characteristics, etc.)	 Personal values Cultural differences Diversity Buying behavior influences Life stages Benefits sought Usage rate Brand loyalty Socioeconomic characteristics, etc.
3.4 Classify products by categories of goods and services (i.e., convenience, shopping, specialty, impulse, etc.)	 Classifications of goods and service categories Convenience Shopping Specialty Impulse Unsought, etc.
3.5 Analyze how customer perceptions and impressions of a physical or virtual business impact purchase behavior (i.e., branding, image, influence, inclusion, etc.)	 Customer perceptions and impressions of a physical or virtual business impact purchase behavior Branding Image Influence Inclusion, etc.
3.6 Explain ways that segmentation (dividing market based on shared characteristics) can be used to identify target markets (i.e., demographics, geographics, etc.)	 Segmentation to identify target markets Demographics Geographics Psychographics Behavioral segmentation, etc.
3.7 Analyze the ways characteristics of various generations impact marketing and buying decisions (i.e., Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y/Millennials, Generation Z, Generation Alpha, etc.)	 Characteristics of various generations impact marketing and buying decisions Silent Generation Baby Boomers Generation X

	 Generation Y/Millennials Generation Z Generation Alpha, etc.
3.8 Identify ways that evolving technologies (i.e., s-commerce, e-commerce, virtual reality, augmented reality, mobile technologies, etc.) affect marketing strategy	 Technologies affecting marketing strategy S-commerce E-commerce Virtual reality Augmented reality Mobile technologies, etc.
3.9 Describe how evolving technologies affect payment options affect the marketing strategy (i.e., Zelle, Venmo, Credit/Debit card, Crypto, etc.)	 Evolving technologies affecting payment options Zelle Venmo/PayPal/Cash App Credit/Debit card Crypto, etc.
STANDARD 5.0 EXAMINE SELLING CONCEPTS TO BUILD AND MAIN	NTAIN CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS
5.1 Describe the personal selling process/steps of the sale [i.e., the preapproach (marketing-to-sales transition), approach, determine needs, present the product, overcome objections, suggestion selling, close the sale, relationship building (helping vs. selling), sales funnel, etc.]	 Personal selling process/steps of the sale The preapproach (marketing-to-sales transition) Approach Determine needs Present the product Overcome objections Suggestion selling Close the sale Relationship building (helping vs. selling), etc. Sales funnel Awareness Interest Decision Action
5.2 Distinguish ethical issues involved in personal selling (e.g., high pressure sales, misrepresenting product/brand information, client confidentiality, and improved communication)	 Ethical issues involved in personal selling High pressure sales Misrepresenting product/brand information Client confidentiality Improved communication

5.3 Differentiate among sales methods [e.g., business to business (B2B), inbound and outbound, digital, direct, and business to consumer (B2C)]	 Sales methods Business to business (B2B) Inbound and outbound Digital Direct Business to consumer (B2C)
5.4 Explain methods and sources for lead acquisitions (i.e., prospecting, cold-calling, networking, referrals, etc.) and customer acquisitions (i.e., retargeting, nurturing, etc.)	 Methods and sources for lead acquisitions Prospecting Cold-calling Networking Referrals, etc. Customer acquisitions Retargeting Nurturing, etc.
5.5 Explain various payment methods and Point of Sales (POS) systems (i.e., credit, debit, peer-to-peer, mobile payment, cash/check, etc.) and how they relate to customer satisfaction/retention	 Payment methods Credit Debit Peer-to-peer Mobile payment Cash/check, etc. Point of Sales (POS) systems
5.6 Discuss fraud and security issues related to sales and customer trust (i.e., PIN theft, credit card skimming, identity theft, reward gaming/programs, etc.)	 Fraud and security issues related to sales and customer trust PIN theft Credit card skimming Identity theft Reward gaming/programs CAN-SPAM/Email fraud, etc.
5.7 Define common contract terms in sales and marketing (i.e., terms and conditions, confidentiality, intellectual property, exclusivity, negotiation, noncompete clauses, implied, express, offer, consideration, acceptance, capacity, etc.)	 Contract terms in sales and marketing Terms and conditions Confidentiality Intellectual property Exclusivity Negotiation Noncompete clauses Implied

	 Express Offer Consideration Acceptance Capacity, etc.
5.8 Discuss the relationship between the sales cycle and marketing strategies (i.e., long vs. short sale cycle, marketing nurturing, product types and services, etc.)	 The relationship between the sales cycle and marketing strategies Long vs. short sale cycle Marketing nurturing Product types and services, etc.
5.9 Evaluate the role of metrics and analytics in measuring/adapting the success of a sales strategy [e.g., Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), feedback loop, marketing conversion, drop off point, monitoring goals, and sale initiatives]	 Role of metrics and analytics in measuring/adapting the success of a sales strategy Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) Feedback loop Marketing conversion Drop off point Monitoring goals Sale initiatives
5.10 Identify strategies to convey product features and benefits (i.e., warranties, guarantees, testimonials, etc.)	 List of product features and benefits Drives sales process Strategies to convey Warranties Guarantees Testimonials, etc.
5.11 Identify common objections (i.e., need, product, source, price, time, etc.) and develop responses (e.g., substitution, boomerang, question, superior-point, denial, demonstration, and third-party testimonial)	 Common objections Need Product Source Price Time, etc. Responses Substitution Boomerang Question Superior-point

	 Denial Demonstration Third-party testimonial
5.12 Analyze how cultural and ethnic differences and diversity affect the selling process	 Cultural and ethnic norms Globalization (intermediaries) Selling practices differing from country to country
5.13 Evaluate the impact of evolving technologies on personal selling platforms (i.e., Offer Up, online marketplaces, Amazon, etc.) vs. established business (i.e., brick and mortar vs. online only, etc.)	 Impact of evolving technologies on personal selling platforms Online marketplaces Offer Up Amazon, etc. Impact of evolving technologies on established business Brick and mortar Online only, etc.
5.14 Determine key factors in maintaining a customer base [e.g., customer relationship marketing (CRM), loyalty, and retention]	 Key factors in maintaining a customer base Customer relationship marketing (CRM) Loyalty Retention

Domain 3: Market Research and Distribution Instructional Time: 10 - 15%

STANDARD 7.0 EXAMINE MARKETING RESEARCH TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGIES

7.1 Explain the nature and scope of marketing information management [e.g., customer relation management (CRM), content management software (CMS), metrics and analytics, and marketing automation platforms (i.e., HubSpot, Pardot, Marketo, etc.]

- Nature and scope of marketing information management
 - Customer relation management (CRM)
 - Content management software (CMS)
 - Metrics and analytics
 - Marketing automation platforms
 - HubSpot
 - Pardot
 - Marketo, etc.

7.2 Explain the nature of gathering consumer information (e.g., primary and secondary research, forced choice, open-ended questions, and quantitative and qualitative data)	 Gathering consumer information Primary and secondary research Forced choice Open-ended questions Quantitative and qualitative data
7.3 Compare and contrast marketing research methods (e.g., survey method, experimental method, focus groups, and observation method)	 Marketing research methods Survey method Experimental method Focus groups Observation method
7.4 Examine tools and technologies to gather, analyze, and interpret data (i.e., Environmental Scan, Excel, Google Forms, Survey Analytics, etc.)	 Tools and technologies to gather, analyze, and interpret data Environmental Scan Excel Google Forms Survey Analytics, etc.
7.5 Define SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) and how it can be used to drive marketing research	 SWOT Analysis Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats
7.6 Describe how online social media platforms (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter) and list services (e.g., ZoomInfo and professional organizations) are used to acquire new prospects	 Acquiring new prospects via Online social media platforms LinkedIn Facebook Twitter, etc. List services ZoomInfo Professional organizations, etc.
7.7 Describe leveraging technology for A/B testing and customized content for personas and how it impacts marketing results	 Leveraging technology A/B testing Control Variation Customized content Results impact

STANDARD 8.0 EXAMINE CONCEPTS AND PROCESSES OF THE CREATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRODUCTS	
8.1 Explain the nature and scope of distribution and channels	 Supply chain Shipping Receiving Inventory controls Physical distribution Direct and indirect Intermediaries Consumer goods Industrial goods Services
8.2 Describe the process of new product and/or service development (e.g., idea generation, development, test marketing, and unique value proposition)	 New product and/or service development Idea generation Development Test marketing Unique value proposition
8.3 Explore the logistics of physical and digital distribution	 Physical distribution Plane Train Truck Boat Digital distribution Online channels
8.4 Differentiate between intermediary customers and end users (e.g., business, government, households, industry, non-profit, retailers, and wholesalers)	 Intermediary customers Retailers Wholesalers Agents Distributors End users Business Government Households Industry Non-profit

8.5 Explain types of products (i.e., tangible, intangible, intellectual property, etc.)	 Types of products Tangible Intangible Intellectual property, etc.
8.6 Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of extending product lines, depth and width, when introducing new products and/or diversifying product mix (e.g., traditional and emerging)	 Advantages and disadvantages of extending: Traditional vs. Emerging Product lines Product depth and width New products Diversifying product mix
8.7 Describe the stages of a product life cycle (e.g., intro, growth, maturity, and decline)	 Stages of a product life cycle Intro Growth Maturity Decline
8.8 Discuss consumer laws and regulatory agencies (i.e., OSHA, HIPAA, CPA, ADA, FTC, FDA, etc.)	 Consumer laws and regulatory agencies Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Consumer Protection Act (CPA) Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Food and Drug Administration (FDA), etc.

Domain 4: Management and Financial Practices Instructional Time: 5 - 10%	
STANDARD 9.0 EXAMINE MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS THAT AFFECT BUSINESS DECISION MAKING	
9.1 Describe the concept of management and the five management functions (e.g., planning, organizing, directing, staffing, and controlling)	 Five management functions Planning Organizing Directing Staffing Controlling

9.2 Describe the organizational structure of human resource management in achieving business goals (i.e., support staff, supervisors, managers, entrepreneurs, etc.)	 Organizational structure of human resource management Support staff Supervisors Managers Entrepreneurship hierarchy, etc.
9.3 Compare and contrast leadership and management styles	AutocraticDemocraticLaissez-faire
9.4 Explore the role of corporate social responsibility in organizational practices (i.e., employee retention, company perception, focusing on value creation, culture development, business sustainability, formation of human capital, etc.)	 Role of corporate social responsibility in organizational practices Employee retention Company perception Focusing on value creation Culture development Business sustainability Formation of human capital, etc.
9.5 Compare the types of business ownership/structure (e.g., sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, LLP, LLC, and franchises)	 Types of business ownership/structure Sole proprietorship Partnership Corporation Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) Franchises
9.6 Differentiate between internal and external customers and their needs	 Internal customers Employee to employee Management to employee External customers Business to consumer Business to business Business to government
STANDARD 10.0 EXAMINE MARKETING-RELATED FINANCIAL PRACTICES	
10.1 Develop a cost model and budget in a marketing plan (e.g., fixed, variable expenses, and cost analysis)	 Cost model and budget in a marketing plan Fixed Variable expenses

	Cost analysis
10.2 Explain how past marketing performance relates to future marketing-related decision making and planning (i.e., financial statements, budget, revenue, expenses, net profit, sales forecasts, etc.)	 How past marketing performance relates to future marketing-related decision making and planning Financial statements Income statement Balance sheet Budget Revenue Expenses Net profit Sales forecasts, etc.
10.3 Describe sources of financing for business (i.e., credit, venture capital, cash, crowdfunding, etc.)	 Sources of financing for business Credit Venture capital Cash Crowdfunding Personal/family, etc.
10.4 Describe possible types of compensation in sales and marketing (e.g., commission, guarantee, bonus, salary, equity, and holdback)	 Types of compensation in sales and marketing Commission Guarantee Bonus Salary Equity Holdback Hourly
10.5 Explain the price-value relationship (i.e., consumers' perception, etc.)	Price-value relationship Consumers' perception, etc.
10.6 Explain various pricing strategies (e.g., product line, loss leader, penetration, skimming, markup, markdown, and bundle)	 Various pricing strategies Product line Loss leader Penetration Skimming Markup Markdown

	○ Bundle
10.7 Discuss how evolving technologies provide greater options for buyers and increase price competition	 Technologies Purchasing options Mobile payments Currency Crypto Price comparison Ease Speed Access Variety

Domain 5: Economics Instructional Time: 5 - 10%	
STANDARD 1.0 EXAMINE ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS	
1.1 Describe the factors that affect economic decision making (e.g., supply, demand, scarcity, incentives, competition, productivity, surplus, and shortage)	 Factors that affect economic decision making Supply Demand Scarcity Incentives Competition Productivity Surplus Shortage
1.2 Describe cost-benefit analysis, marginal analysis, and return on investment (ROI) as tools to evaluate economic issues	 Cost-benefit analysis Marginal analysis Return on Investment (ROI)
1.3 Describe the impact of marketing on local, national, and global economies	 Marketing drives demand Imports and exports Government regulations Employment Consumer spending

	 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Resource allocations
1.4 Determine the ways in which local, domestic, and international economic conditions affect marketing	Monetary and fiscal policyGovernment regulations
1.5 Explain competitive market structures (e.g., monopoly, monopolistic, oligopolistic, and pure competition) and the impact they have on marketing decisions	 Competitive market structures Monopoly Monopolistic Oligopolistic Pure competition Impact on marketing decision
1.6 Describe economic indicators and trends [e.g., Gross Domestic Product (GDP), income and wages, unemployment rate, Consumer Price Index (CPI), interest rates, and balance of trade]	 Economic indicators and trends Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Income and wages Unemployment rate Consumer Price Index (CPI) Interest rates Balance of trade
1.7 Describe the impact of the interconnected global economy on individuals and groups [e.g., balance of trade (BOT) and balance of payment (BOP)]	 Impact of the interconnected global economy on individuals and groups Balance of trade (BOT) Balance of payment (BOP)
1.8 Describe the benefits of personal/business financial literacy on the economy (i.e., income, spending, self-sufficiency, financial stability, saving money, investing money, planning for retirement, impact on credit, etc.)	 Benefits of personal/business financial literacy on the economy Income Spending Self-sufficiency Financial stability Saving money Investing money Planning for retirement Impact on credit, etc.

1.9 Explain how buyers and sellers interact to create markets and market structures	Market placeExchangeEquilibrium price
1.10 Describe the interdependent relationship between individuals and institutions (business organizations, financial institutions, and government agencies) in a market economy (e.g., the circular flow model)	 Interdependent relationship between individuals and institutions Business organizations Financial institutions Government agencies Market economy The circular flow model
1.11 Examine the impact of global influences on price (e.g., currency exchange rates, tariffs, and distribution costs)	 Impact of global influences on price Currency exchange rates Tariffs Distribution costs
1.12 Explain the concept of price elasticity	Elasticity and inelasticity

