Logan, UT - Utah State University’s undergraduate elementary teacher preparation program has been named one of the top in the country by the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ), a nonpartisan, not-for-profit research and policy organization, for its strong commitment to evidence-based reading instruction.

This month NCTQ released its 2020 Teacher Prep Review: Program Performance in Early Reading Instruction, which finds significant progress on the science of reading instruction in teacher preparation. For the first time since NCTQ began publishing ratings in the 2013 Teacher Prep Review, 51 percent of the over 1,000 evaluated traditional elementary teacher preparation programs earn an A or B grade for their coverage of the key components of the science of reading, up from just 35 percent seven years ago.

Utah State University is one of only fifteen undergraduate elementary programs that earns an A+ due to exemplary coursework, and serves as a model of excellence for others. These top-performing programs provide the following for each of the five essential components of reading:

- Explicit and repeated instruction on each component,