

Search Committee

My Teaching Philosophy

November 28, 2014

To Whom it May Concern,

My appreciation for people is what most differentiates me from my peers. As both an instructor and private sector consultant, I've found that cultivating meaningful relationships is the most important part of my job. People are everything.

In the classroom, I strive to develop fluid intelligence in my students. By this I mean the mental acuity to solve difficult problems combined with the flexibility to confront unforeseen situations. Teaching students to solve unexpected problems, ironically involves an unusually great deal of careful planning from the instructor's perspective. A few years ago, while thinking about this difficulty, I decided to design a new course for upper-level students. The plan was to teach students to write consulting reports solving a variety of analytical problems for diverse audiences. After receiving approval from my department, I contacted experts across the university. In particular, I collaborated with Dr. Hahn, the director of the university writing center. For more than a year, I met with Dr. Hahn at least once each month, and often more frequently, to design a course that would empower students to differentiate themselves after graduation. Ultimately, the collaboration was a tremendous success. I am currently teaching the 5th iteration of the course and my students' work continues to impress.

By recognizing that my students' perspective changes from lecture to lecture, I am able to connect with students in a way that enables them to exceed their expectations. Ultimately, my effectiveness boils down to transparently framing my vision and valuing my colleagues and students in such a way that they want to do the things, like studying and collaborating, which meet the goals of my department and the university.

Sincerely yours,



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