



Evaluating Teaching Effectiveness Task Force

December 30, 2015

Overview: Statements of Teaching Philosophy

Statements of Teaching Philosophy are generally one- to two-page documents that are required as part of job applications for academic positions and are used in dossiers for promotion and tenure. The statements generally articulate teaching approaches, methods, and expertise in ways that convey teaching values, beliefs, and goals. Teaching Philosophy statements address the following questions (Teaching Center – WUSL):

- **Why do you teach?** : Teaching values, beliefs, and goals.
- **What do you teach?** : Content areas of expertise.
- **How do you teach?** : Modes (lecture, active learning, On-line, Self-directed learning, Experiential learning), Discourse style, and Activities.
- **How do you measure your effectiveness?** : Criteria and/or standards to judge the quality of your teaching, evidence of your teaching effectiveness (e.g., student mastery in content, critical thinking, problem solving, and collaborative teamwork skills).

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

- Course Syllabus (assignments, format, content, expectations, texts, assignments, grading and assessment),
- In-classroom environment (diversity of methods, level of interaction, quality of feedback, intercultural sensitivity)
- Assessment of student learning
- Connection to institutional mission and disciplinary trends

METHODS AND CRITERIA USED TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

- Peer review
- Students comments
- Ratings
- Portfolio
- Syllabi
- Teaching activities

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