Teaching Philosophy Worksheet

This worksheet is designed to help you reflect on your values, beliefs, and practices as a facilitator of teaching and learning. It will guide you from unstructured thought to a clear, concise statement of your teaching philosophy that can be used in applications, interviews, portfolios, and professional websites.

# Brain Dump

Reflect on your experience as a student and how you imagined your approach to teaching the classes you attended.

What do you care about as a facilitator of learning? Why do you think you feel that way?

What convenient labels can you apply to these feelings?

*Response:*

# What Is My Teaching Philosophy?

Begin with a clear and direct statement using the phrase: *“My teaching philosophy is…”*

Avoid phrases like “based on” or “grounded in.”

In one to two sentences, what exactly is your philosophy on teaching and learning, and what outcome does it aim to produce?

What are your disciplinary goals?

What broader skills or capacities do you want your students to develop beyond subject mastery?

*Response:*

# What Is Your Why?

Explain the values and beliefs that inform your teaching philosophy. Personal stories can help humanize your statement and give depth to your commitment.

What values and beliefs shape your approach?

What critical changes are needed in your discipline to support inclusive, equity-minded teaching?

Why is this mission important in the global contexts your students will enter?

*Response:*

# How Do I Approach Teaching?

Describe your pedagogical style and provide specific, meaningful examples of how you bring it to life.

If you had to name your pedagogical approach, what would you call it? What are your top three overarching pedagogical principles?

Why have you chosen these?

How do they support inclusive, equity-minded teaching? What insights from learning sciences support these principles?

Provide specific examples of how you apply (or plan to apply) these principles in:

* Curriculum content and resource selection
* Course syllabi and LMS design
* Community-building and empowering learning environments
* Facilitating deep engagement and learning

*Response:*

**What Is My Assessment Philosophy and Practice?** What is the purpose of assessment in promoting learning? What does assessment look like in your courses?

*Response:*

# How Do I Assess My Teaching to Grow?

How do you stretch and expand your equity-minded teaching knowledge? How do you reflect and self-assess your teaching?

How do you engage with other educators and pursue development?

*Response:*

# Elevator Pitch

Write a short summary of your teaching philosophy that communicates your core values and intended student outcomes.

Imagine you are in an interview and have just a few moments to respond.

*Response:*

**Note:** Use this worksheet as a living document. Revisit and revise it as your philosophy evolves with experience and reflection.

Would you like me to add your footnote here as well for future distribution?