

## Teaching Philosophy

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Einstein said, "Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think."

Teaching and educating for me started from childhood when I was in elementary school. I enjoyed tutoring my younger siblings and helping them with their courses. Later, I became a hardworking student in school, and my teachers often chose me for peer teaching. I enjoyed teaching informally until I graduated with a master's degree and was hired at a college. My formal teaching journey began then. Teaching has become a way to share my interests, my enthusiasm, my knowledge, and my experience. I consider teaching as a way of communicating, loving, learning, and supporting.

Teaching mathematics requires both critical and creative thinking skills, which can be challenging. To play a role in students' success, I continuously strive to perfect my teaching skills as I gain insight into how students learn effectively. I link mathematical concepts to real-life experiences and choose problems from the students' world. These problems are touchable and meaningful for students. By doing so, I can capture their interest and keep them engaged in the learning process. Additionally, I accommodate different learning styles by using the Universal Design Learning (UDL) principles, providing multiple means of engagement, action and expression, and representation.

In my classroom, I aim to create a safe, inclusive, and challenging environment that nurtures critical and creative thinking. I encourage students to share their ideas, ask important questions, and engage in collaborative learning. I also use different assessment methods to evaluate students' learning, such as through writing, multimedia, or demonstration. I ensure that the way the content is presented (e.g., text, graphs, charts, images, videos, and demonstrations) does not create barriers for any of my students.

Having taught classes with diverse students, including those with physical and learning barriers, I have successfully provided a safe and conducive learning environment. Classroom diversity can be challenging, but it also enriches my knowledge and increases my flexibility. From the first day of class, I endeavour to establish an inclusive environment where every student is being heard.

As a teacher, I believe that my creativity and passion directly affect students' motivation. I strive to present concepts attractively and encourage students to participate actively in class discussions. Moreover, to improve my teaching practice, I am committed to being a lifelong learner and integrating the latest technology and research into my teaching.

I organize students' learning experience starting with questioning. Once students provided their insights on a question, I introduce theory and concepts through class discussions and collaborative learning. I also use technology to encourage collaborative learning and engagement in the lesson. For example, I use Padlet in the classroom interactively, with the best features like easily can add text, links, pictures, audio, video etc. As well as that, I encourage students to work with collaborative technologies such as Adobe Express inside or outside the classroom. Students can build presentations collaboratively, present and share their works with any kind of audience like colleagues, teachers, etc.

In summary, my goal as a teacher is to contribute something positive to my students' lives. By providing a student-centred and nurturing environment, I hope to inspire their learning and reinforce my own knowledge and abilities.