

## Statement of Teaching Philosophy

Below are suggestions for composing a statement of teaching philosophy that describes how you conceptualize learning and teaching, how that conceptualization is implemented in your classes, and how that experience has helped you grow as a teacher. Some questions to consider are given below, but your statement should cohere well and not simply be a list of answers to questions. You may find it useful to refer to “Guidance on Writing a Philosophy of Teaching Statement” by Nancy Chism, former Director of Faculty & TA Development at Ohio State, at <http://ucat.osu.edu/read/teaching-portfolio/philosophy/guidance>.

### Conceptualization of learning

- What does it mean for a student to “learn” something in mathematics?
- How do you know that learning is taking place?

### Conceptualization of teaching

- What does it mean for mathematics teaching to be “effective”?
- How do you know or determine whether your own teaching is effective?
- When mentoring instructors who are new to a course, what do you look for in evaluating their teaching?

### Goals for students

- Broadly speaking, what goals do you set for students’ growth as mathematics learners?
- Choose a course that you have taught. Explain what your learning goals are for students in that particular course.

### Implementation of the philosophy

- If a colleague walked into your classroom on a typical day of class, what would he/she notice about what you are doing and what students are doing?
- How do you encourage and enable all students to learn, given that students come with different backgrounds and learning styles?
- How do you use technology to facilitate student learning?
- How do you assess students’ progress toward the learning goals for the course?

### Professional growth plan

- How do you grow as a teacher?
- Summarize the courses you have taught so far, and what you have learned from teaching those courses.
- What sources of knowledge do you use, beyond your own teaching experience, to help you with your practice and growth as a teacher?
- In what ways would you like your teaching to develop over the next few years?
- What courses would you like to teach in the future for your own professional growth?