

Teaching Philosophy

My goal as an educator is to expand my students' knowledge, not just academically but holistically, to include socially, emotionally, and tacitly. I want to create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where my students are inspired to become the best versions of themselves. I hope to nurture student growth and help develop confident, proficient, and well-equipped dental hygiene professionals.

As an educator, I will build trust and mutual respect with my students. I will establish positive communication and get to know students on an individual basis. I hope to model the behavior, attitude, and enthusiasm for learning that I would expect from my students. My personal strengths of being observant, empathetic, and adaptable will enable the accommodation of students' individual needs. My military background will enable me to be firm and consistent while also fair and flexible.

With an authoritative classroom management style, I will serve as a facilitator, setting expectations in a student-centered learning environment. I will facilitate creative learning approaches that emphasize critical thinking and evidence-based practice utilizing activities such as ethical vignettes and case studies. I would like to canvass the class to evaluate students to determine how they learn best, and attempt to tailor lessons to their needs. Students will be pushed to reach their full potential, feel confident in their abilities, and excel both academically and professionally.

To achieve my objectives, I will need to hone in on my professional path. I will continue to improve myself in pedagogical knowledge. Some of the ways I can put this into

action would be joining the ADHA, attending conferences, staying abreast with the latest evidence-based practices, and networking. I vow to self-reflect and welcome both formal and informal feedback from my students and peers.