Writing a Teaching Philosophy

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The process of writing a teaching philosophy

Think
Reflect
Discuss
Organize
Write
Revise
Repeat
Let's think about who you are: I am from exercise

- I am from (fill in familiar items)
- I am from (fill in familiar foods)
- I am from (fill in familiar family sayings)
- I am from (fill in familiar people)
Now, let's think about who you are as a teacher

- I am from (fill in familiar classroom behaviors)
- I am from (fill in familiar classroom beliefs)
- I am from (fill in familiar students)
- My goal when I teach is . . .
Let’s consider various teaching goals
So, what is your teaching goal?
What is a teaching philosophy statement?

- Self-reflective
- Reflects your teaching and learning beliefs
- Supports those beliefs with specific examples from your teaching
- Aim for two pages, clearly written
Let’s Discuss

- Given what you have written about goals, familiar beliefs etc. - talk about these with your partner
- Decide what ideas should “show up” in your teaching statement - highlight/star those
Let’s reflect some more!

- How do you know when your teaching has worked?
- What is your role as a teacher?
- What are your goals for your students?
- What methods are most effective in helping you reach those goals?
- What relationship should you have with your students?
- What is the point of grading? What does it accomplish?
Let’s discuss some more!

Discuss with your partner what of those answers should be in your teaching statement; highlight/star those
Organize

- Given all of the ideas you have, which can be grouped together?
- What themes in your teaching do you see?
- What examples can you offer to support these assertions?
Now, it's up to you!

- Write
- Get feedback - want a partner?
- Revise
- Repeat
- Resources