The Teaching Statement

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What is teaching?

Perhaps, it is the effective and compelling communication of your craft to those still in the process of learning.

Why teach?
- Service.
- Part of your growth in your own learning process.
- Pays the bills.
- Helps to attract and nurture graduate students (academic progeny).

Why study teaching?
- To get better at it.
- To enjoy it more / make the experience most fulfilling.
- To grow as a researcher.
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How does one organize the information in a teaching statement so that it is a compelling document that adds value to your application?
Teaching is mostly about effective and compelling communication
The Philosophy of Teaching Statements

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Hence the teaching statement is your first (and only in your app) means to establish and convey your communication skills.
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It is NOT a statement of facts, assignments, awards, etc. (though in context, these could be mentioned and discussed.)
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It is a statement of personality, style and reflection:

- It aligns your goals, aspirations, revelations and epiphanies, with the events, situations and circumstances which brought you to your current state.
- It draws from your experiences, anecdotes and studies how you view the classroom, curricula and the teacher/student relationship.
- It is a place where you can talk about trends, pedagogy and experiments in the classroom in the context of your own experiences.
- It is a place where you can introduce and develop your personality profile (so much of your personality is on display when you teach!)
- It is the only real free-form part of the competition....
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