Teaching Style

The most important part of teaching at a college level is helping students discover new ways of looking at the world; new ways of thinking about their experiences and new ways of becoming aware of others’ experiences. I believe the best way to accomplish this journey of self-discovery is through using a variety of teaching methods.

I vary my assignments between group and individual projects, online assignments, short and long papers, group activities and in-class presentations. I encourage the use of technology in my assignments, as this is an aspect of modern life that will be an integral part of any future experience. The purpose of all assignments and activities in my classes is to help students develop critical thinking skills by making connections between class materials and the bigger world. For example, when discussing persuasive speech, I encourage students to think about the persuasion they have seen that day. As we discuss it, they realize that even labels on their personal care products are persuasive messages, encouraging them to purchase those products again.

I believe in asking students what they like and don’t like about a course and taking those opinions into consideration as I make adjustments to the courses. I will implement ideas from students that are pedagogically sound. For example, I use mid-term evaluation surveys and one-minute responses to gather student reactions to a class and their understanding of material, then repeat material or adjust lecture style as necessary.