

Preparing your Teaching Dossier

Share Your Responses in the Chat

When are you planning to prepare a teaching dossier?

Why are you planning to prepare a teaching dossier?

Notes:

Tasks:

- Collect teaching artifacts
- Write your teaching philosophy statement
- Summarize your teaching responsibilities
- Select your evidence
- Contextualize your evidence
- Compile your dossier
- Review your dossier
- Reflect on your teaching development and future teaching goals

Reflection Questions for Your Teaching Dossier

Questions:

Values and principles:

Why do you teach the way you do?

How would you describe the relationship between learner and teacher in your classroom?

What motivates you as a teacher?

Practices and strategies:

What specific activities or exercises do you use to engage your students? What do you want your students to learn from these activities?

What conceptions or misconceptions about concepts or inquiry in your field do students bring to your classroom? How do you build on, unsettle, or explore those beliefs?

How do you explain or otherwise help students examine difficult ideas or concepts?

Impact and effectiveness:

What do you do well in the classroom? How do you capture and measure this?

How do you assess or measure what counts as successful teaching?

How has your thinking about teaching changed over time? Why?

Future goals:

What are your goals to enhance your teaching?

What strategies, pedagogical approaches, or educational technologies would you like to try in the future?

Homework questions:

How would you describe your ideal classroom environment (structural, feeling, sensory aspects, activities, etc.)?

What outcomes do you expect of your teaching? What are the learning outcomes for your students?

What kinds of specific intellectual work (research, reasoning, interpretation) from your discipline do you want to teach them to be able to do?

How do you get your students interested in or intellectually engaged with your field?

How do you address the range of learning preferences among students in your classes?

How do you make the course engaging and interesting throughout the semester?

Getting Feedback on your Statement of Teaching Philosophy

Considerations for reviewing your STP:

- Honesty – it should be sound and accurate.
- Acknowledgement of imperfection – it should indicate that you know you are human and fallible, but are continuing to develop.
- Clarity – it should be easy for the reader to see what you believe; they should not have to sift through unnecessary information.
- Evidence – it should include evidence to show that you do what you say you believe (e.g. describing an approach you use, showing how you apply this.)
- A personal tone – use “my” and “I” to show that you are talking about yourself rather than a theoretically perfect teacher. Keep it hands-on.
- Stories and anecdotes to show your human side.
- Markers of development – show that you are continually striving to improve your teaching.
- Organization – so that it is easy to follow.

Reviewing your draft:

What day will you have a draft of your STP?

Name two people who could provide you with feedback on your teaching philosophy.

What day will you email them to ask them to review your STP? What could you offer them in exchange?

Teaching Experience

Note down examples of teaching experiences that you have from the brainstorm exercise.

Planning your Dossier: Considerations for Organization and Format

Statement of Teaching Philosophy including explanation of teaching goals	1-2 pages
Description of Teaching Experience including course responsibilities and descriptions	Tables & Narrative
Description of Teaching Practices and Strategies including course design, instructional strategies, assessments, etc.	Narrative
Description of Professional Development including workshops, conferences, etc.	Table & Narrative
Evaluations of Teaching including quantitative & qualitative data such as formal evaluations, in-class observation, etc.	Table(s), Comments & Discussion
Supporting Documentation in Appendices with narrative introductions.	~25 pages

Evaluations of Teaching

What kinds of evaluations (formal and informal) do you have of your teaching?

What additional kinds of evaluation could you seek out or arrange? List two specific examples here.

Professional Development:

Share your responses in the chat.

Identify one professional development activity that you have done in the last year.

Describe it in 2 sentences.

What did you learn?

How have you applied what you learned?

Planning your Next Steps

What are my next steps? Identify three concrete goals for moving your dossier forward and set timelines (3 months, 6 months, 1 year).

1.

2.

3.