

Teaching philosophy

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Several years before I began to teach, I encountered a statement written by Hannah Arendt, one of my intellectual heroes: "Education is the point at which we decide whether we love the world enough to assume responsibility for it...[and] to prepare [students] in advance for the task of renewing a common world." Once I began to teach, I found myself always coming back to the duties entailed in that statement: How best do I assume responsibility for conveying information, teaching skills, inculcating an ethic of responsibility and instigating a love of learning? Teaching, I came to realize, involves being continually open to revising one's methods in the classroom, and always talking with, not talking to or at, students. I try to make my courses as student oriented as possible, while always holding their work to high standards, no matter the level of course: whether first year course, Ph.D. seminar and everything in between, Honors, undergraduate or graduate--all of which I teach!!! My passion for teaching is fueled by my deep and long-running interests in international law, international organizations and global governance; of course, studying and teaching in such a dynamic field helps!