## **Teaching Tips/Notes**



## **Undergraduate Teaching Philosophy**

- The primary reason I chose an academic career is because I enjoy teaching and genuinely care for students' well-being, and I am very much interested in helping students to be successful in their studies.
- My overriding teaching philosophy is that 'students come first' because colleges and universities exist because of and for students.
- Teaching is an **important part of my job** and I take it very seriously and strive for excellence in all aspects of teaching.
- I get very **excited about teaching**; once I am done preparing notes, I cannot wait to deliver the lectures. I have a great enthusiasm for teaching, which gets students excited in learning.
- Establishing good rapport with students is very important. Toward this goal, I follow an **open-door policy**, and **go the extra mile** to help students in every possible way.
- I am a strong advocate of active class participation and firm believer that teaching and learning is a two-way communication that provides opportunities for class discussions.
- The most important goal I set for myself and for my students is that **all students excel in their studies** because the primary reason they came to the university is to get a good education.
- To improve students' performance, I focus on the following points: thorough preparation, good organization of lectures and course, sound explanation of the material, clear oral and written presentations, keep abreast of new developments in the subject matter, encourage class discussion, and motivate and stimulate students' interest in the subject.
- As a teacher, I want to **contribute to the students' learning** process and impart the skills and knowledge needed for students to be successful. When they do well in their studies and get good grades, it will be easier for them to find jobs.
- I encourage students to understand the subject matter, succeed in the class, **think critically**, gain experience, and accomplish their academic goals.
- I ensure that **learning is fun, interesting**, and helps accumulate knowledge. At the end of the semester, students should feel they not only learned a lot but also enjoyed the course.
- I assist students to achieve well-defined educational and career goals and to grow as matured and well-rounded students so that they can **stand on their own legs**.
- I train students to become good team workers, collaborators, and highly motivated.
- I monitor students' academic performance, **am aware of their needs**, provide accurate and specific information, offer timely feedback, and am courteous to students.
- I focus on each one's strength to maximize their potential, intellectual, and personal growth, and academic performance.

- I assist students with further studies and job searches.
- Since teaching is one of the integral parts of the land grant mission, I strive to achieve excellence in my teaching responsibilities.
- It is important for me that students learn from my courses and make use of their knowledge in their future employment.
- It gives me great pleasure when my students succeed in their goals. I would like to see my students make significant progress by showing positive growth and development.
- I want my students to enjoy, value, and treasure their experience in undergraduate studies at the university.
- I reward top performing students by taking them to lunch.
- I recommend deserving students for honors, awards, and scholarships. I take great pride in my students' awards, honors, and achievements.

## Submitted by:

Stephen Devadoss Agricultural Economics University of Idaho Email: <u>devadoss@uidaho.edu</u>