

Writing Prompts for Developing a Teaching Statement

Themes From Analysis	Writing Prompts
Describing their Discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you describe your discipline?• How does your discipline connect to your philosophy of teaching?• What attracted you to your discipline? What do you think attracts students to it?• Are there challenges to teaching in your discipline?
Identifying Goals for Students and Instructors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are your goals for student learning?• What do you expect of your students?• What are your goals for yourself as an instructor?• What discipline-specific skills do you aim to cultivate in students?• How do you help students develop as people?• How do you describe your students?
Describing Being a Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How would you describe your best teachers?• How do you describe your role as a teacher?• How would you describe your teaching experience?• How have you developed your skills as an instructor?
Describing Teaching Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How would you describe your teaching methods?• What is the rationale for the teaching methods you use?• How would you describe what students are asked to do in the classroom?
Assessing Student Learning and Giving Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How would you describe the assignments and assessments you use?• How do your assessments measure or demonstrate student learning?• How do you give feedback to students?• Do you incorporate peer feedback?
Evaluating Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you note changes in student learning?• Do you ask students about their learning?• Do you ask students for feedback on your teaching methods?• Do you ask students for feedback on your course goals?• Do you provide evidence of your teaching effectiveness through student feedback or teaching observations?
Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you create an inclusive learning environment?• How do you build community in the classroom?• Have you encountered challenges to building community?• How do you enhance student voices?• How do you encourage students to listen to other perspectives?• Do you provide alternative ways for students to participate?• Do you use a diversity of examples in your course?