

## A STATEMENT OF TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

### SUMMARY

As a Theatre educator, the focus of my work is making each student who I come in contact with, a better communicator.

Ultimately, the heart of Theatre is communicating a clear idea to an audience. No matter the medium, if a complex idea is communicated simply and efficiently the communicator can also pass on part of themselves and their personal experience to the receiver. They can also receive the same from the audience.

My philosophy, then, is to combine research, discovery, and craft in a way that gives each student a collection of tools they can use to communicate clearly and efficiently to an audience.

### CLASS FORMAT

I believe in classes and labs being a sharing space. I create environments where students can share and teach each other. I then become a facilitator for their education. Using online platforms and multimedia, I flip the classroom so students can spend their time in class clarifying information and skills instead of listening to a professor talk about them.

### PRODUCTION VS CLASSROOM

Coming from a professional background, I see no equivalent to actual performance or presentation. The laboratory is the ultimate environment for the student to practice and explore the concepts they have learned in the classroom. Production cannot take the place of the theoretical learning that students need to be able to explore in a class setting. The two are a marriage that cannot be separated.

### DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Theatre Arts must continue to hold a mirror up to society and reveal its triumphs and shortcomings. The art that is being created today must continue to be diverse and speak to the social causes and movements that happen today.

### COLLABORATIVELY CREATED THEATRE

So much of the theatre relies on working with others to create our art. The television writing room, ensemble devising process, and other collaborative forms of creating ultimately place students into situations where they must work together or the project is completed. It is in this mode that students should work in throughout the process of media education.