

My personal teaching philosophy is an evolving model based on experience, observation, continuing education, keeping an open mind to changes in society and technology. Learning and teaching co-exist. My ability to teach is based on adaptation; adaptation not only to social-cultural influences and events but also to challenges of rapidly changing modes of communication available which exist without a geo-centred base.

As a facilitator of technology, computer teacher, and director of technology I am always learning. As a teacher I value the input of my students. My teaching model is a collaborative one. I collaborate with my students, as well as with other faculty. I am continually seeking best practice to adapt my teaching to the needs of my students.

Discipline is based on respect and the understanding that actions have logical consequences. I present choices and their logical consequences in order to maintain order. If there is a disruption I look for needs within the individual which may not be being met. There is always something outside of the classroom that needs addressing; it could have been a difficult time at the Roman Forum, or a bad gladiator fight, or a mean comment on Facebook, or a World War or famine. What happens outside of the classroom needs to be separated and once understood teaching can commence.

I have taught kindergarten and university classes and every single grade between. What I bring to the teaching arena is creativity, not just my own, but the released creativity of my students. I present opportunities and tools of presentation, or simply I teach and integrate computing across the curriculum.

I also have a strong commitment to professional development, working with other teachers and staff to facilitate their use of technology within their curriculum. There are several reasons for this. Aside of my own love of technology, students are excited about technology. What was new a decade ago is normal and mainstream to a ten year old today. The World Wide Web was new twenty years ago and to those in their 20s it is not only normal, but it always was, just as cars and airplanes are to those over fifty. On-line social networking may be only a decade and a half old and Facebook and Twitter four years old but this is so 'main stream' now that it seems as if it has been available for much longer. The iPad is six months old as of October 2010 but there is already anticipation of iPad 2 which will be released later this year. I not only listen to students to be aware of what they are doing on-line but ask myself would it work as a learning tool? For education to be relevant it needs to appeal to the student.