

Teaching Statement^{*}

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As a teacher, I feel a strong sense of responsibility towards my students who wish to become natural scientists, teachers or economists. I want to provide a solid foundation for the students which serves as a platform to work on more advanced questions during their studies and even beyond university. In order to reach this aim, I strongly believe that students should be guided and encouraged to solve problems.

From my own experience the essence of teaching is to compromise between a style of presentation with self-contained technical accuracy on the one hand and developing a general view of things on the other. Since students need to solve problems, it is also important to teach methods and procedures. Moreover, I always keep in mind that students are educated to use mathematics after their university life. Since they need to communicate mathematical solutions of applied problems to other people not related to the field, it is necessary to equip them with a broad horizon of our subject.

Although a teacher should be demanding up to a certain degree, it is very important to keep in mind that students are often working on several different courses. From my experience with teaching physicists and meteorologists, it is necessary to give students enough time to understand. For instance, I always introduce a new concept together with a general outline to relate the questions in mind with concepts that the students are already familiar with. Even very abstract concepts or long computations contain certain descriptive ideas which I try to convey to the students. To render a given phenomena

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into a more precise idea, is an essential step to solve problems. I see myself as an approachable teacher who likes to guide the students. Therefore, I am always generous with hints to solve problems and I always point out whether an issue is important to study with more emphasis.

As a student, I was attracted by courses of passionate mathematicians being able to evolve a mathematical theme thoroughly while making the whole development behind a particular result visible. Their enthusiasm to depict even simple problems and results is an inspiration for my teaching style. Besides commitment to the subject, I am still aware of the different needs connected with the students own individuality. I always feel responsible to help my students during their whole studies and to evolve their own creativity.