A Grad’s Guide to Teaching and Research Statements

Questions to Consider for a Teaching Statement:

• What are your goals for student learning?
• How will you enact those goals? How will you assess those goals?
• How will you create an inclusive environment?
• How does my teaching philosophy fit in with the mission of the department and institution?
• What motivates you to learn about this subject? Why do you teach?
• How do you know you’ve taught successfully?
• What do I believe or value about teaching and learning?
• How do your research and disciplinary context influence your teaching?
• How do the identities and backgrounds of both you and your students affect teaching and learning in your classes?
• How do you account for different styles of learning?

Helpful Resources:
• University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching
• Ohio State University

Questions to Consider for a Research Statement:

• What question(s) are you trying to answer through your research?
• Why is this question so important to your field?
• What existing research has your work built upon?
• How have your past and present research answered that question? How will your future research answer that question?
• What motivates you to study your topic?
• What are some techniques you have successfully used?
• How can you summarize your results?
• What are some challenges in your research that you overcame?
• How can you involve students in your research?
• How can your research bring in grants or funding?
• What resources will you need to be successful? (Finances, equipment, etc.)

Helpful Resources:
• Cornell University
• Duke University
Your Notes: