

## TEACHING PHYLOSOPHY

# MARIA V

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTIST / EDUCATOR

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My philosophy of education is that all students experience a stimulating and engaging environment in which they can develop new skills and allow for creativity to flow. My objective is to provide a type of atmosphere where students discover their own strengths and unique visions through hands-on experience. I want to provide a safe environment where the students feel free to share and express their ideas through their work. At the same time, my purpose is to enrich the classroom with a diverse community of students and welcome their curiosity. A safe environment is also a place where students can make mistakes and try again to achieve the result they are seeking. I commit to I believe it is important to build constructive and appropriate vocabulary when studying art in order to offer and receive feedback. I have learned that all students learn and progress at their own rate and therefore require a unique style of teaching that can be flexible and adaptive. As an artist myself, I am constantly researching subjects and materials for my art practice and thus the learning process is in constant motion – as an artist and educator.

As an educator, I commit to promoting a diverse and inclusive environment in which students have equal access to learning regardless of their background or needs. I commit to promoting a safe environment in which students feel empowered to explore, experiment, and engage in critical thinking and critical analysis that may allow them to thrive and learn from one another. Through thoughtful, critical, and sincere group critiques students will have the opportunity to encourage each other while offering and receiving insightful feedback on their artworks.

Learning about art and making art are always in partnership inside and outside the classroom. My focus as an educator is to help students build a solid foundation on the key principles of Art and New Media. I will provide participatory workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on activities that promote creativity and self-initiative. The students will learn how to use a variety of tools and digital technologies and build a professional craftsmanship that will extend throughout their professional careers. In order to bring ideas and concepts to fruition, one must find the appropriate materials, and that starts in the classroom. Thorough knowledge in materials and tools, including digital technology, can jumpstart a concept to completion. The students will develop the necessary vocabulary to make constructive observations and articulate their own process of art making in critiques and peer dialogue.

My goal as an educator is to further develop my pedagogical process for higher education in order to support the students in their journey in the arts. I believe the best examples to learn from are colleagues, peers, and my one's own experience as a student. Through class observations and the research of teaching methods, I intend to develop the creativity and engagement in my pedagogy. I will implement routine moments of reflection about lectures and laboratory sessions in order to assess the success and identify areas of growth within the classroom. In addition, I also intend to strengthen my professional skills and maintain an up-to-date

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skillset in technology by seeking professional development trainings and engage with experienced educators. I maintain a flexible philosophy of education, because I know that challenges will arise; pedagogy is a lifelong research process. I value my own learning experience and I take note of the teaching methods I have observed from faculty and mentors. Those methods of learning-by-doing and hands-on experiences are fundamental in developing my vision for a collaborative and engaging classroom.