
Teaching Statement

■ Teaching Philosophy

Students in my previous course expressed a desire for practical advice in their learning. They want instructors to teach subjects that they are interested in. Students will leave a lecture if they are too confused to learn, do not want to learn, or simply have nothing to learn. This necessitates my involvement as an instructor to find their interests. Also, I understand the disconnections between students' preferences and industry requirements. My main goal is to create a welcoming classroom environment where students from all walks of life can enjoy themselves, learn from hands-on training, and prepare for a future career. Students can see that it is worth the time and effort to attend my lectures. To achieve this goal, my teaching philosophy includes the following three principles:

1. A hybrid of online and in-person learning experiences. Students have shifted to virtual learning, and will continue to learn in virtual space. I am convinced that online learning will become an essential part of the educational experience. First, the asynchronous class allows for a more flexible schedule, which improves students' overall college experience. A virtual class also allows me to provide personalized feedback to each student. I can more easily identify the students who need guidance. Students can receive more hands-on assistance to achieve their learning goals. Finally, online training courses are an ideal complement to the classroom experience. Online programming classes, for example, have become a success in many colleges. Students can navigate any sections of a video, and skip other parts they have already learned. This type of learning allows students to focus on what they truly need to learn. In my future teaching, I will provide a hybrid learning environment. Traditional classroom instruction is necessary, but I will also provide online resources for students who want to study at home.
2. Understanding students' diverse backgrounds. "Each of us must determine how we will lead in times of great challenge and injustice," said Dr. Darienne B. Driver, Superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools. As a member of an Asian ethnic group, I understand the difficulties we must face during this unusual period. My responsibility is to lead students to work safely

Ling Tong

☎ 414-210-0771 • ✉ ltong@uwm.edu

and productively for their future lives. I can accommodate all types of learners by combining virtual and classroom instruction. My research on healthcare equality has also assisted me in becoming a compassionate instructor. I will be able to give all of my students a safe place to learn where they can explore their academic and career goals.

3. Teaching students to be lifelong learners: an instructor can only lecture on a topic for a set amount of time, usually one semester. It implies that the influence may not last long. However, a student's peers, friends, staff, professors, and instructors, all of whom they meet in college, can have a long-term impact on their value and life. I hope to become an influencer and share my life's faith with students during their most formative years. We can all become lifelong learners.

■ Teaching Interest

I can teach undergraduate courses, including, but not limited to:

- **Computational Software for Healthcare Professionals:** As previously stated, I am especially interested in hands-on training courses in general healthcare professions. This includes previous classes I taught on computational software, such as Microsoft Excel and healthcare databases. These are two areas where I see most undergraduate students falling short.
- **Introduction to Python Programming:** Because of my background in computer science, I can also teach undergraduate-level programming courses, such as Python.
- **Introduction to Statistics:** I'm also interested in teaching students introductory statistical course.

Also, I can teach following graduate courses:

- **Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare:** I believe a hands-on training course in artificial intelligence and healthcare would be in high demand and become a course catalog highlight. In the interdisciplinary fields of engineering and healthcare, we are seeing unmet needs. In the next 5 to 10 years, the industry will require a large number of administrative and development professionals. Also, students will be interested in practical course like AI in Healthcare, which can improve the overall curriculum quality, thereby increasing enrollments. The interdisciplinary collaboration will also provide opportunities for research funding and cross-disciplinary academic collaborations. The active collaboration often results in academic achievements and improves the schools' reputation.
- **Statistics for Evidence-based Medicine:** In addition, statistics and evidence-based research are critical components of healthcare that every healthcare graduate student must comprehend. I am qualified to lecture on advanced level statistical courses, such as public health and research-based statistical methodology courses.

Ling Tong

☎ 414-210-0771 • ✉ ltong@uwm.edu

- **Seminar in Biomedical Informatics Research:** I can also host interactive seminars for graduate students to help them learn how to discuss academic topics with their peers and give talks in front of a large audience.

■ Teaching Experience

I completed 9 semesters of teaching, and my experience sharpened my teaching skills. My extensive teaching experience provided me with a thorough understanding of their issues and requirements. I can create a syllabus for a new course, modify materials to meet specific needs, and help students achieve curricular goals. My class has a high level of participation from the majority of the students. My course received a rating of 4.1 out of 5.0, higher than the university's average rating of 3.7. According to the students' feedback, the syllabus was well organized. The assignments are of moderate difficulty, the grading criteria are easy to understand, and the knowledge is applicable to their future industrial positions. One student said, "This professor is formatting our classes for what matters to our future jobs". My teaching supervisor, Steve Castelaz, also provided excellent feedback on my teaching.

I'm an independent lecturer for a undergraduate level course of "Computational Tools for Healthcare Professionals" from 2019 spring to 2022 fall. This is an introductory course to computational tools for information management, and hands-on training in Microsoft Office software. This course provided me with a comprehensive view of my students' foundations. This course also developed my skills in preparing specific materials to meet their needs.

In 2018 spring, I worked as a teaching assistant for a course of "Big Data Healthcare Processing Platform" for one semester. This is a programming-based course that teaches students how to process large batches of healthcare data using the Python programming language. I'm also grading assignments and helping the professor prepare study materials. Because of this, my experience in programming courses has helped a lot of students achieve their goals.

My instruction does not only take the form of a lecture. I also helped with the academic development outside of the classroom. I advised undergraduate and graduate students in my doctoral research lab. My advice includes giving my thoughts on life questions, caring for their mental health, and writing reference letters as a form of support. These are critical aspects of building a strong community. My experiences instructing in the lab reinforced my belief in the value of one-on-one mentoring with personalized assistance and suggestions. I also assist candidacy exam attendees in my PhD program and assist them in passing qualifying exams. All of my curricular and research experiences have shaped me into a responsible, experienced, caring instructor who is dedicated to providing excellent instruction and service.

Ling Tong

☎ 414-210-0771 • ✉ ltong@uwm.edu