

Teaching Statement

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I hold a Teaching Diploma in Science from the Lebanese University, a Master of Science in Computer Science from Maharishi University of Management, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Oakland University. This diverse academic background has provided me with a strong foundation in both the theoretical and applied aspects of computer science, significantly shaping my path as an educator. Beyond academics, my industry experience has also enriched my teaching philosophy, emphasizing the importance of preparing students to meet real-world challenges. This preparation is essential and critically important in an applied field like computer science. It is this combination of my diverse academic background and extensive professional experience that has shaped my teaching philosophy and approach.

Teaching Philosophy and Approach

At the core of my teaching philosophy is the belief that education should serve as a bridge between theoretical knowledge and practical application. The role of the educator is to effectively communicate complex theoretical concepts to students with clarity. I am convinced that true mastery of a theoretical topic is demonstrated by the ability to explain it clearly to anyone, using the right words and examples. Driven by this conviction, I strive to make complex, abstract concepts accessible to students by relating them to real-world challenges and experiences. For instance, when teaching web programming, I draw on my expertise in cybersecurity to illustrate the importance of security. I use practical examples to demonstrate how a strong theoretical understanding can be applied to secure distributed applications from malicious exploitation in today's digital world.

As an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Maharishi International University, I have had the privilege of teaching a wide range of courses, including computer architecture, Java programming, web programming, software engineering, DevOps, microservices, and CI/CD. My approach to teaching these subjects is student-centered, focusing on active learning, hands-on projects, and fostering a collaborative learning environment. I encourage my students to think critically, solve problems creatively, and apply their knowledge in practical settings.

Conscious-Based Education and Student Engagement

Maharishi International University is the home of Consciousness-Based Education (CBE), with Transcendental Meditation (TM) at the core of this educational methodology. TM is a scientifically proven technique used as an active means of rest. It is well-known that a rested physiology

promotes sharper thinking and results in a brain ready for action. MIU incorporates group meditation into the curriculum, where students and teachers meditate together in the classroom as part of regular classes. This methodology creates a positive and supportive learning environment, enhancing students' ability to focus, reducing stress, fostering a sense of belonging, and promoting self-motivation. It also encourages a desire in students to emulate their teachers and grasp knowledge more easily and effectively. CBE has significantly influenced my approach to student engagement. I integrate these principles into my teaching, helping students not only absorb technical knowledge but also develop essential soft skills such as teamwork, communication, and mindfulness. These skills are crucial for their success both academically and personally, contributing to their overall self-accomplishment.

My role as an educator extends beyond the classroom. I am deeply committed to mentoring and advising students, guiding them through their academic and professional journeys. I take pride in helping students identify their strengths, set goals, and navigate challenges, all while fostering a growth mindset. Whether through office hours, one-on-one meetings, or group discussions, I am dedicated to supporting my students' academic and personal development.

Curriculum Development and Continuous Improvement

The field of computer science and technology, whether at the level of hardware or software, is ever-changing. Staying at the forefront of technological advancements is essential to equipping my students with the latest and most relevant information for the job market. I am constantly researching new technologies and current industry trends. Additionally, I actively participate in curriculum development to ensure that MIU's computer science program remains up-to-date with industry needs. My ongoing professional development includes attending conferences, engaging in online forums, and continuously learning about new technologies and methodologies. This commitment enables me to incorporate the latest tools and techniques into my courses, providing students with a cutting-edge education that prepares them for the rapidly evolving tech industry.

Impact and Vision

My ultimate goal as an educator is to empower students to become knowledgeable, innovative, and ethical professionals who can contribute meaningfully to the field of computer science. I am passionate about nurturing the next generation of computer scientists who are not only technically proficient but also capable of addressing the ethical and societal implications of their work.

Looking forward, I am excited to continue refining my teaching methods, exploring new ways to integrate emerging technologies into the curriculum, and contributing to the academic community. I am committed to making a lasting impact on my students, helping them achieve their full potential and preparing them to face the challenges and opportunities of the future.