

Teaching Statement

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In my view the fundamental purpose of higher education is to provide students a platform to strive for excellence and foster independence in pursuit of their own goals. I view my teaching responsibilities in this broad context well. I intend to draw insights and inspirations from some of the excellent teachers and mentors I have had the good fortune to meet, interact and learn from.

In the near future, I will teach about basics and advanced topics in Information retrieval, Natural Language Processing, and Artificial Intelligence. These span some of the cutting edge topics required in the big data and information economy of today. These are fundamentally application driven, yet have fostered the tradition of abstractions and algorithms design so prevalent in computer science.

I will teach a project-driven course that gets students excited about solving a real world problem using computers. Articulating the problem, finding the right data, and tools provide a walk-through of the main steps involved in solving problems computationally.

I will also design advance courses that focus on the state-of-the-art approaches to algorithms, frameworks, and systems for solving large scale natural language problems such as web search, information extraction, and summarization. My broad research experience in these topics and industrial experience have given me unique perspectives on the abstractions involved in these different applications.

I will seek opportunities to engage in both research and teaching opportunities beyond the department, reaching out to high-school and freshmen in other departments. Cite efforts by Harvey Mudd.

In terms of mentoring, I seek to draw inspiration from my own mentors.