# Teaching Statement

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My teaching interests include but are not limited to Database, Systems Analysis & Design, Using & Managing Information Systems, Big Data and Analytics, Data Visualization, Text/Data/Web Mining, Natural Language Processing, and Machine Learning.

As a researcher, I pursue research in Data Science and Information System Design because my research allows me to develop innovative technical solutions to solve real-world problems. I believe that the abilities of problem-solving and independent learning are extremely important not only for students to learn information-related sciences & technologies but also to any other fields they are interested in. Therefore, as a teacher, I make every effort to inspire students to explore information sciences & technologies by engaging them in hands-on learning tasks and by challenging them to develop their independent learning skills.

To help students develop problem-solving skills, I provide two types of opportunities. The first way is to involve my students in practical class projects that are highly related to their everyday life or the field they are pursuing. The second way is to involve my students in my research, so they can work closely with me on rigorous research projects. All the class projects and research projects provide students an experiential learning environment in which students are learning by doing. Students can learn most when they have opportunities to undertake tasks, as evidenced by students' comments and feedback about *What did you especially like about the way this instructor taught the course*?

> *"Homework assignments and labs were meaningful and useful for the future."*
> *"Gave the students interactive homework to do."*
> *"In terms of technical soft wares, I have learned a lot of new techniques to see how business analyze their information."*

To help students develop independent learning ability, I try my best to create an independent learning environment by giving students the tools and techniques with which they can learn according to their own learning styles and needs. Especially, I encourage students to read and watch more tutorials and articles that can address specific course topics. I seek to broaden students' understanding of course topics by identifying areas that are within their grasp – not easy but also not too difficult, just as students' comments and feedback about *What did you especially like about this course?*

> *"Accelerated course that was interesting and fun."*
> *"I liked the videos, it made sense of all the topics."*
> *"Material will be useful later in life."*

> *"Wenli is very thorough in teaching lessons for the class. She can easily answer any questions we have."*

Teaching information-related sciences & technologies is interesting and fun for me. It inspires my research as I learn new concepts and am able to share these emerging insights on various topics with my students. Moreover, students' questions and comments continuously encourage me to reflect on my lectures and content so that I can provide the most interesting and effective use of their time. Overall, I love teaching. It is a passion and an important part of my career.