A Grad’s Guide to Teaching and Research Statements

Questions to Consider for a Teaching Statement:

- What are your goals for student learning?
- How will you enact those goals? How will you assess those goals?
- How will you create an inclusive environment?
- How does my teaching philosophy fit in with the mission of the department and institution?
- What motivates you to learn about this subject? Why do you teach?
- How do you know you’ve taught successfully?
- What do I believe or value about teaching and learning?
- How do your research and disciplinary context influence your teaching?
- How do the identities and backgrounds of both you and your students affect teaching and learning in your classes?
- How do you account for different styles of learning?

Helpful Resources:

- University of Michigan: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching
  http://www.crlt.umich.edu/tstrategies/tstpts
- Ohio State University: http://ucat.osu.edu/professional-development/teaching-portfolio/philosophy

Questions to Consider for a Research Statement:

- What question(s) are you trying to answer through your research?
- Why is this question so important to your field?
- What existing research has your work built upon?
- How have your past and present research answered that question? How will your future research answer that question?
- What motivates you to study your topic?
- What are some techniques you have successfully used?
- How can you summarize your results?
- What are some challenges in your research that you overcame?
- How can you involve students in your research?
- How can your research bring in grants or funding?
- What resources will you need to be successful? (Finances, equipment, etc.)

Helpful Resources:

- Cornell University: https://postdocs.cornell.edu/research-statement
- Duke University: https://studentaffairs.duke.edu/career/graduate-students/academic-career-preparation/research-statement