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## Teaching

### Context of Teaching Program

I am proud to be a part of the distance education program in the Environmental Horticulture (EH) Department teaching both undergraduate courses in the Plant Science Curriculum and graduate courses in horticulture science. Being off-campus, I am actively involved in distance education such as web course development to deliver online content in addition to delivering live laboratories to the students in south Florida. I also serve as the chair of the EH Academic Programs Committee and am a member of the Plant Science curriculum committee. I was inducted into the UF Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars in 2014.

### Teaching Philosophy

Based on past peer assessments of my teaching along with student evaluation, I believe my strengths as a teacher are my enthusiasm, empathy, organization, preparation, and innovation. These strengths are the core to my teaching philosophy. I have a passion for teaching and for horticulture and enjoy sharing personal stories and experiences with students to help them understand difficult concepts. I try to remember that student learning styles vary and that I need to vary my presentations, assessments and activities to account for these differences. I make sure my classes are well prepared and organized with clear expectations and communication that facilitates student learning. Finally, I continue to evolve as an online teacher with the use of new tools and innovations. I try to keep current with the content and delivery of my course materials in both online courses and live laboratories.

### Education Goals

My primary education goals are: 1) to continually improve online course content and delivery; 2) to identify gaps in programs that might be limiting student success statewide; and 3) to support statewide teaching in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences