Steve Saunders

Teaching Philosophy

I believe behind every good teacher is a driving passion to guide and develop students so they can meet their career goals and do some good in their future endeavors. It's why I decided to become a college instructor.

I'm all about creating a classroom environment that is inclusive and inviting, so that every student has an opportunity to learn something new. I believe that it's difficult to learn new things if a student feels nervous or intimidated. It's why I try to create an environment that is anxiety-free, so there's a better chance for retention and also stronger in-class participation and attendance, be it face-to-face or online.

One of the things I think is so important is "hands-on" learning. I want my students to learn by doing. In the computer world, it means a lecture coupled with group work that allows the students to solve a problem, or watch me live-code as they follow along.

Feedback is key too. Instructors need to be able to adjust and accommodate the learning needs of their students. It's why I check in with them, find out how I can improve as their instructor, and also learn from them.

For me, instructing is a fluid process. You can always sharpen your craft and learn new things, and I take that to heart each and every day I'm in front of the classroom.