

Jana “Joie Rey” Teaching Philosophy

In order to maintain a cooperative learning environment, I remain focused on the idea that students have as much to teach the instructor as they have to learn. Often, the perception is that an instructor is an expert. However, if I remain open to the idea that as an instructor, I can not possibly know everything, I remain teachable, as do the students.

I take an interdisciplinary approach to teaching, which includes different ways of knowing and learning. It is important to me to consider how and what students expect from a course or workshop outcome. When leading students in an exercise, activity, or lesson, I consider that students may learn from visuals, listening, hands-on activities or a combination of 2 or more of these ways of knowing. Therefore, I am sure to explain my points in several different ways rather than just lecture. I maintain an interactive discussion and encourage questions for clarity, rather than have a traditional lecture which is too often one sided.

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