My teaching philosophy

My teaching philosophy is to help students become successful.

Each and every student is unique and everyone’s learning modality is different. I apply different instructions such as visual aids, gesture, TPRS, SDAIE, hand-on, etc. to cope with students with different learning styles. I also integrated technology to help students learn the content and get support from collaboration net. I focus on students’ experience and interests to build up their confidence to become successful.

To help my students become successful, I encourage them to apply their target language in real-life situations. Therefore, I believe the best practice in a student-centered classroom is using target language to teach target language, using authentic materials in teaching to build up learning environment, designing communicative and authentic tasks to do performance-based assessments. The “One-size-fit-all” assessment is not functional in a multi-level classroom, I will do my best to focus on communication function to assess students’ outcome in differentiate students tasks.

To help students get successful, it is important to build up their confidence. Language teaching is an art. Language teacher is different with other content teachers because language teachers must be sensitive to students’ needs and follow up for each student’s blind points. Each student has his/her blind points in target language learning. As a teacher, I need to find out where the student’s language gap and level is. I can compare student’s language level like beef in a hamburger; I need to find out “where is the beef”? I also need to find if the student’s language level is getting higher.

To help students get successful, the role of a teacher is not to give student “fish”; the role of a teacher is to coach students on how to “fish”. As a teacher, I’m not only teaching my students language and culture, but I also need to teach them the skills of learning a foreign language and provide them with more resources for their research topics. A teacher is a coach who needs to scaffold modeling well, coach student “learning by doing”, and give them constructive feedback to encourage them to learn.

To coach student well, I use backward design for my lesson plan which is based on national standards (5 Cs). I keep outcomes and language functions in mind such as what is the END GOALS: what students can DO. It is vital to design meaningful real-life situation activities to develop skills through purposeful communication (3 modes)

What I do for the lesson plans, the class activities, the assessments, are for only one purpose: to help students become successful!