

Principles of Educational Ethics
by
Lisa Marie Assante, PhD
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This personal code of ethics is a testament of the ethical principles, values, and behaviors expected of a successful professor. It is based on three fundamental principles of ethics: justice, respect for others, and responsible care.

As a professor, I will seek a collegial atmosphere with a strong sense of community, where the constituents value fairness, integrity, tolerance, respect, and believe they have a moral obligation to themselves and other members of the community. To symbolize my commitment to be a successful professor, I will integrate the ensuing principles of educational ethics into my daily responsibilities.

- ❖ I will seek the truth and apply it to factual information, in order to establish honesty in my dealings with all students, colleagues, and the academic community.*
- ❖ I will create a fair and equitable academic environment where the pursuit of learning is strongly encouraged.*
- ❖ In believing that learning is reciprocal, I will encourage discussion and differing opinions from students and colleagues.*
- ❖ To the best of my knowledge and ability, I will provide an accurate portrayal of the subject matter.*
- ❖ I will make an effort to protect students' academic freedom.*
- ❖ I will foster an honest academic atmosphere and ensure that individual evaluations accurately reflect the student's achievement.*
- ❖ I will respect the confidentiality of the symbiotic relationship between the student and the professor.*
- ❖ I will not intentionally embarrass, exploit, disparage, harass, or use discriminatory treatment against any student or colleague.*

- ❖ *I will respect the law and the rules of the university, while recognizing my responsibility to pursue revisions in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the students and academic community.*
- ❖ *I will protect all information and resources available to me from loss, theft, and misappropriation.*
- ❖ *I will not disclose information about students, colleagues, or the university obtained throughout my professional tenure, unless such disclosure is required by law or serves a necessary professional purpose.*
- ❖ *I will not use professional relationships with students, colleagues, or members of the academic community for personal advantage.*
- ❖ *As a member of the academic community, I will avoid even the appearance of conflict of interest or any other impropriety.*
- ❖ *When behaving in my personal life, I will avoid speaking or acting as a representative of the university.*
- ❖ *I will participate in scholarly activity and seek professional development.*
- ❖ *I will recognize my responsibility toward service by participating in activities that lead to an improved community.*
- ❖ *Above all, I will seek to be an effective teacher, scholar, and member of the academic community by providing competent education with compassion and respect for human dignity.*
- ❖ *I will help to create and maintain an educational environment conducive to the spirit in which these principles of educational ethics are written.*

As McKeachie (2002, p. 317) so eloquently wrote, "It is a great privilege to be a teacher. But all great privileges carry great responsibilities as well. ... [R]eflection should never stop, because conscious reflection on values is perhaps the cornerstone of the ethics of teaching."

Teaching Philosophy
by
Lisa Marie Assante, PhD
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Being associated with a university is about creating and capitalizing upon opportunities. From an educator's perspective, I believe an opportunistic approach to higher education encompasses the competencies known as the Six C's. As a professor, one can conceive a variety of opportunities by employing the following model:

- ❖ *Care – try to remember your best teachers and how they cared about you and do the same for your students;*
- ❖ *Communicate – enjoy getting to know the students as they are our future; not only talk to them but listen and hear what they have to say;*
- ❖ *Coach – believe in leading students to discover their own answers;*
- ❖ *Challenge – create a motivational learning environment where students want to work through the challenges of the course;*
- ❖ *Commit – bestow trust, respect, and support to all students; and*
- ❖ *Create– be creative in all aspects of classroom instruction by providing enhanced critical thinking, communication, and decision making skills to the students so they come away with some essential knowledge to serve as a basis to build upon in their own pursuit of success.*

I consider these competencies to be the foundation for my professor's toolbox, upon which I have drawn throughout my career. To me, teaching is the heart of a professor's job and if you possess these competencies I believe the actual skill of effective teaching will be developed.