**CD 2: Principles and Practices Assignment**

*Creating a Philosophy Statement*

For the duration of this course, I want you to be able to learn about the history, the ethical standards and the role of a teacher’s relationship is to this beautiful and challenging profession of early childhood education. By the end of this semester, with my guidance as well as your classmates, you will have a philosophy statement that you will be able to put in your professional portfolio. As you continue to take more child development courses, your philosophy will continue to evolve, but the essence of your *positionality,* in this profession, will still be rooted in this Philosophy Statement.

The following outline will help you with developing your Philosophy Statement:

* Format: 1-2 pages, written in the first person, with attention to language conventions, grammar, etc.
* Your goal should be to show that you have spent time reflecting on educational and developmental theories, the learning process, and how your teaching methods address this.
* Make sure you address what your goals for student learning are, how you enact those goals, how you measure whether those goals were met, and how you work to create an inclusive learning environment.
* **Make sure you address how your own philosophy is informed by at least two philosophies, theories, or approaches covered in this course or elsewhere.**
* To get started, ask yourself:
  + Why do you want to teach?
  + What do you think makes a teacher great?
  + What are you doing to become a great teacher?
  + What ideas about learning influence your teaching?
  + What theorists/approaches has influenced your ideas about teaching?
  + What do you hope your students will take away from your teaching?

Additional Questions to guide your writing:

1. Explore your experience and ask yourself questions: What do you believe about teaching? Learning? Think what do you like about other teachers in your life your own or observed ones.
2. Do the research and check a place you would love to work at and see their mission and their statement for signs of what they value most in teaching and learning.
3. Don't make a teaching philosophy statement a replica of your resume. It is not a simple list of what you've done.
4. Give examples of how exactly you implement or are going to implement the philosophical statement. Always show specific teaching techniques that you are using or will use to achieve that.
5. Mention your research interests in your philosophy teaching statement.
6. Don't overdo it. Keep it simple, understandable, and real, don't boast or exaggerate. Also show which techniques and methods your students have or will learn.
7. Don't forget that we are focusing on students and how you want to help them become successful individuals in our ever-changing society.