# Describing your rationale for teaching

The following questions will help you start on developing a statement of you teaching approach or philosophy. First think about a typical teaching situation or course you have taught.

**1. How do I teach?**

(Think about the teaching methods, materials, assessment tasks you set.)

**2. Why do I teach in this way?**

(What do you believe about your own teaching strengths and about the way students learn best that guides your teaching approach?)

**3. What evidence do I have that my approach is successful?**

(Or what evidence might you gather in the future?)

Some questions that will help you develop a statement of your teaching approach and philosophy

What excites you about what you teach?

What is your chief learning goal for your students?

How do you think students learn best?

How do you motivate your students?

What activities take place in your class and why have you chosen these activities?

How do you encourage students to talk to you and to each other inside and outside class?

What sorts of tasks do you set for students to assess their learning?

How do you give students feedback about their learning?

What have you learned from your teaching and how have you changed?