What are your big teaching goals?
Make them specific to you
What motivates and animates you?
What do you want your students to get out of their time with you and why?
Make sure they reflect your beliefs about teaching

How do you get to those goals?
Think about your assignments, activities, course materials, interactions with students, how you establish a class climate, etc.

Evidence
What evidence do you have that what you're doing is working?
Consider how your teaching promotes equity and inclusion
Think not just about ethnicity and socioeconomic status but about age, religion, academic preparedness, ability, gender expression and other identities.

Purpose
The teaching philosophy is a purposeful and reflective essay on your beliefs about teaching and learning and teaching practices.

Steps
Brainstorm, Write, Seek Input and Revise

Brainstorm
- What are your big teaching goals?
  - Make them specific to you
  - What motivates and animates you?
  - What do you want your students to get out of their time with you and why?
  - Make sure they reflect your beliefs about teaching
- How do you get to those goals?
  - Think about your assignments, activities, course materials, interactions with students, how you establish a class climate, etc.
- Evidence
  - What evidence do you have that what you're doing is working?
  - Consider how your teaching promotes equity and inclusion
    - Think not just about ethnicity and socioeconomic status but about age, religion, academic preparedness, ability, gender expression and other identities.

Write
- Do
  - Keep it short - 2 pages double-spaced max
  - Use a narrative, first-person approach
  - Include specific examples: How do you enact your teaching beliefs?
  - Show how you meet your goals through class activities and assessments
  - Make it personal
  - Be discipline-specific: How do you advance your field through teaching?
- Don’t
  - Don’t be vague. Ensure your audience has a clear sense of what you have done and how
  - Avoid a recitation of your CV and instead focus on showing your audience who you are as an educator
  - Limit the number of teaching goals you address (no more than 3-4 goals)

Seek Input & Revise
- Reach out for feedback from colleagues or CAT staff
- Think of this as a living document, not a “one and done” task

Questions?
For support writing a philosophy of teaching or to receive feedback on drafts, schedule a consult with a CAT staff person.