

Teaching Statement

As the son of a professor, education has always been present in my life. My goal as a teacher is to educate students in Computer Science by providing an equitable and engaging environment for everyone. I highlight some of my recent achievements below.

Research Supervisor

Conducting high-quality research in a laboratory involves preparing new students for their academic journey. In my years as a Ph.D. Student at Virginia Commonwealth University, I coordinated high school, undergraduate, and master's students in their research activities. More than twenty students received my supervision in three years of work. I have also supervised students in capstone and summer research projects such as the Dean's Early Research Initiative (DERI). As a research supervisor, I have always attempted to teach students, not giving them the answers but leading them to find their own solutions. I highlight below feedback I received from students in the last three years:

Student A: *"Personally, I feel that Felipe is the heart of the lab. I've worked with him for about 3 years at this point, which started when I was a rising senior in high school. Most of what I've learned in the lab has been from Felipe, who has been integral to the continuation of the lab's existence. Almost all of the most fascinating projects I have been exposed to in the laboratory have been either run by Felipe or heavily impacted by him, which I see as a testament to his creativity and intelligence. On a personal level, I love working with Felipe. Of all of the people I've worked with over the past 3 years, he has been the only one who has been here from start to finish for me, and I see him as not only a very valuable mentor and teacher but also as a friend."*

Student B: *"Felipe spends time making sure people working in the lab are happy, present, and understand the task. He is always willing to help students who might not understand something entirely by leading them down the path but not giving them the direct answer. He does a great job running the lab. Felipe also doesn't treat others as his subordinates. He treats everyone as a peer. He is willing to listen and take outside perspectives."*

Student C: *"What comes to mind when I attempt to describe my working experience with Felipe is patience. When I first joined the lab, I had no idea what I was doing or how the lab worked. No matter how many questions I asked or even how much stress he was under, Felipe was always patient with me. As a lab supervisor, Felipe was always the most responsible person in the lab."*

Lecturer and Teaching Assistant

Teaching is an impossible task without collaboration. In my initial years at Louisiana State University, I have been conducting students throughout their learning experience in Software Engineering. My classes are based on active learning methodologies, in a way that students are always participating in the classroom. I also propose regular in-class assignments and hands-on projects, so students can translate the theoretical knowledge to practice. As a graduate student at VCU, I have also served as a teaching assistant for Software Engineering classes and as a regular guest lecturer. As a teaching assistant, I had the opportunity to perform multiple tasks, such as grading exams and assignments, preparing learning materials, and supporting students with their difficulties in class. For several different courses, I have also given guest lectures on multiple topics. This semester (Fall'23), I have been working as a guest lecturer for the Fundamentals of Software Engineering class (CMSC 355), giving lectures every week on Software Testing, Requirements Engineering, Control Version Systems, Mixed Reality and Robot Programming. This experience, teaching a course under the supervision of an experienced professor, has led to my maturation as a lecturer. My goal when I lecture is to bring the topics to life, bringing intuitive and engaging materials for class, leading students to connect with Software Engineering concepts.

Recent Service

- (2024) **Advisor**
Robotics Laboratory, Louisiana State University.
- (2024) **Lecturer**
Software Systems Development (CSC 4330), Louisiana State University.
- (2023) **Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer**
Fundamentals of Software Engineering (CMSC 355), Virginia Commonwealth University.
- (2022) **Teaching Assistant**
Introduction to Software Analysis, Testing and Verification (CMSC 525), Virginia Commonwealth University.
- (2020) **Teaching Assistant**
Programming Languages (CMSC 403), Virginia Commonwealth University.