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I am a passionate teacher and I think critically about both course content and pedagogy. My enthusiasm is contagious and students leave my class amazed by the power of economic tools and the breadth of questions these tools can address. I take a student-centered approach to teaching and design my courses flexibly to adapt to the interests and needs of the class. I sensitively alternate lectures with classroom games, short video clips, and student presentations to keep students’ energy levels high and to promote active learning.

In an economics course, I believe that students should be led to critically examine and challenge the given assumptions in economic models. Using economic games and guided research, I encourage students in my classroom to actively engage with assumptions on information, preferences, interconnectedness, and the availability of specific policy instruments. By wrestling with these and their own assumptions about how the world works, students are able to better understand both the limitations of their own viewpoints and the validity of others’ perspectives. I love teaching courses with non-economics majors, and am thrilled when new students come to understand how economics can address the issues most relevant to them. I aim to provide our future leaders with the critical skills they will need when they enter the larger world and I expect that students in my courses will become inspired by the possibilities that economics offers.

I have a particular commitment to tackling issues of diversity in the classroom. My students at the University of Hawai‘i come from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and I enjoy incorporating their varied perspectives into my curriculum. In my teaching, I inspire students to understand how economic tools can address global issues of inequity, injustice, and inefficiency.

I have enthusiasm for this course material, clear and effective communication skills, and a commitment to meet the needs of every student. I keep clear, consistent, and reasonable expectations and I encourage each student to achieve at their highest ability. I understand that the role of a teacher goes beyond classroom instruction and involves guiding students into a life of learning through role modeling and mentorship. In addition to teaching economics, I aim to foster inquisitive, open minds in my students while instilling in them life lessons and values that will last through their adult lives.