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Teaching Statement

Since 2016 I have the pleasure to assume the role of Academic Director for the MSc Public Governance. This master's degree combines public management principles with political, economic and legal perspectives to tackle contemporary societal issues that are not caught by a single discipline or by national boundaries. Consider, for example, managing a refugee crisis, reducing financial fraud or unemployment. As Academic Director I am responsible for the organisation and administration of this degree programme, including curriculum development and accreditation efforts.

Further I am the programme's master's thesis coordinator and coordinator for the course Master's Thesis Tutorial, which represents the first corner stone towards the master's thesis. This course imparts an understanding of the functioning and the economic/societal value of research, introduces methods and provides guidance towards students' own research project. Next to this, I am lecturer in the master's course Governance & Economics and I supervise master's theses for the MSc International Management. What I appreciate about thesis supervision is that I can see the students grow in their pursuit to choose an original and feasible topic for thesis research and develop a creative interpretation thereof.

Recently, I have successfully completed the University Teaching Qualification (UTQ / BKO), a nationwide certificate of quality for lecturers. In this programme I have trained a broad array of pivotal competences for university teachers, such as developing education, teaching delivery and student assessment.

During my PhD at Maastricht University School of Business and Economics (SBE) I have been a tutor for several undergraduate courses. My focus was on second and third year courses in the field of microeconomics, behavioural and public economics. For a detailed course list, please see my CV.

In addition to the broad range of courses I have taught in public economics, microeconomics and research methods, I would be interested in teaching courses related to my research, i.e. behavioural and experimental economics. The courses that I have enjoyed most as teacher were those where I could incorporate links to my own field of research. In the course Governance & Economics, for example, I use computerised experiments as interactive element to showcase the functioning of markets and how governmental institutions, like for example certificates, can improve the efficiency of trade. Furthermore, in the context of an ensuing group assignment, students work with their own data. This is very hands-on and trains multiple facets of how to work with a dataset.

My priority in teaching is to establish an enjoyable learning atmosphere in the classroom, where students feel free to express their opinions or ask questions. At the same time, I encourage students to first make up their mind about how they can (try to) attain a solution for a given problem with the help of tools provided in earlier classes. I believe that critical thinking and an open mind are two of the core assets that students should take away from a university degree in general. One of the most rewarding aspects of my role as a teacher is to assist students in obtaining these abilities and to see them grow both academically and personally.