



# Understanding the University Context – Developing your Teaching Philosophy

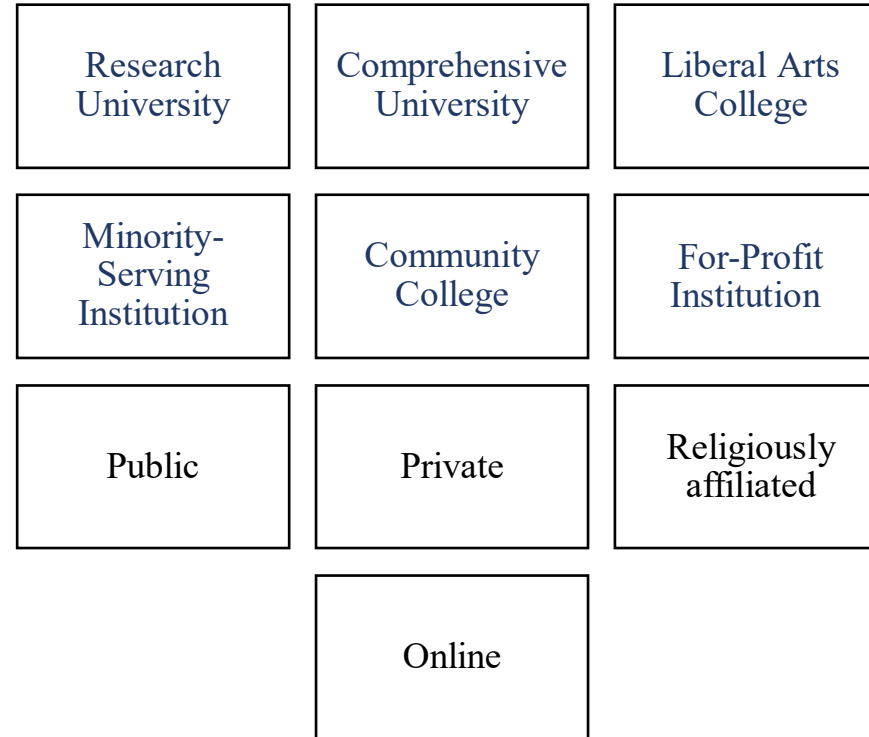
## Teaching as a Part of Faculty Life

**How many  
postsecondary  
institutions are  
there in the  
U.S.?**



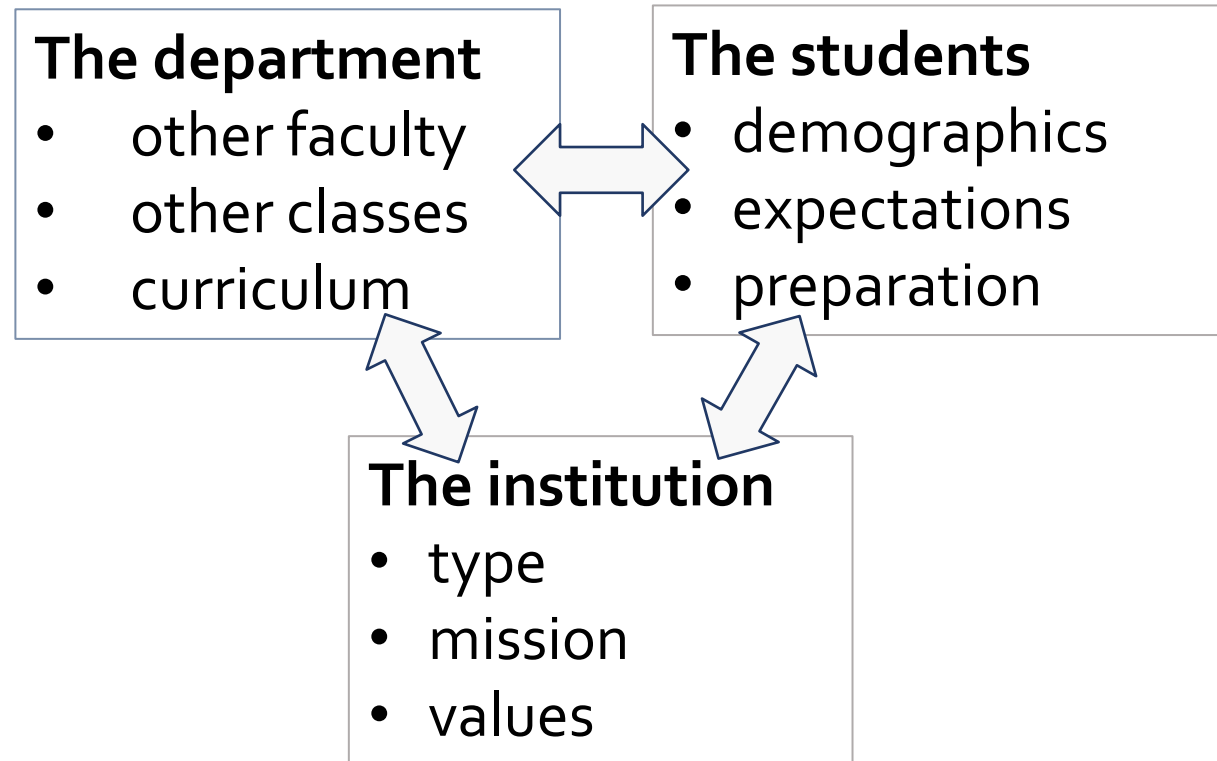


**There are over  
3,931  
postsecondary  
institutions in  
the U.S.**



# What is your teaching and learning environment?

The teaching and learning environment is larger than a single classroom



**MSU PhDs talk  
about teaching  
in their new  
faculty  
positions**



# **TEACHING IS CONTEXT SENSITIVE!**

**Where?  
For whom?  
About what?**

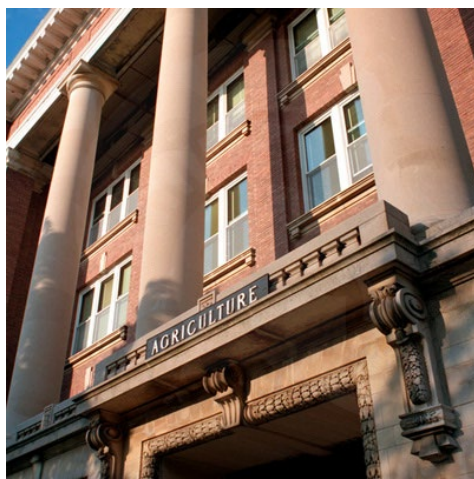


# Group Activity

Open the ["Institution Mission and Teaching Statement Document"](#)

## In your group

- Focus on assigned institution to discuss (not MSU)
- Based on the institution's mission/vision statement, what does it value in its learning experience for its students?
- Based on the faculty/teaching handbook, how does it evaluate its faculty?
- What surprised you in comparing these 2 statements? What question did this comparison raise for your group?



# When do these institutional statements matter?

- When you are a graduate student/ postdoc preparing for your career
- When you are applying for a job
- When you are a new faculty member



# How do you characterize your teaching style and approaches?

- How do they match institutional expectations?
- How do they match students' expectations?

# **TEACHING IS CONTEXT SENSITIVE!**

**Where?  
For whom?  
About what?**

# What do teaching positions look like now?

Figure 1. Number of faculty in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by employment status: Selected years, fall 2009 through fall 2021

