

# Rich Shumate's Teaching Principles

- Learning is a journey, not a destination – I look to the journey as well as the destination.
- All students have potential – I inspire them to find theirs.
- Confidence, courage, and curiosity are key to students' performance – I strive to help them build all three.
- Students need perspective – I let them see it.
- Expectations build students' confidence and skill – expecting perfection does not.
- I must meet students at the level where they are – not at the level where I might want them to be.
- I am a coach, I am a mentor – I am not a martinet.
- An education is more gotten than given – I must focus not only on subject matter but also on building critical thinking.
- We learn to live and live to learn – I must build lifelong learners.
- These students have been entrusted in me – I must remember that is a sacred responsibility.
- Once someone is my student, she or he is always my student – the relationship doesn't end with the class.
- The students are why I am here, and why I do this – or what is the point?