

**M. MICHAEL ZUCKERMAN, J.D., MBA, ACI,
PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING STATEMENT**

My responsibility at Temple University's Fox School of Business' Risk Management and Insurance Program (RMI), in addition to the development of Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and Alternative Risk Financing/Transfer programs, is to teach the following courses:

1. *Managing Risk Across the Enterprise* which is the capstone course for graduating Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) Majors on the Property/Liability Industry Track. This is a writing intensive course requiring a case competition;
2. *Property and Liability Insurance Operations* for the Master of Science in Actuarial Science Program;
3. *Enterprise Risk Management* in the Part-time MBA Program; and,
4. *Enterprise Risk Management* in the Executive MBA Program.

My teaching philosophy is to engage students in a meaningful way employing the Socratic method. To facilitate this teaching style, I invite my students to a fifteen (15) minute introductory meeting at the start of the semester to discuss the RMI industry and, if applicable, their career aspirations. Establishing a professional relationship with students creates an environment that encourages them to respond to my questions and, moreover, engage in a respectful but rigorous class room discussion.

My approach to the Socratic teaching practice relies, in part, upon consequential case method education. The cases cover a breadth and depth of Risk Management issues including Strategic/Enterprise Risk Management implementation and operation, Risk Control, International Risk Management, Alternative Risk Financing/Transfer (includes the use of Capital Markets, as applicable). I do consider the use of Harvard, MIT, and the Risk and Insurance Management Society(RIMS) Strategic and Enterprise Risk Center cases, but I do draw upon my career as a risk manager, and RMI broker and consultant to draft some of the cases used in my classes.

I am active in various professional organizations including the International Center for Captive Insurance Education (ICCIE), RIMS including its Strategic and Enterprise Risk Center, Vermont Captive Insurance Association(VCIA), Delaware Valley RIMS, and the Captive Insurance Company Association(CICA) to remain current professionally, and maintain state of the art course material. Currently, I am the Curriculum Chair for ICCIE which issues two professional certifications in captive insurance company management, the Certificate in Captive Insurance (CCI) and the more advanced Associate in Captive Insurance (ACI). And I am currently serving on the webinar development committee for the VCIA.

This professional association activity enables me to develop state of the art experiential learning in-class exercises. Furthermore, I have created an ERM Discussion Group for Chief Risk Officers from companies in the Delaware Valley to ensure that I remain current and continue to develop my ERM knowledge.

My philosophy dictates that the class room be a laboratory that promotes open dialogue in a nondiscriminatory environment that encourages students to experiment by expanding their view

of risk and make mistakes without retribution. All voices are heard and all students are treated as valued members of the class.

I also believe that the use of industry leaders to present relevant practice information (not just war stories) if properly staged improves the student's understanding of the course material and raises enthusiasm for the subject matter. This material is always incorporated into exams. Examples of current presentations include: "The Role of the Actuary in Alternative Risk Financing" (consulting actuary), "Understanding How a Fronted Captive Insurance Program is Underwritten" (PMA/Old Republic), and "Supply Chain Risk Management and Building Business Resiliency" (FM Global).

The capstone course is writing intensive. My philosophy for group projects is to require the students to produce a team written RMI subject research paper which is the basis for their case competition presentation. The goal for the team is to develop their skills by producing a seamless written and oral presentation demonstrating subject matter knowledge and team synergy. I also require that each project team meet with me prior to the case competition to develop or rehearse their oral presentation. This exercise is part of the presentation skills development process. Students are always encouraged to use primary research sources when possible. The case competition is judged by RMI Industry professionals.

Each capstone student must also draft an individual RMI research paper on a topic with which they wish to develop their expertise. I do require multiple drafts for each project. Reiterative writing is critical to the development of these skills within the Business Genre.

My teaching style requires that I provide my students with the type of support that enables them to succeed. To this end I use Blackboard to set up cyber reading rooms including material for Strategic Risk Management(SRM), ERM, Alternative Risk Financing/Transfer, and Writing Resources. And I do require use of the Writing Center for grammar and style editing.

My philosophy for teaching ERM includes the above mentioned processes modified as appropriate for MBA and EMBA students. An overview of COSO and ISO 31000 frameworks is important. But this course must encourage students to think about the importance for each organization to develop its own framework that reflects its unique needs, risk culture and profile. The importance of SRM, risk appetite, risk culture, developing intelligent ERM tools, risk identification/assessment, managing residual risk, and improved strategic and operational decision making are just some of the important concepts addressed by my approach to ERM education.

While I am not required to publish, my philosophy is to write practice articles as indicated by my CV to support my teaching. To this end I do sit on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Intermediaries & Reinsurance Underwriters' Association (IRUA) *Journal of Reinsurance*, and the AHC Media's *Healthcare Risk Management and Legal Review*. I also recently won a grant to develop ERM course material. My other goal is to develop a comprehensive captive insurance industry survey to teach RMI students about captive insurance company best management practices, and how a captive can drive ERM within its member/insured organizations.