

Reflection Journal #1: The College Experience

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It is exciting that we are asked to reflect on changes that we have made in class clinics or labs to influence student learning. There are two angles that I wish to take. The first is from an instructor's point of view and then from a student learning perspective. At this time, I have not pursued a faculty position with higher education or with a Fire and Rescue Organization. I have looked into ways that I could get a practicum or be a Teacher's Assistant (TA). As a TA, I could learn under the instructor's supervision. With the University of Bridgeport not having that option, I will have to take what I am learning in these courses and impart the learned behaviors later.

Regarding my learning as a student in the class, I have made changes in my thought process. The inventories that we took really were an eye-opener. Each learning style inventory had a vast self-realization about how I learn and what I am learning. It is important to view ourselves as a student when we teach. We must be reflective in the way that we know to put ourselves in a student's position. As I am pursuing my doctorate degree, I realize that the way I learn has grown and expanded. I am learning what I can do in my learning process and trying to adapt the level of prior knowledge to bridge what I am learning in the classroom. However, there are times where I tend to lack confidence in the subject even though I am a learned educator. It is the health profession's content that I am the novice at and must learn as I go. This is what I am learning and how it's influencing me to influence my future students too!

This may sound very premature, but I first would like to get a TA position to learn how to be an active instructor in an online environment first. However, when given a chance to implement the technology, I would like it to be an interactive learning opportunity for students where they use their phones or laptops to participate actively and effectively. The use of ZOOM with the students and share my screen and give examples of what I may be discussing, have them take a poll during the class time or even work in groups via ZOOM. There are always limited possibilities. I would like to create a fun time with Kahoot as well.

In the course, I would like to learn more about a course proposal. I have been a part of many processes of course proposals, but each has been different, and all seemed relatively informal. To learn the correct approach and the intricate details will be great.