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Many aspects of my life that have changed because of my liberal arts education, such as my actions, way of thinking, and beliefs. The goal of a liberal arts school is to provide students with many different experiences that will make them a well-rounded person. The experiences are meant to be out of the students' comfort zones and make them think outside the box. This will allow them to experience situations they would not normally encounter and think critically about them. These experiences come from being required to take different classes. These classes require synthesis and analysis of different cultures, works of literature, and religions. Taking these classes has required me to examine my ways of thinking and ultimately change my thoughts and views about the world. This has prepared me for teaching by allowing me to be more open-minded and respect other's views.

Being required to take classes that are not related to my major, but about topics that I would normally not receive much information on has helped me learn to be open-minded. There are many topics that might interest us, but because of our lack of knowledge about them, we choose not to discuss them. These classes give us the information needed to talk knowledgably about the topics. The topics are presented objectively and from many different points of view. Therefore I receive unbiased information regarding the topics. There are always two sides to a story and the material presented allows me to learn about the subject and then form my own opinion. The issues I have learned about have made me reconsider some of my beliefs. I am now more open to new ideas and people. I realize that even though people have different opinions we should always try to understand one another and compromise. In Expository and Critical Writing, the book "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" was read. I learned about a Hmong family and that different wishes for their daughters medical needs because of cultural beliefs. There was a lack of communication between the family and medical staff that resulted in the Hmong child having to live in a vegetative state. This unfortunate ending could have been avoided with time, patience, and more effort for effective communication. I now see that differences in beliefs or opinions should not hinder my attempts to compromise and ultimately obtain the solution that is in the best interest of my students.

Many times people who have different views than I do are people of diversity. Whether it is because we are from different cultures or because we were raised differently these people deserve respect. Once again the different classes I have taken here at Manchester