

My Personal Teaching Credo

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Introduction to Teaching

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Abstract:

It is my personal belief that teaching is one of the most important professions. Teachers are the ones who mold our youth and our future. In order to become a teacher, one must need a personal belief on how to teach their students. My personal belief in teaching is a blend of three different philosophical views which are progressivism, existentialism and social reconstruction. I have blended these views into my personal view, which is to make sure students have some freedom, teach subject matters that interest the child, and make sure I am creating good citizens who will go out into this country and become successful.

Teaching is not just a job; it's a way of life. I have had many teachers during my school career that have helped me figure out my true calling, which is teaching. Many teachers have also helped me shape my views and ways of teaching that I feel help students the best way possible. Teachers have a responsibility to students to help them as much as possible and to shape them into high citizens of society.

The first time I realized that I wanted to become a teacher was in my junior year English class in high school. I have always enjoyed reading and writing and knew that I wanted to do something in life with that. It was Mrs. Johnson, my English teacher, who suggested teaching to me. She told me that I would be a great teacher and that I would love it. I then realized that I did want to teach. My U.S History teacher, Mr. McCoy, showed me the fun and interesting side of teaching. He made lecturing fun and exciting, and taught me ways to make the most boring subject fun and interesting. I always enjoyed going to his class, and knew that this was an important part of teaching.

As a teacher, I believe that it is my duty to teach students to the best of my ability. I want to be an English teacher, and I believe the best way that I can teach is having the student's interests in mind. If an educator is not interested in the course or subject, they will not pay attention or want to learn. I believe that as a teacher, I have a duty to guide my students in the learning process. This means that I will help and guide them to make their own answers, which falls under Progressivism. I also believe that as a teacher I have to provide my students with the preparation to become outstanding citizens. It is my job and responsibility to make sure that students have the proper education to go out to be good citizens. Teaching should help educators to become successful and contributing members of society. Students should learn to become independent thinkers, but also to

work with others. This is why I believe in working in small groups to make sure students learn to work well with others. I feel that an open, communicative classroom is most effective. Discussion and exploration lets the students hear a different perspective on an issue. It also allows educators to become more open to different opinions. I believe that classroom discussions are very beneficial to students. Discussions allows student's thoughts and opinions to be heard, and teaches them to be more open and communication skills. I believe most of all that a student has to be comfortable to speak and discuss in a classroom. If they aren't comfortable with a teacher or their surroundings, they will have trouble learning and paying attention.

My personal philosophical view does not fit into one point of interest. It rather spans to three different philosophies. These philosophies are Progressivism, Existentialism and Social Reconstruction. My view falls under Progressivism more than any other belief. I fall into this category for many reasons. For example, I believe that students work better in smaller groups than larger ones. Smaller groups are more personal, and a teacher can have more one on one time with students to make sure they are understanding the lesson and course work. I also believe that student's should have more independence in a classroom. This does not mean that my students will run amok and do whatever they please. This simply means that I will not be a parent to them and hold their hand through everything they do. If students are shown that they can be trusted with some independence, they will be more comfortable in the class and trust you as the teacher and respect you as well. As high school students, which is the age level that I want to teach, they can have the responsibility to do the work and turn it in on time without me having to remind them. I also fall under the Existentialism category. This

goes hand in hand with letting students learn something that interests them. If students are not interested in the subject being taught, they will not care about the subject or their grade. Teachers need to find a balance between the standards that they must teach and the interests of their students. I believe that the best teachers are teacher that encourage self awareness in their students and help them to become independent thinkers. I believe that instead of teaching traditional values that teachers should help students develop personal views of interest. I also fall into the Reconstruction category.

Reconstructionists believe that one of a teacher's responsibilities is to mold and shape students into well shaped citizens who can make it in today's society. I believe that this is very important because one can teach a student everything they know, but if they can't function in society, they will get nothing from one's teaching. Teachers have a responsibility to make sure their students become model citizens. These philosophies have helped mold me into the teacher that I hope one day I will become

During my school years, I have had many different and interesting teachers. Some of these teachers have helped me learn to become great and successful in whatever I want to become. Others have not impacted me on a level that they needed. With these different teacher experiences, I have learned what it is to really be a successful teacher. One needs patience, kindness, a bit of humor and the willingness to work with students to make sure they become the best person they can possibly be. These teachers have each touched my life in different ways, and I am happy to know that they have influenced my life forever. The most important lesson they have ever taught me is to become an inspiring teacher and help students like I was to become the best person they can be.