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HUM 130

Prof. Rohrer

New opportunities and experiences provide great chances to learn and grow. As an elementary teacher, I will try to use every event that takes place at school or in my students' lives to teach. I believe that students learn by doing, and that everything can be turned into a learning experience. When students have real life examples and applications to what they are learning they grasp concepts and ideas better and ideas are committed to long-term memory. As a student, I was given the opportunity to "experience the arts" first hand through traveling to Italy for the Humanities 130 Experiencing the Arts course. I was able to take what I had learned in the classroom setting and apply it to the real life examples that I saw during my travels in Italy.

This travel course has opened the door to many more chances for new experiences. Before signing up for this class, I had only dreamed of traveling and exploring the world. I always thought that individuals that had substantial amounts of money were the only people who could travel for pleasure. I learned that even people who make a modest living, like teachers, can follow their dreams of travel through planning and saving money little by little. Now, that I have tasted genuine Italian cuisine and have witnessed the rolling hills of Tuscany, I may become addicted to traveling and experiencing more. More landscapes, more cuisine, different languages, and new cultures! After discovering how easy it can be to travel to other countries, I feel as though my aspirations of traveling may actually become a reality sooner than I could have ever imagined. This opportunity to go to Italy has gotten me excited about traveling and I am anxious to see where I can fly off to on my next adventure.

Not only has this trip influenced me to pursue traveling, it will also aid me in my classroom when I am an elementary teacher. I collected many Italian “artifacts” on my trip that will be great demonstrations in my classroom. One “artifact” in particular is the money. I had only a few Euros left when I got home, and rather than exchanging them back into American dollars, I have decided to keep my Euros in my scrapbook. This money will come in handy when I am discussing money in my classroom. Another subject that will benefit from my saving the Euros is social studies. When I discuss other cultures with my class, we can look at the money I saved, as well as the pictures I took from my trip. I am so excited to share my travels with my future classes.