

Jordan Souther
ENGL4000 MWF0800
Mr. Davis
Teaching Philosophy
26 Sept 2008

My Teaching Philosophy

For me, teaching is a life-long passion and desire. I enjoy learning new things and formulating new answers to new questions. Therefore, I view learning as a continuous process through everyday experiences, including emotional, cognitive, and physical experiences, by which new information is obtained about unfamiliar territory, as well as supplementing already known information. I want to provide as many opportunities for my students to “get it”. The hope of this continuous type of learning is that my students will be able to think critically and make well-educated decisions in life. They will be able to effectively express themselves via written and spoken media.

In order to achieve these reachable goals, it is my desire to provide true-to-life exercises, activities, assignments, and experiences that model expectations of students. This is accomplished through cooperative learning, lectures, hands-on (as much as possible with English content), and technology. To help me prepare for lessons, I will collaborate with my colleagues (even those outside my content area) to gain new insight and ideas for teaching the objectives and curriculum. One of my goals is also to provide a comfortable, inviting, and encouraging learning environment, which will inspire creative juices within each student. They will be positively encouraged and guided through every step of the learning process. I want all of my students to feel at ease and comfortable while in my classroom, so they are free to share their thoughts, concerns, opinions, and suggestions without fear of ridicule or rebuke.

My students will be assessed in a variety of different ways to gauge their level of understanding. These methods include, but are not limited to the following: traditional and formative tests, portfolios, open discussion with classmates (teacher as facilitator and moderator), presentations, and performance based assessments.

I will continually look for and explore new ways to engage my students and encourage them to strive for the best that life has to offer. I will reflect on each day, week, and school year to improve my methods, practices, and attitude. I never want to do it all the same way.