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Philosophy of Teaching

A teacher is one of the most influential people in any student's life and some cases one of the few role models in their lives as well. In today's society, the value of education can't have a price tag on it. The teacher's job is to deliver a sound education to all students regardless of, religion, sexual or cultural orientation and deliver it to the best of their ability so that no student will ever get left behind. Some of the students will go on and may become doctors, lawyers, maybe our nation's future leaders. That is why teachers should never take it lightly as they are teaching the future of our country. As a history teacher, I have a very important role in teaching the students of the community about history from all around the world and how different types of government works. I enjoy studying and willing to offer students electives are the Middle Ages, Asian history, nobility Japanese history, and world military history.

I firmly believe in the old saying "Those that never understand history are doomed to repeat it." Many wars in our world history broke out because of the cultural misunderstanding that two warring nations and their allies have. If we don't understand history we won't understand the cultural aspect of it. The culture we live in every day is part of the human experience and every day we live is part of history. In a country such as the US, students will come from all over the world as a result often different cultures will be present in my classrooms. My ultimate goal in any class that I teach the students to have a cultural understanding while making students feel welcome in my classroom. I will achieve this by providing them with a hand on approach to this idea. For example, in one of my model lesson plans, I have the students trying out some authentic food from Mesoamerica. Students will have a chance to taste (eat

historical foods.), Feel (feel historical clothing.), and Hear (listen to historical music.). These are examples that will have my students try in my classroom to get them to understand the importance of history and culture in my classroom.

Students should be able to show what they understand in multiple ways. There is so much more to teaching history than making students sit down having the students read chapter after chapter in a textbook and taking down notes. Historians have excellent reading, writing, research, and critical thinking skills. I want to pass these fundamental skills on to the students, and they can use them in their daily lives and their school work. Students will also use these skills as I ask them to build a fun unit project that will replace the standard testing for that unit. Students will use the skills described above and are always empowered to use their creative skills while learning the essential skills and standards of the era of history they are studying when working on these assignments.

Teachers should never stop learning in their field. For me as a history teacher, there is a wealth of information that is out there for me to study and teach to my students. Appalachian State University greatly enhanced my knowledge of history and taught me very well how to teach. I do have every intention of learning more in my field of study. I plan to gain valuable experience in my field before pursuing graduate work to tie up the loose ends of my undergraduate work. Some of this work includes learning Japanese and Spanish languages and learning how to read, write, and speaking them fluently. To me learning a language is like gaining another soul and becoming part of that culture. In the meantime,

I am very confident in my abilities as a teacher and I am more than ready to enter one of your classrooms and start teaching. I plan on continuing my education while gaining experience in the class. Students will benefit significantly from this as I continue to learn the art of teaching. I

believe in doing this by keeping the students engaged in the material such as letting the students experience history. For this reason, is to why many of my lessons will have a hands-on approach to them. Many of my lessons will have place culture at the center of it all and in doing so, I will make it clear any student regardless of their race, religion or sexual orientation who is eager and ready to learn can have a seat in my classroom.