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Reflection Paper Final

CIS102T

Prof. Coppola

This course has been a real eye opener for me. Upon entering this class, I wasn’t aware of what was to be done in order to complete the course. At first and also at different stages in the process, I started to feel intimidated because it was so out of the ordinary for me. In addition, I am a perfectionist and wanted to make sure for the seniors’ sake as well that I was doing everything correctly and most efficiently. It turned out well and I have had such a wonderful time growing and learning about this.

I also came to some realizations about the learning process and how attitude and perception of personal experience really tailors the learning process’ journey. I had two seniors that I worked with this semester that are very different people with different backgrounds in their breath of knowledge regarding technology and computers.

Ruth started off with a wonderful contextual education on computers. It was a great starting point for our tutoring sessions. Pauline was not in that same place. She had almost no previous experience with the computer and in addition, she also has a language barrier with English not being her first language. So I had to adjust my teaching with each of them from one hour to the next.

Over the course of my time with each of them certain character traits changed my perception that was based on my first assumptions of what I saw. Ruth became more difficult to work with in one respect. She never wanted to do anything outside of gmail, or any particular question she had for that week. And whenever I assigned, asked, or encouraged her to practice outside of our one hour session each week I was met with much resistance. She always told me she was very busy and never found the time to dedicate to practice what I was teaching her.

Graduation was a beautiful experience. Being there together with all of the seniors commemorating on our time spent together was such a wonderful way to end the semester. I know some weeks were more challenging than others for both the tutors and the students and graduation was a nice way to leave things on a very positive note. I think our class did a great job on decorating and setting up. Marnie and Timothy were a great help as well. They were always on top of what was going on in the program and they helped keep everyone on track. It was such a courtesy to the seniors that they would check each session to make sure that the teachers were there as they were supposed to be. And I think it was funny how we brought so much food and we ate most it ourselves. Overall it was a fantastic experience and I’m looking forward to continuing my friendships with both Ruth and Pauline.

I believe these types of programs should be offered free of charge to all seniors around the world. It is a shame that so few are offered such an experience because most people couldn’t afford such extra-curriculars. I’m glad to be doing my part in the community because I truly believe that every little bit helps. Thank you Professor Coppola for the opportunity!