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Reflection

Intergenerational Computing taught by professor Jean Capolla was one of the most touching and educating course I ever took at Pace University. At first, when I started this course I thought it was all going to be about learning more aspects of the computer, and more details about how its built and how to use every program. Then I realized where going to be going to nursing homes and going to teach the elder’s who reside there how to use the computer. I thought this was a great idea and really took pride in the work that I was doing.

The first couple of weeks at United Hebrew it was a bit hectic. There was a lot of people who were unsure who they wanted to work with, some didn’t show up, some elderly people were excited and some opted out. I fortunately worked with many different people for the first three weeks but then finally had a steady student. His name was Alan Parker. He was born in the Bronx, New York, he traveled around the world and actually used a type writer when he younger at his jobs. He told me, he totally forgot how to type and wants to relearn to type and use the computer. We were both up to the challenge and ready to go. We started by typing on the key board, I showed him how to use the internet and how to browse the web. Using the mouse was most difficult for him but he eventually found out how to do it. I made a e-mail for Alan he was

so happy that he can talk to family and send pictures through e-mail, he felt so accomplished which made me so happy also. We both gained happiness from this experience and I felt like I served the community in a great way and touched someone’s life.

The text book and the exams from the class taught me so much and answered a huge amount of questions that I had. I know more about computers and the programs and devices now than I ever did. Also from professor Capolla, I learned how to stay calm and happy and always be willing to help someone who doesn’t know something. The drive was very far for me, but very worth it. To see Alan Parker cry because he is more caught up with technology and now can communicate with his family touched my heart so much. Making someone older smile and actually making them looking forward to doing something on the computer at that age is honestly remarkable. I learned that serving the community gives you a great feeling and helps you and the people your serving, so it’s a win/win situation. Overall, I am so glad I took this course.

I thanked Eileen Murphy for giving me the opportunity to take this class and learning many things. I took many classes that I hadn’t really learned anything or get anything out of it, but I definitely will recommend this class to everyone at Pace. This class gave me a new feeling on how to approach old people and learn they are very capable on learning anything with great help. Jean did a great job on leading us and she is a great professor and perfect for this course and I really feel like I accomplished something great by helping out the elder’s at United Hebrew.