



Anamarie
Mixon


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learn - understand - create

Teaching Philosophy

Albert Einstein once said, "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." I believe adventure can be found through education. I also believe education is one of the most powerful platforms through which lives can begin to change. Teaching with excitement and enthusiasm creates an environment that invites understanding and creativity. I believe learning should be fun, challenging, and never-ending. Learning is deeply intrinsic in each of us, what makes the difference in moving from learning to understanding to creating is the teacher's ability to learn how their students learn. My primary goal for myself as an educator is to bring my students to a place of understanding and creating in the learning process.

My Expectations for Myself

- To create an environment that is fun, inviting, and safe for my students to learn and express ideas through creative learning activities, hands-on experience, and storytelling
- To identify strengths and weaknesses in each of my students and help them understand how to grow in each of those areas
- To listen to and respect my students
- To be on time and prepared for each lesson by planning my teaching activities in advance and preparing materials
- To create learning activities that are fun, memorable, and challenging
- To allow for flexibility in the learning process
- To be approachable and available for my students



Learning happens in many forms, in my classroom I will utilize a student-centered teaching approach where myself and my students will contribute equally to the learning experience. I will employ a variety of teaching methods that will help students grow from learning to understanding to creating.



My Expectations for my Students

- To be on time and prepared for each lesson
- To be kind, respectful, and accepting of all individuals in the class
- To work hard and put forth your best effort
- To ask for help when you need it
- To be bold in exploring new and different ideas
- To not give up! No matter what. Learning will be hard, some topics are harder for others to understand; together we can conquer any obstacle

I will not tolerate:

Cheating

Lying

Being disrespectful to myself or others

Being a slacker - In this class everyone gives 110%

Technology - no phones, laptops, or tablets unless necessary for a lesson

Background & Commitment to Continuing Education

I have a varied background in teaching and training. For the last five years I have worked in higher education, during this time I completed a master's degree in Strategic Communication and Leadership. I have facilitated a graduate level communications lesson, training and development workshops with community organizations and volunteered as a small group leader for first-generation, first time in college freshman students. Prior to now, I taught life guarding and CPR classes for six years. I taught the junior lifeguard program with the Pensacola Beach Lifeguards for three years. I served as an assistant swim coach for Gulf Breeze High School for three years and Tate High School for two years and taught swim lessons and coached swimming for The Club; a year-round swim club for eight years.

I pledge to continue to grow in my own education as long as I am able. I fail as a teacher if I quit learning. I will attend workshops, training, and classes to stay current and relevant in teaching and learning.

In closing, Ken Bain sums up what I believe a great teacher is in his book, What the Best College Teachers Do, "Great teachers are not simply great speakers or discussion leaders; they are, more fundamentally, special kinds of scholars and thinkers, leading intellectual lives that focus on learning, both theirs and their students'. Their attention to the details of performance stems from a concern for the learners, and their focus is on the nature and process of learning rather than on the performance of the instructor."