

EDC G460 and G660  
Prof. Sevian  
Fall 2006

## **Assignment 2 – Reflections on Learning Environment in Pre-Prac Classroom Observed**

Due date: October 4

Can be handed in on paper at the beginning of class, or emailed as a Word document attachment prior to class. Please see late policy in syllabus.

### Assignment

Find a teacher in an urban classroom at the teaching level (i.e., middle or high school) and subject in which you are seeking initial licensure. Observe at least one hour (preferably more) of that teacher teaching in his/her classroom.

### What to reflect on

Consider the four components of effective learning environments described in the How People Learn reading assignment (learner-centered, knowledge-centered, assessment-centered, and community-centered). Compare the class(es) you observed to the four-component model described in HPL. Look for evidence of how what you observe is and is not learner-centered, knowledge-centered, etc.

### What to turn in for your essay

Write 2-3 pages. Write respectfully, in such a way that you would feel comfortable sharing your essay with the teacher you observed.

### A note on formatting (my idiosyncrasies)

Do not use a cover page. Your essay can be single- or double-spaced, however you prefer. Please do not use a font size smaller than 10 point size, and please do not use Comic Sans font. Also, do not use lengthy quotations from the HPL text. I do not care which citation style (e.g., APA 5<sup>th</sup> edition) you use, and you can make up your own if you like. Just use a style that includes enough information that a resource can be looked up by the reader, and be consistent.

### Criteria for evaluation

These will be discussed in class and we will determine a breakdown/rubric by consensus. Possible criteria to consider include:

- Essay addresses all four components of the learning environment
- Essay provides evidence of how the class that was observed is and is not like each of the four.
- Clarity

Please contribute your own criteria to the class discussion. I'm leaving room below (or on the back) for you to write down what we decide in class will be the rubric for this assignment.