

Peer Evaluation – Teresa Brown 10/5/10 Foundations in ECIS (grad, f2f)

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I. Instruction: Comment on the teacher’s class organization and presentation of the material. Was there a clear introduction to the lecture, a main body, and class summary? Was the teacher knowledgeable of the subject matter? Did s/he explain terms and concepts clearly?

- Teresa provided a good background on ethics and morals in general, then an explanation of professional ethics and ethical responsibilities in ECIS in particular. She broke it down into categories according to NAEYC’s ethical standards: Ethical responsibilities to child, family, colleagues, and the community.
- Teresa demonstrated her knowledge of the subject matter and also brought in her own insights on her professional experiences as a teacher.

II. Teacher/Student Interaction: Comment on teacher’s ability to encourage student involvement. How were the students and teacher interacting? Did the teacher guide discussion effectively? How?

- Teresa asked questions of the group to engage the participants. Although not all students spoke up in the whole group discussion, most if not all were engaged in the small group discussion (this is fairly typical in my class – it takes some of them a while to warm up!)
- Teresa also used the appropriate amount of “wait time” after asking questions. She paused for a few moments after asking a question, then when no one responded, she provided her own examples, which seemed to scaffold the students’ thinking. This was necessary for some of the students who were taking this course as their first-ever class in the Master’s program, and some of them did not have or had very minimal teaching experience.

III. Teaching/Discussion Methods/Style: Comment on teacher’s teaching strategy.

- Teresa used visuals through a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate key points.
- She used a good balance of individual activities, small group discussion, and large group discussion to address the different preferences of students.
- She also asked engaging questions and real life ethical scenarios for students to think about, including her personal professional experiences as a teacher of young children. She spoke about her professional experiences to bring the topic to life but was also respectful of her children’s and families’ privacy and confidentiality.

IV. Media/Handouts: Comment on the teacher’s use instructional media or other written materials.

- Teresa used a PPT presentation and handouts including NAEYC’s Code of Ethics and NAEYC’s decision-making process for ethical issues.

V. General Comments: Evaluate this class as a whole, and comment on teacher’s teaching strengths, weaknesses, and areas in which improvement is needed or encouraged

- Teresa applied concepts from Bloom’s taxonomy in her presentation by incorporating activities that require the following higher-order thinking tasks: **analyze** (compare and contrast), **evaluate** (ethical scenarios), **create** (list of values in ECIS), **synthesize** (“take home message”).

- Teresa's overall demeanor was very positive and approachable.
- Teresa also used collaboration as a learning strategy. In my experience in teaching this class thus far, this seems to help in terms of the diverse mix of students (the students with limited or no teaching experience can learn from the more experienced teachers with 10+ years of teaching experience)
- THANK YOU FOR TEACHING IN MY CLASS! ☺