Assignment One – The Human Relations Incident (HRI)

Background - Since you are enrolled in this class you are probably considering a career in education. The purpose of this class is to get you to think about education careers and find answers to questions such as: "What are the characteristics associated with effective teaching?" "What makes one educator effective and a second not?" And, most importantly, "Do I have the attributes that will allow me to become an effective educator?"

Being an educator is not the right career choice for everyone. Just as certain talents and interests are needed to become an accountant, nurse, fire fighter or engineer, there are essential characteristics for becoming an effective educator. Most experts agree that the essential ingredients for being effective teachers include: a significant knowledge base, teaching skills, and dispositions (if you are not sure what dispositions are, don’t worry we will get to that in the course). This course will focus on what education careers are like and about the dispositions needed to be an effective educator. Our main goal is to help you discover if you have “the dispositions to teach.”

Assignment - For this assignment you will describe a situation in which you interacted with one or more people in helping or teaching role. The event you describe does not need to be a formal teaching situation. It may be something that happened on the spur of the moment, with a friend or relative, etc. What you write will become part of your portfolio (the materials you will prepare for admission to the education program should you decide to pursue a teaching career) and will also be used in a longitudinal study being conducted to better understand the process by which educators are prepared. Most importantly, however, you will use what you write in this assignment later in the course to help you decide if an education career is right for you, so please take your time and answer as thoroughly as possible. Please use the following instructions:

Think of a significant event that involved you in a teaching or helping role with one or more persons. The event you describe should be one that has personal meaning for you (something that interested you, something that made you wonder, something that made you feel good, something that just didn’t work out as you had hoped, etc.). It would be helpful if you describe feelings about the situation. Include as much detail as possible when answering the following questions:

Describe the situation as it occurred at the time.

What did you do in that particular situation?

How did you feel about the situation at the time you were experiencing it?

How do you feel about the situation now?

What would you change, if anything?

FORMAT: Must be submitted electronically on Blackboard or typed (maximum 500 words- one page double spaced) with the following on the top of the page:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Security Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Number and Term</td>
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<td>Assignment # 1</td>
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