Philosophy of Introduction to Education

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 In a world without education, there is only chaos. As a future high school History or English teacher, instruction is going to be a major part of my curriculum. My philosophy is based on existentialism with a touch of realism. Students should have a right to speak what is on their mind but also be held responsible for what they say. Making sure my students understand the content is my number one priority. My teaching philosophy and my values will keep a straight outlook for the students.

 State and District standards are made for a reason. But as a teacher you shouldn’t only stick on what you learned from the standards. As the years move on teachers need to update their teaching methods so that the students will pay attention and most likely understand the content. One way I will keep their attention is assign pop quizzes, but without any grade value. That way they will know what they got wrong without hurting their grade. Another method I love is hands on learning. I always paid attention more in class when I was actually doing something instead of writing notes all day. I will have my students move around and do projects in groups and present in class. That way the knowledge will stick to them. The old saying still works, “Give a man a fish, feed him for a night, Teach a man to fish, you feed him for life.”

 In a successful classroom, students have things to look at but not get distracted. My classroom will have a more realism part towards my philosophy. That way when they walk in the room they know that it is a place of learning and intellectual thought. As far as my seating arrangement I want to have rowed chairs facing the front of the classroom. That way it is still easy for them to get into groups to work on assignments. At the beginning of the year I will hand out a syllabus explaining the rules of the class and also allowing them to make rules of their own. Then the students will feel like they have some responsibility and say how the class is run.

 Just because I am existentialist doesn’t mean I won’t have high expectations for my students. This will mean I expect my students to be neat and organized, and also I must be. I will present a professional front so I don’t give off the vibe as trying to be the student’s friend. In the beginning of each year I will cut them some slack but after the first month they should all fall into the groove of how things are ran, and how the quality of their work should be.

 Tolerance is another big subject with my students. Even in the first week I may accept low quality work but I will not accept bad attitudes and class disruptions. With this my students will know that I am there to teach and they are there to learn. My method is simple, I will use participation points to help guide their behavior. When a student acts up, the first time I will take away points. If it happens more than once i will send them out of my class and look that they get into a different one or maybe a study hall. If I go the road of history I will be sure to cover Japanese culture in the mid 1500’s. Mainly because everything that they did was out of respect and honor for one another and would go to extreme lengths to prove said respect. That way my students will know how different our culture is and explain that respect and honor are still important, just not so important that people would do things the would later regret.

 I didn’t receive a quality education when I went to high school. My teachers didn’t motivate me and encouraged me to graduate with the minimum grade average needed. That is why I want to become a teacher. To give students the education they deserve and not let them slack off those four years like I did. I will give my students an education that allows them to have an open mind, but have them remember that I still have control. That is why I know that I will be better than my teachers that looked down on me and have mu student look back at high school and be glad they took the extra mile and tried their hardest.