Positive and Negative Learning Experience

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Learning experiences are important to a number of conditions, including scaffolding, curriculum, and instructional methods. Most students, adults or children, will experience a number of positive and negative learning experience over their lifetimes, everything from poor team experiences through a strongly influential teacher (Chase, 2010). These learning experiences will create impressions and preconceptions in other classes, and they add to the diversified classroom experience (Chase, 2010). Chase (2010) maintains that understanding the importance or relationship past, present, and future learning experiences begins with examining positive and negative learning experience.

Students taking education experiences will learn about diversity in their classrooms, in their curriculums, and even in their teaching methods. Many students will be asked to compare adult learning experiences and evaluate them for potential changes that could have occurred to make the learning experience better, or what was better about the experience. (Chase, 2010). As I type this paper, I will write about a positive learning experience that I have had.

Most of my adult learning experiences occur online through the University of Phoenix and at Kendall College out of Chicago, IL. However, as a teacher for the Community Action Project, I experience this other type of learning environment, which includes the learning opportunities for the students in my classroom but it also provides learning experiences for the parents of the students in the program. The Community Action Project Headstart Program offers positive learning experiences for parents and families, through the involvement of the Career Advance program and the GED program. The Career Advance program offers parents of the students in the program a way to go through nursing school and the GED program is for parents who don’t have a high school diploma and would like to get a GED to begin getting themselves together for their children.

The University of Phoenix is an online environment classroom where I have participated in getting my first Masters degree in Early Childhood Education and now working on a second Masters degree in Adult Education and Training. I was on the verge of quitting because a class I had previously was not a very good experience. The teacher was very negative and the tone of the class was very demanding and sometimes offensive. I decided to try and take one more class before I decided to quit. When I began the class the teacher began by saying words of encouragement and made the online classroom feel very inviting and positive. The class was an online class during this course of study. The learning team group that I had was awesome as well. The whole learning environment was very professional and positive.

The intended outcome of the instructor was to learn to work together to become effective instructors of adult learners in postsecondary and training environments. The goal for the class was to provide a fun atmosphere that educates students about expectations of becoming instructors of adult learners. Instructional strategies used by the instructor included a number of discussion questions each week. The discussion questions were there for the learners to discuss among other peers in the classroom. The instructor also provided assignments that allowed for us to research in depth for different topics where we wrote papers on what we researched. We were challenged on different levels and it was a diverse learning environment.

This was a positive learning experience because it met the goals stated in the syllabus. The instructor was very helpful and if you needed help on any assignment she would make sure she would word things in a different way in order for the students to understand what she was trying to teach. This experience was fun, and most of the class enjoyed the class. The materials were valuable resources that could possibly help in a later class. This was also a positive experience because by the time I finished with the class I didn’t want to quit anymore.

A negative learning experience was also dealing with an instructor from University of Phoenix. When the class began the instructor did not really introduce himself and also by the first day the instructor seemed kind of rude from the very beginning. There were three of us in the class that had previous classes together before and asked the instructor to be on the same learning team. He sent back an answer in all caps saying that he was the instructor of the class and we could not suggest or ask him about learning teams because he would place people where he wanted them. There were several assignments that I didn’t understand and I asked for help. The instructor never got back with me at a reasonable time. I felt that the instructor did not want to help me, or he would always give vague answers and I still did not understand. The learning team I was on was one of the worst learning teams I had ever been a part of. The whole class was a total negative experience to where I did not want to finish the class.

The negative experience of this class was the lack of empathy the instructor had for the online classroom and the students that were part of the class. The intent of the classroom was for the students to learn different trends in adult learning. The class lacked the instructor being an instructor and providing feedback to students in a timely manner. One of the students in the class even left University of Phoenix after the class because of how negative the instructor and the learning team were.

Negative and positive experiences may take on many different forms, and addressing diversity within the learning environment may be acted on by learning materials, behaviors in the classroom, or by some combination of all the tools (Chase, 2010). Negative experiences that you may encounter, can sometimes make you rethink the decisions that you made to partake in a particular experience, but after completing the experience you come out of it that much stronger. Positive experience provides you happiness and allows you to feel as though you have accomplished a goal that you set forth. Chase (2010) states, education involved a number or different classroom needs, and creating the best sources of instructional tools are the first step to success.

Reference

Chase, J. (2010). Positive and negative learning experience: Campbell middle school

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