

Samples of Student Philosophy of Teaching ELLs

Sample 1:

ELL Teaching Philosophy

As a teacher I hope to provide an aid to my students, therefore making their dreams and their goals attainable. My ideal teaching job would have to be in a parochial school teaching first graders, however anywhere from fourth grade and down would also be of preference. Along with teaching my elementary students the traditional subjects I will be able to teach music class and direct a choir. Finding a job where I could do both teaching in a classroom and teaching music would be the ultimate job. In order for me to be able to teach in that type of setting, I have certain beliefs and views of how my classroom should be run.

I believe that every student has individual needs and it is our job, as teachers, to fulfill those needs. I want to set my students up for success and that means they need to be motivated. ESL students are motivated when they feel encouraged and they can comprehend the content. In order to help them comprehend we must know their struggles and provide additional aid. Understanding what may be difficult tasks for ELL students and why, will help me know how I can better adapt my lessons to fit their needs. I believe that ELL instruction needs differentiation and in a variety of ways. When I have an ELL student in my future classroom I know that I can provide visuals, extra materials, a peer partner, or a number of things to support them and motivate them to work for success.

Sample 2:

My Personal Philosophy for ESL students and those teaching them:

- I believe a classroom should be structured and organized because if you as the teacher aren't how are you supposed to expect your students to be. Students lead by example and if you're not setting a good one, they won't either. This is especially good for ESL students because they will feel safer and more relaxed in your class if they have a routine that they know will stay the same.

- I believe Technology is becoming a major part of learning and is unavoidable in the classroom today. Students of all ages need to be taught the basics no matter what they are thinking about becoming when they get older. For ESL student's technology can be a good way for them to communicate and translate things they don't understand along with providing a lot of good activities for them to learn from.
- I believe students are naturally intelligent. Some just require more work to find it. You need to dig deep inside of them and find it. Find which learning style is best for them and use that to your advantage. ESL students may take longer to find out what their learning strategies are because of the language barrier but just work with them little by little and try new things to see what works.
- I believe how you get to an answer is more important than what answer you got. If you don't understand the process chances are you won't get the right product again given a different question. ESL students need to be taught how to properly form sentences and word choice rather than just putting it into a translator where it can be helpful are sometimes wrong.
- I believe students should engage in a variety of multi-sensory activities because it is more enjoyable for the students and it gives them a better understanding of the topic. There are more things going on so their brain is more focused on every aspect and there is less chance of the mind wondering. This helps ESL students especially because they are able to make connections between their first language and the object and then to English.

Sample 3:

Teaching ESL students in any classroom can present challenges for the teacher but any changes made to a lesson for an ESL student would help the teacher further understand the material and help other non-ESL students as well. Teaching ESL students regular subjects as well as English will be important for their future as a member of the community in the United States. I will be important to be enthusiastic with those students and to have patience.

If I want my students to have the best chance learning I will need to get to know my students. I will need to know where they are at academically and also their background as well, this includes their cultural views as well. I will need to become familiar with different cultures and how those cultures view and understand language. This will help me understand where my ESL students are coming from. It will also be important to find time to understand their parents and communicate with them. I think that it is important to meet with their parents and if needed have a translator so that they will find meaning in their education as well.

As with any student in my classroom I want my ESL students to feel respected and be respectful. This might look different in different cultures and it will be important for me to address that with the whole class. I want every student in my classroom to be comfortable in the learning environment.