

## (non) NCUR Reflection EDSP 306

### **(1) How has COVID-19 impacted you as a student? Share as much or as little as you'd like. This is your reflection and I want to be sensitive to everyone's experiences;**

One of the main ways the COVID-19 has impacted me as a student is all my classes are now online (just like most other students). I already had one online course this semester, and I took two online courses last summer. While I do have experience with online courses and thought it would be fairly easy to transition, it has been overwhelming just trying to keep up with all of my courses and making sure that I understand the new format, new assignments, and new deadlines. It will just take a bit of adjusting, but I know I will be able to do it. I just need to get in the routine, so hopefully after this first week I'll have it down better. Additionally, I am living at home for the rest of the semester. I was a Resident Advisor this year, and at the end of last week I chose to resign from this position rather than go back to live in the residence hall for the rest of the semester. This was really hard for me to do, so I've been trying to process this change the past few days. I'm the type of person who likes to finish what I've started, so not finishing out the year as an RA is going to be tough for me. However, I decided that my own health and safety as well as my family's health and safety needed to come first. I didn't want to come home to visit for a weekend and expose my family if I had been exposed to the virus while living in the residence hall. I feel that I have made the right decision, but there are still little parts of me that try to tell myself that I should've just gone back and finished out the year. I am working to move on from this, so I can solely focus on classes. I am trying to stay positive and not be hard on myself, I think it might just take me a little longer than I had hoped.

### **(2) As a future educator (or professional), I'd like you to think through what you'd do for your students/families/clients if the COVID-19 pandemic 'hit' post-graduation—what measures would you put in place to connect and support?**

One thing I would like to have as a teacher is a blog or a website to communicate with families. Having something like this that parents regularly check during the school year would help to make a smoother transition if something like this virus came up. If parents were used to checking the website once a week, I think asking them to do so to get learning activities and resources for kids to use at home would be reasonable. I would hopefully already be aware of families without internet access. For these families, I would work to send out the same communication and similar resources by mail. For families that had the means to do a video chat, I would work to set up times to do so. This would provide me with the opportunity to check in with them to see how they are doing and how I can better support them at this time. I could also communicate over the phone if families didn't have access to tools needed for a video chat. I would strongly suggest that anyone who could meet over video chat do so, though, because I think that kids would enjoy being able to "see" their teacher, and I'd love to "see" them too. If families and students wanted to do a check-in video every week or two, I'd be more than happy to do so. My students could show me what they had worked on, and this would help me figure out what other resources and activities to post on my website. I would also try to find a way for students who weren't able to access video chat to share their work with me. I think there are probably apps I could use, or I could even have parents text me pictures or short videos of their child's work. I believe that it is so important for teachers to show interest in their students' work and learning, and this would allow me to continue to do this for my students even if we weren't able to all be together.

**And finally, (3) how can I support you for the rest of the semester? What things do I need to make sure to have in place to ease this time of uncertainty?**

What you have posted has already been so helpful—thank you! The course schedule for the rest of the semester is clear, and I am easily able to tell exactly when things are due. I like how you give us a week at a time to complete the work. I really like that you are trying to keep the schedule as consistent as possible to what the old schedule was. I appreciate that! I just have one suggestion—I would post the template for quiz 3 soon, so students could work on it as they go through each week if they would like to do so. I know that a couple times on the last quizzes I had a hard time remembering what activities we did and how discussions went back at the very beginning of the module. I just noticed that this module is longer than the others (and the switch to online classes splits it up more), so I thought providing students with the opportunity to work on the quiz as they go might be helpful for some people. Again, thank you for all of your support and kindness during this time.