

To:

Dr. Andrea LaChance, Chair, and all committee members
Personal Committee of Dept. of Childhood/Early Childhood Ed.

Dr. Cynthia Benton, Chair of the Dept. of Childhood/Early Childhood Ed.

Dr. Ed Caffarella, Dean of School of Education

Chair and all committee members of Personal Committee of SUNY at Cortland

Date: May 11, 2006

Dear Sir or Madam:

I believe that I was very fortunate to have Dr. Lin as my professor for EDU 375. Dr. Lin is a perfect example of what every professor should be like. She is an intelligent woman who is committed to teaching and inspiring her students to persevere in their academic studies.

The syllabus for the course was followed on time and all of the course objectives were met. I really enjoyed going to Dr. Lin's class! We were active participants in real lessons that we can use in our future classrooms. For example, the tug-of-war game we played in class to teach students about the American Civil War. We also watched thought provoking videos such as "The Eye of the Storm" which discussed the stereotypes and prejudices people had against African Americans during the 1960's through a real life class experiment. All of the group work we conducted in class allowed us to get to know each other well and learn from each other. Some of the things I learned in this course include teaching from multiple perspectives, incorporating Gardner's intelligence theory and other subject areas, using primary sources, integrating technology, and different ways to assess student's knowledge.

The unit plan was the most important assignment for the course because we had to develop our own lesson plans on a specific topic. Thanks to Dr. Lin's help, I have been able to develop a unit plan that I can use in the future. I plan on incorporating it with my professional portfolio to show at interviews for teaching positions.

Dr. Lin was always prepared and maintained a level of professionalism throughout the course. Her optimistic personality made me feel comfortable in the class and willing to discuss any concerns with her that I may have had. Dr. Lin always gave us ample opportunities to ask questions on any of the assignments for the course. We were encouraged to send her emails and make appointments with her. She also gave us feedback on our assignments, which is a characteristic of a good professor because students find comments helpful in order to improve their work or for purposes of positive reinforcement.

As a first year professor here at the college, Dr. Lin has done a superb job! It takes time to get adjusted to a new place and new teaching position while managing her personal life and taking a technology course at night. I admire her hard work thus far and

I believe that she will be able to make an even greater impact on the students in SUNY Cortland the longer she stays here.

Dr. Lin also enhances the diversity of staff represented in the Education department. I hope she continues teaching here at SUNY Cortland not only to teach students how to be effective teachers when teaching Social Studies but also to inspire students to work hard and set an example for her colleagues.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at dasilv10@cortland.edu or call 718-413-8363.

Sincerely,

René Da Silva