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### Philosophy of Education Reflection

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Pat VanPutte

Phil in Education – Final

When I sit back and think about this semester, a lot comes to mind. First of all, it absolutely flew by, it seems like the spring semester always does compared to the fall. I've begun to make strides and create a path for myself in my major, accounting. I was able to experience something I never have and was able to get out of my comfort zone through service learning. I had begun thinking about my future, what I wanted to do and where I wanted to be. Though, COVID-19 had other plans, and stripped my focus away from all of this.

Before school sent us home, I felt that I was finally getting a grip of what I wanted and how I was going to get there. I began thinking about internships, my future job, where I wanted to live, and who I valued in my life. I was getting good grades and began exploring new things because I wasn't under much stress. Since we've been sent home, I feel as if everyone has just felt off. We've been stuck in the house not knowing what to do. The worst of it all? No sports! My environment has changed since being at school, I'm used to sticking to myself and doing things my own way. It's hard to do this with no motivation, and it doesn't help that I place such high standards on myself. I've been able to stay on top of my work but haven't felt the drive to be great. One thing that I think has thrown me off tremendously is not being able to workout with all of the gyms closed, at school I would workout 5 days a week and plan my day around it. Working out has helped me stay motivated and see growth in myself, it was also an escape

from the outside world. An hour of blocking out all of the noise and solely working on you is really beneficial.

To look on the brighter side of things, I really liked this class and the opportunity to be in service learning. I'm not an extrovert or one to volunteer for something like this, but I felt this was a good opportunity. The three boys that I was placed with were appreciative that Courtney, Ryan, and I were there. You could tell every Tuesday they were excited that we were there and enjoyed our company. All three of us were able to make connections with the boys and learn who they are. Three characteristics to describe the boys would be smart, happy, and energetic. We were able to see how fortunate we were growing up; one boy didn't have his own bedroom and the other sometimes didn't have clean clothes. They didn't care though, because they don't know any better. It was a really cool experience that I would do again. Not to mention, I was able to make relationships with both Courtney and Ryan, who I probably would have never talked to outside of class if it weren't for this experience.

Lastly, the biggest thing that I'm going to take away from this class is the importance of education, not from an educational standpoint, but from a life standpoint. Education is so much more than going to school and learning. Education is basically what you learn throughout your whole life, whether you're in school or not. Education can be learned or taught through any experience you have and that's the beauty of it. You need education to succeed and achieve the things that you want in life. Its all around you, so go grab it, hold onto it and learn from it.