

Transformation Paper

Reflection in English

My Medical Spanish class is a LeADERS class, meaning that it is an interactive class and gives students real hands on experience. In this particular class we were granted a lot of opportunities to be able to interact with the Spanish community in Hampton Roads as well as develop our Spanish skills throughout different opportunities on campus. This essay will explain those experiences and display what I have learned because of these experiences.

The outreach experience that I had was at a health fair for the Spanish speaking community in Hampton Roads. In this fair there were different booths to help educate people on some of the common diagnoses as well as how they can access health tools. In the area that I was working, I was helping individuals and families with non-urgent health problems connect with different providers throughout the region that speak Spanish and would be able to help. At this section we also helped explain some simple actions that could be taken in order to improve mental and physical health overall. This health fair was very impactful for the Spanish speaking community as it gave them a chance to access and learn about health care when opportunities are not normally afforded.

I also became active in Spanish activities on campus such as the Spanish Club and Terulias. In fact, I became treasurer of the Spanish club. The Spanish club provides a way for people of all different backgrounds to come together and learn about the Hispanic culture. So far this year we have had a police officer come from the Norfolk Police Department to discuss ways in which we can help our local Hispanic community. We have also been able to come together to celebrate the Mexican Día de Los Muertos and are planning a meeting to celebrate the holidays throughout the world for later this semester. Lastly, I have been able to participate in Tertulias on campus. Tertulias are simply where people of every background and every level of Spanish meet and speak in Spanish to practice speaking

and listening in Spanish. Although this has only happened a few times throughout the semester it is impactful when learning a new language and developing oral proficiency skills.

In conclusion, I have completed a total of 10 service-learning hours throughout this fall semester. These experiences have impacted me for the better by improving my Spanish cultural awareness through the Spanish club and oral proficiency through Tertulias. It has also brought awareness of my local Hispanic community and the problems that they have such as access to health care. Without these experiences I would not be where I am today or have the understanding of the problems the Hispanic community has.

Reflexión en español

Este semestre en la clase de español de medicina, los estudiantes tenían que ayudar a la gente de nuestra comunidad o participar en eventos en la comunidad para mejorar nuestro español. Yo completé diez horas de estas tipas de actividades y era una experiencia increíble. Primero, yo ayudé en una feria de salud para los hispanos en la comunidad. Yo ayudé a la gente con síntomas que no eran malos en hacer unas citas con médicos para examinarle. También le di consejos para mejorar la salud del cuerpo y la mente. En la universidad yo participé en el club de español y también tertulias. En el club de español yo soy la tesorera y hablamos en las reuniones sobre temas del mundo hispano. También, yo era parte de las tertulias para practicar mi comunicación en directo y mis habilidades de hablar español en una forma correcta. En fin, estas actividades me hicieron mejor en mi comunicación y en mi entendimiento de la comunidad hispana de Hampton Roads.