



[Supplementing Your Life] [Michelle Contreras, Art History, 2020]

[Professional
Development]

SUMMARY

The Supplemental Instruction program is a part of the student academic services on campus. SI leaders facilitate peer cooperative study sessions in historically difficult classes. I've been an SI leader for a year now and it is one of the best experiences I've had. There's a lot to be said for taking a history course a few times as well as learning how to best study and aid other students in studying. Beyond facilitating three to four sessions a week, SI leaders attend the class and take notes that will help formulate the session plans. The entire goal of the SI program is to aid students in learning how to study and prepare the skills they may need for future courses



SPICES

This program is a part of the student faculty on campus and we learn how to communicate with our colleagues as well as administrative responsibilities. We are expected to behave professionally in all situations of the job.

HERBS

Without honor and respect, students would not be able to learn in a safe environment. The program itself is also based on supporting each other and learning through cooperation-learning through peer support and collaboration.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

We make session plans prior to every session we facilitate, but there comes a certain understanding that it may not always go to plan. Learning how to be adaptable and work with the students in your session without getting frustrated is a big part of the job. Another part would be communicating effectively and figuring out how to be able to help every student you come across, no matter their individualities.



IMPACT

The students obviously benefit from this service, however I think that the SI leaders also gain something important out of it. We learn how to explain subjects, we learn how to plan ahead, and we learn how to work with people. I've definitely discovered how much I like teaching and am considering looking into that path. I also think I have a greater understanding of history and how much everything interconnects.

ADVICE

Take a course that you enjoy or really feel like you could work on your understanding. Try to work with different faculty members and learn things yourself.