*SLO IV. Professionalism*

*Students will engage in professional behavior appropriate to the discipline in professional contexts.*

Being professional and handling situations in a professional manner (I believe) will work better then to restore to immediate reactions. Knowing how to be professional will benefit you, and will make you look better than restoring to immediate reactions. As A professional, there are many times where we have to be the bigger person and be professional about our response/action/reaction. For example, if you work as a server and a client drops their drink, you aren’t going to ask him why he did or to pick it up. Your job as a professional is to pick it up yourself and ask the client if they will like another one.

Everyday I continue to learn a better way to be more professional. I believe that since my first day of college, I had to learn how to become a responsible professional. I had to learn to take responsibility to attend class everyday, and make sure that I stayed on top of the assignments. Although, class may not feel like a professional environment, it is. It’s kind of like a job but you are learning, you have to show up and be professional in the class. As a student you have to pay attention, not have side conversations, and not use the phone while in class.

It took me a while to become a responsible professional; I want to say that I learned the true meaning of professional after I joined a Multicultural Sorority. Not only did I learn how to dress professional, I learned how to become a leader, learned how to run productive meetings, and much more. Being in the sorority has also molded me into a responsible striving young adult.

I have applied these professional skills more in my organization and at internships than I have applied them in class. I have been able to have professional over the phone and face-to-face interviews with parents, teachers, and people in the community for a class. Since I know how to be professional I can hold professional conversations with the staff at my internships. During one of my classes, I had a face-to-face evaluation from a staff during my internship, and I was able to hold a professional conversation on ways that I can improve and spoke about my strengths.

An area of professionalism that I can work on is probably on my communication. I don’t know what it is about me presenting in front of people and having to present information that I know, I just get super nervous and it doesn’t come out as great as it should. I used to stutter a lot as a freshman but now I can give a presentation without stuttering much but I do start to get nervous and start speaking fast. It’s something that I am still working on because I do know that as a professional in the near future, I might have to take lead in workshops, or train people. On contrast, I do have great communication skills with others when it comes to passing a message or having a conversation. Having great communication skills help in any professional career because you will have coworkers, families, children, and other people who you need to communicate with in order to keep an organized environment.

As a lifelong learner, I will continue to learn several things because I like to think that I learn something new everyday. I think that I could be professional in mostly every situation and I am confortable being in a professional manner because I have also attended leadership workshops hosted by FSA, Etiquette dinner, How to greet Professionals, and many more. I love learning ways to better myself and I believe that one thing that will help me in my career is to be as professional as I can. Being professional will show my work ethics and it will help get me hired for a job.

One assignment that I have done was during my course in Practicum Child Development, I had to intern at the Associated Student Child Development Lab to practice appropriate activities and steps for their development. Part of doing my internship there I was evaluated by the main teachers and had one on one evaluations with them. Like I said above, I had a professional conversation with her about my strengths and weaknesses.

Another assignment that I have done during my courses is the same paper on a reflection on how it went during my evaluation. It gave me the opportunity to reflect on my conversation that the main teacher and I had. Reflecting on my internship made me realized that I could have done better if I would have tried a little harder.