JEP REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

GEOL 108: Crises of a Planet
Professor Anderson
PA: Jonathan Ou
Fall 2009

These JEP Reflective Questions are designed to help you reflect upon your experiences as a member of a mini-team so that you can make the most of your community teaching experiences. Throughout the course of the semester, you will observe and participate in the daily activities of those you meet at your JEP site, and you will write about your experiences on a weekly basis. These JEP Reflective Questions are designed to help you focus your observations and critically reflect on your experiences in relation to what you are learning about in GEOL 108.

Please read your Reflective Questions prior to going to your JEP site on the week the assignment is due. Then, as soon as possible after leaving your JEP site each week, write down a few notes about your experience that day—difficult moments, things that surprised you, highlights from teaching, etc. This sort of quick “field note” writing will make it much easier for you to respond to the Reflective Questions that follow and will help you improve your team's work in the classroom. The questions are related to and build upon one other. We encourage you to refer back to previous responses and to take seriously your PA’s feedback each week. Doing so will help you to learn more from your experiences. Please be respectful of the community and mindful of the limits of your experience and knowledge. Avoid generalizations and psychological explanations of behavior; in other words, do not make arguments that assume you know how someone else thinks or feels or use these assumptions to explain the way people act or their circumstances. Instead, focus on writing detailed and concrete accounts of people, social settings and conversations (including direct quotes, when possible).

YOUR ASSIGNMENTS
The core parts of each Reflection Question (which you need to focus on) are highlighted in bold. Use the additional parts of the question to guide/supplement your answer. Please refer to the PA agreement you received in training for instructions regarding journal due dates and format requirements.

WEEK TWO: Assessing your Plan
Consider the eight-week plan that you completed with your mini-team. What are the major themes in your geology course that you plan to emphasize throughout the following weeks? Why are these themes important to understanding the concepts you are studying related to climate change and why have you chosen these themes and not others? How will you go about developing lesson plans that get these points across? What are some of the activities you have been preparing for the students in order to emphasize these themes?