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BUF 4900 Internship

Professional Development Critique #1

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONS FOR CRITIQUES

1. What was the purpose of this professional development seminar? What is the title? Who was offering the workshop and why? What made this person an expert?

On March 7th, 2024, The Student Life & Development held a Student Leadership Workshop on professionalism. Students would be able to review what their meaning of professionalism was, and how it effects their work ethic. One would learn how to expand their understanding of professionalism, and how they would be able to contribute to making their workspace a more professional environment. The title of the workshop was “Professionalism 101: What Is It and Why Does It Matter?”. This workshop was led by Lacresha Berry, a speaker for many workshops held at different CUNY colleges.

2. What did one learn at this workshop? Be detailed and descriptive.

In this workshop, one learned not only how to be professional, but how to work proficiently. One was advised to be productive, focus on one’s job responsibilities and to use time productively. Examples of being professional include maintaining effective work habits,

manage one's time effectively, arrive on time to meetings and appointments, and to respond to emails/texts/phone calls in a timely manner. Other ways one learned how to be professional and to stand out in one's workspace is to take initiative. One must be able to demonstrate integrity, treat everyone with dignity and respect. One was also advised to not speak poorly of others (coworkers), and to communicate truthfully. Lastly, to make oneself stand out in their work, it was also advised to be a problem solver and to also be resilient (Berry, 2024).

3. Would you (one) recommend this PD workshop to your peers at New York City College of Technology, CUNY? Why or Why not?

One would recommend this professional development workshop to not only one's peers in the same degree of Business and Technology of Fashion, but to peers of all degrees offered at New York City College of Technology, CUNY. The workshop did not speak of ways of how to professionally act in one specific field of work, but in all types of jobs one can work in. This workshop became a great opportunity to hear from other students that have been studying for other degrees, and how their opinions of professionalism differed from others. Another reason as to why attending this workshop is recommended, is that it was encouraged to ask questions on professionalism that might not have been spoken about. This provided a space for students to feel understood and helped by those who are professionals that have the knowledge on how to deal with certain situations to be successful in one's work. The workshop is also recommended because it allows one to be surrounded by other students/peers who are in the same situation with being a student and employee and how one should be able to manage professionalism in both areas.

4. Did you (one) feel prepared through coursework and classes to be at this PD workshop?

Why or Why not. Explain in detail.

One felt prepared through coursework and classes to be at this professional development workshop. Throughout the class, students learned the importance of arriving on time for meetings and appointments. When attending the workshop, one made sure to arrive early at the workshop to demonstrate an example of professionalism. Taking notes and participating in group activities during classes also made one feel more prepared. Throughout the workshop, one was encouraged to take notes as there a PowerPoint on how to act professional, and thoughts the speaker, Lacresha Berry, had to share as well. At the beginning of the workshop, one was asked to ask the person next to them what their idea of professionalism was and thus making the conversation resemble the feeling of being in a group activity.

References

Berry, L. (March 7, 2024). *Professionalism 101: What Is It and Why Does It Matter?* [Lecture notes].