

Celebrating World Teachers' Day at Framingham State University

Carola Bensimon, M.Ed. International Teaching Program, Framingham State, January 2016



TEACHES AT: Lincoln International Academy in Managua, Nicaragua

Lincoln International Academy is a co-educational, bilingual, international school with strong Catholic values. Approximately 750 students are enrolled in preschool through 12th grade. Students primarily are taught in English in school, though most students speak Spanish as their first language. Most students who attend Lincoln International Academy are from Nicaragua, though there are some international students.

SUBJECT AREAS TAUGHT: English, 6th – 8th Grade

HOW DID YOU DECIDE TO ENTER INTO TEACHING?

"I didn't choose teaching. Teaching chose me...I decided to go to law school because I enjoyed history and studying civil law. Soon I realized that law was not my cup of tea. After going to England for the summer to study English at a language institute, I concluded that I wanted to study that language deeply. I came back to Argentina [home country], told my disappointed dad (who is a lawyer) the news, and embarked myself in this new adventure. At that moment I didn't put much thought about teaching. I was concentrated in studying English and American literature, phonetics, grammar and writing. It was later on during practice that I discovered that teaching was my vocation, and that my choice had been the right one..."

MEMORABLE TEACHING MOMENT:

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I teach literature in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. In general, our students don't like reading and have a hard time when it comes to writing. It is really rewarding when they tell me that they learn to love reading in 6th grade. Last year one of my 8th graders, who was also my student in 6th grade, wrote to me a very emotional letter. She said that I inspired her to become a writer. Before 6th grade she said she hated reading. She wrote, 'But when I reached 6th grade, words ignited something inside of me. You made me see books in a way that brought wonder and made me remember memorable stories for a lifetime.' When I had her as a student again in 8th grade, I saw how much she had changed. If I had to choose a profession again, I would choose teaching again. I wouldn't like to miss moments like this one. Teaching requires a lot of effort, patience and empathy, but in the end it always pays off.

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World Teachers' Day is an event promoted by UNESCO and partners throughout the world. It represents a significant effort to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation for the vital contribution that teachers make to education and development across the globe.



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