

Patti Concepcion

B.S. – English: Integrated Language Arts, May 2017

What have you been doing since graduation?

Seeking adventure somewhere new, I packed up and moved to a place where I knew no one and had ever previously visited: Louisville, Kentucky. I teach English at Valley High School (to juniors and seniors). Life moves a little slower here down south, but I try to stay busy at my school. I sponsor Valley's Pep Club and Gender Equality Club, I am a member of our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) team, and I was our "Rookie Teacher of the Year." Lately, I was accepted into the Louisville Writing Project, a branch of the National Writing Project, and I am preparing for my first professional conference presentation in early September to teachers from around Kentucky/Indiana area.



How did the Honors College help prepare you for success?

The rigor and challenge of the coursework helped me gain confidence and satisfaction in my own skill and work ethic. Over time, that confidence has translated to fearlessness in the face of challenges and the realization that I am able to grow even in my "failures." Thus, every challenge becomes a success.

Where do you see yourself in the next 5 years?

In the next 5 years, I would like to have moved to a different state to try out a new area of the US. I would also like to have started on a graduate degree (hopefully in Curriculum and Foundations), which ideally will be paid for by the school district for which I work.

What was the best part of being in the Honors College?

What's not to love about the Honors College? First pick of classes, specific and talented advisors, deeper-learning course work, personalized research in your senior year, and special events only available to Honors students – like dinner with the former President Berkman or a book reading with Mr. Mandel. There is also the beautiful, functional Honors Lounge, and extremely motivated, intelligent, creative peers.

Do you have any advice for current Honors College students?

Don't forget that you are only human. A wonderful, brilliant, bright, unique human...that still needs sleep, that still needs to eat, that still needs to relax, that still needs to vent, that still needs. Please, don't forget your needs. Take care of yourself first, and take care of everything else second; remember, you cannot pour from an empty cup. You're in the "good old days" right now, so go to that CAB event, hit snooze, talk to your friends in the lounge, take a long lunch in the Market Place—and when you're rushing around people who are traveling too slow for you in the Inner Link, don't forget to smell the roses! And, cheers to you for all that you are accomplishing right now!