

"There was just so much to be learned and experienced while on this trip, 2 weeks just flew by and I feel as though a good portion of my heart was left behind. Again, just an absolutely phenomenal trip that I would take again in a moment's notice." -- Megan Reilly, 2011

Toronto Comments



The bookstore on Wednesday was another great experience with a wonderfully talented host, **Itah Sado**. A storyteller by profession, you can only imagine how inspiring her discussion was. The bookstore itself is called: A Different Booklist, a kind of hole in the wall, extremely tiny and crowded store, but a rich multicultural history, making it a leading source for books dealing with education equity issues. The current display is per our suggestions from our time in the store, and my purchases include 2 children's books: *Sundiata: Lion King of Mali*, and *Sélavi, A Haitian Story of Hope*, and *Between Barack and a Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama*, by Tim Wise. I anticipate a good read from that.
Chelsea Grady from her blog

"This trip made me believe that someday we all can live in peace with each other....I have been exposed to a school that is extremely diverse and it works."

Lindsey Francis

"I was very glad I got to participate in the Toronto trip because it allowed me to witness and see diversity on a so much larger scale than I ever would have been able to see in rural Illinois."

Craig Utterback

"After visiting the varied religious places of worship, I have learned more than I could have ever imagined about each of these religions. I am completely fascinated by the different practices, rituals, traditions, and beliefs of those religions we explored in Toronto. I was also impressed by the acceptance and accommodations made available for all of religious practices within the schools of Canada. The religions were respected. I look forward to creating that diversity in my classroom someday, because each person is different in their own way and together we make a beautiful whole."

Lauren Sheely

“Tons of inspirational speakers. Loved it. The tour of religious accommodations was fantastic. Experiencing diversity without racism. Toronto is a great city. Excellent trip.” Anonymous traveler’s evaluation notes

Comments from EIU travelers’ evaluations for the host program directors at York University, 2011

Comment on experiences you will value from your time in Toronto and in the Toronto schools:

I have come away with many valuable tools to use in my classroom in the states.

Hearing other people's experience as well as my own.

Learning about different religions.

The diversity aspect. Seeing all the different sites around the city.

Interacting with different cultures and getting a chance to observe the students.

Being in the different schools and seeing how diverse the schools are.

My experience in the schools and staying in the city. Also the use of public transportation.

School placement. Interaction with students. Teachers.

Getting to experience all the different backgrounds of the students.

I loved the Faith Tour! I thought it was really neat to see the possible religions in our schools.

Learning how another school system works.

Getting to experience a different atmosphere in the school setting; diversity especially.

I learned a lot not only about Canada and their education, but a lot about myself.

School placements. Workshops.

Seeing intercity problems and teacher's attitudes.

I felt all aspects were beneficial to being a professional educator.

I really enjoyed seeing how the children got along and were accepting of each other, I also really enjoyed the Faith Tour.

Learning about Diversity in a naturally diverse city. Being in the school with a teacher who actually let me teach!

Amazing experience that changed the way I view teaching.
The city is amazing! I loved exploring all the cultures and foods. The diversity in the schools as great to see! I loved the Faith Tour.
Learning to be more open-minded and going into a school outside my comfort zone
Great trip, great city, great people.
Thank you
Toronto is an awesome city, the days were really long!
Great trip!!
I really enjoyed my time here and would love to come back.
Thanks for everthing! Marcela+Laura, you were both such a treat to work with.
Great program, great experience.
Great experience!
Marcella & Laura were very welcoming and accomodating! Our York U. students were great!
Weston rocks! So does York.
I had a wonderful time! I have learned a lot from this experience that I would not have learned from staying in the States.
Toronto is a great city! I would love to student teach here but I don't know if I can be away from home for so long. I will come back to visit!