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Professor Bucciferro

COMM 304

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Extra Credit 1

During the previous week, I have attended a Supplemental Instruction Program information session. During the session, we have learned about what it truly means to be an SI Leader. The main difference between a tutor/TA and an SI Leader is that the tutor/TA simply works toward a solution, while an SI Leader works towards creating a community of students that can rely on each other. One highly emphasized point was that SI Sessions are not meant to relecture the students, but to act as an example for the other students. This would allow the students to remain in good relations with each other outside of class. It was emphasized that before, many students were struggling to maintain their scores in their courses. Nearly every student who has attended SI Sessions was directly shown to improve their scores, whether on take-home assignments or in-class exercises.

After this, the coordinator talked about the actual job requirements. Mainly everything stated was common sense: maintain a specific GPA, score above a certain threshold in the class you would want to SI, not be in academic violation, and have a schedule that would fit an additional course. Also, another essential requirement is to be “approachable, friendly, and understanding.”

I wanted to apply for this position because, during my freshman year, my Computer Science SI recommended that I give the position a try. However, as I was completing my

application, the COVID pandemic was starting to heat up. Once classes transitioned online, I began to have doubts about being an effective SI Leader. However, now that most courses are returning in person, I can be more effective. Because of this information session, I started a good relationship with the primary coordinator and have my name known.