

## Personal Educational Philosophy

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“Education can serve as an agent in achieving cultural transformation. There is a reciprocal relationship between education and culture, one influencing the other...In our efforts to improve education, we have to see this relationship and deal with the ills and problems of a larger society. The changes needed for our social institutions are not evolutionary in nature, but revolutionary” (Thomas, 1994. p. 72).

To me, Social Reconstructionism and Thomas’ quote convey the need for education to promote social justice and change to our students, in order to transform our society’s view on culture and difference. Education is constantly changing and evolving to meet the needs of our students, yet it is not enough to adapt colonial epistemologies to fit our diverse students, but it also needs to promote social change, multiculturalism, and equality in our students as well. I believe it is such an important part of every child’s development and personal identity to feel accepted and included by others, which is something that can be achieved through the promotion of Social Reconstructionism and multiculturalism in classrooms.

I would implement Social Reconstructionism in my classroom by incorporating Indigenous ways of Being and Learning into my classroom such as the First Peoples Principles of Learning, by getting my students involved in social justice initiatives and projects, by including elements of my students’ cultures into my classroom, and by representing my students as a teacher of colour that values their differences. As a future teacher, I would like my students to be agents of change that care and respect people’s backgrounds, beliefs, and traditions, as well as fight for equality and social change in and out of the classroom.