



The First Year Experience Community Update

December 2012



Melissa Gonzalez
First-year student

During the first two weeks of my time at Edison, I felt stressed. It was a big transition from high school and I'm the first person in my family to attend college. Through the Cornerstone Experience class I've learned time management, study habits, and organizational skills. The class has also has given me the opportunity to make new friends by pushing me to participate in campus activities. I've made new friends by attending Wacky Wednesday, Tie Dye, the Thanksgiving Potluck, and the Fall Formal.

This semester, the Cornerstone Experience Course was especially wonderful. I had a diverse student population who contributed and enriched our discussions this semester. Our students bring a wealth of knowledge and experience. I believe it is our job as faculty to help students polish their much needed skills.

This semester I embarked on a new adventure with Prof. Miller's class. I incorporated debating as an approach to teach critical thinking. Debating is an experiential learning process that will enhance the students' abilities to effectively communicate using appropriate reasoning skills. Paul and Elder (2006) define critical thinking as a complex system of questioning and reasoning. Our students rose to the challenge and led a thoughtful debate.

Have a delightful holiday season!



Dr. Martin Tawil
Cornerstone Experience
Lead Faculty

F Y E

First Year Experience



First-year students connecting with each other, Peer Architects, faculty, staff, and administrators at **FYE's Thanksgiving Potluck**. Students were invited to bring a dish to share.



Pictured above, students take part in the **Frosh Mosh Holiday Party**.

On Saturday Nov. 17th, **over 40 Edison students** volunteered at the **Harry Chapin Food Bank**. Students helped sort through and package vegetables. All students who volunteered received a free Edison t-shirt and were invited back to have lunch in the FYE office and reflect on their experience.

