Teaching the Liberal Arts: Psychology Department

Sandra Portko, Professor of Psychology

In my **Child Development** classes, I assigned the article by William Cronon, "Only Connect. . . ." The students were assigned to read the article and then write a paper summarizing the article and then evaluating it from the framework of the theoretical perspectives of either mechanistic, organismic, or contextual world views. After the papers were submitted, we also engaged in a class discussion of the article during which we discussed expectations and performances.

In the theme course, **The Psychology of The Quest**, the same paper by Cronon was assigned as their second reading. The first reading is *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor Frankl. This was followed by a lengthy discussion of how the two articles fit together and how their experiences at GVSU either reflected or failed to reflect the principles outlined in the Cronon article.