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Honors 397 Spring Reflection

This quarter of Honors 397 was a huge success! This is my second time being a peer educator and since I was returning this year, I got to step into the role of a Lead Peer Educator. My confidence increased drastically as this was my second time being a Peer Educator. My first year was decent. I felt confident in the classroom as I taught but I didn't fully feel comfortable in the classroom with other Peer Educators. I feel like I didn't connect as much with the other Peer Educators, and some of that may be attributed to the fact that we only "got to know each other" through weekly seminars on Zoom. That definitely made connection a lot more difficult. So when it came time to get to see everyone in person, it felt a bit awkward.

However, this year, we started off the quarter with a Peer Educator Retreat in Forks, WA. I attribute the change in my experience as a Peer Educator this quarter to that retreat. The 3 hour road trip and the weekend together with the other Peer Educators helped us bond exponentially faster than what I've experienced in any community I've been a part of in my time at the UW. It was a good time. Since I felt closer to my peers, this also helped me feel more comfortable speaking up and participating in our Peer Educator seminar. I was pretty strong in my community leadership in my Honors 100 classroom, but feeling more connected with my fellow Peer Educators made me a

stronger community leader in the Peer Educator seminar. I found myself raising my hand to ask questions, answer questions, and give feedback.