

Linnet Mercedes

Professor Casey Ellis

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Final Reflection

Since the beginning of the semester this class has provided helpful feedback that has improved my writing in the long term. Our first prompt being the literacy narrative, helped ease me into the class and taught me the basics of “college” level writing. This first task was fairly straightforward and allowed me to learn how other peers around me produced work. After this prompt came the research paper which was difficult to produce at the beginning. For me it was very difficult choosing a topic, so using a method we learned in class I started brainstorming topics that interested me. I began with a broad topic being the environment and branched off into other circles until I found the most interesting topic for me. Looking back that has been one of the most helpful strategies I have learned as a writer, so much so, that I have begun recommending it to friends and teachers.

One thing that I specifically enjoyed about class was producing work with the help of peers. During the breaks, I often sought help and feedback from those nearest to me. Hearing what other people thought I should add or improve on really allowed me to look at my work through a more critical lense. I also found listening to my Professor super informative using some of the things I had learned in class and taking them directly back to school. One of the things I had never done before was write an annotated bibliography which initially scared me.

However, my Professor made it really clear for me and the students around me so when it was time to write, I was ready.

The skills and strategies I learned in class are something that I will carry with me going forward. This semester taught me that it is okay to ask for help and be confused. Although I was constantly busy meeting other deadlines, Mr. Ellis was really understanding which made the class more inviting and engaging. Whenever I was confused over a comment I would consult with my peers or refer to Mr. Ellis himself. Our last assignment was the Research Critical Analysis, which I thought was an alright prompt. I felt like I did an alright job explaining my stance and arguing against the counterclaim. Out of all of the prompts we had in class, I felt like my favorite one was the research paper. As a writer, I think tasks like researching and explaining the information I discovered are my strong points.

All in all, I enjoyed this semester of class because English Composition on a college level was something I was interested in learning about. In particular, I feel like the biggest lesson I learned in class is that no matter how you write something, the most important thing is understanding the message you're trying to send. Thanks to the in-class tutor and also to my peers I was able to throw up ideas and listen to what they thought was the most solid concept. Although we were a small quiet class, we all came together when someone needed help or when we were confused and in need of more information. I would definitely recommend this class to other students looking to learn more about writing and also looking to improve their writing by getting feedback from strangers and a college professor.