

Self-Assessment

My name is Asif Moshahid and this semester I took FIQWS 10115 and completed a wide variety of writing assignments. I hope to share some of them with you and show how I've progressed as a writer throughout the semester. Each of the writing assignments I've taken this year have definitely helped me master a plethora of different rhetorical terms and course learning outcomes. The first paper I'll talk about is my Reply Paper.

If you compare the draft of my Reply Paper and the final draft of my Reply Paper it's plain to see what my strategy was for developing my final thoughts and ideas. If you look at my draft you can see that my ideas weren't half as developed as the ones in my final paper. In my draft for each of my body paragraphs I simply had a main idea and a negligible amount of evidence for each of my main points but I knew I would fully develop them in my finished piece. In simpler terms I was just setting the framework for my thoughts and ideas so I'd have an easier time writing my final draft. For example, in the body paragraphs of my draft I just paraphrased evidence instead of using quotes like in my final draft. Furthermore, if you look at how I explained the quotes in my various papers you can see how I learned how to properly analyze texts and extract the proper evidence. I also practiced key rhetorical terms such as purpose and genre. The purpose of my Reply Paper could be seen throughout my essay when I kept repeating my thesis and providing evidence to support it. The genre can be interpreted as a research paper based on my formal language and resources utilized. The Reply Paper wasn't the only writing piece that helped me however.

Another writing piece that helped me develop as a writer was the Immigration Narrative. The Immigration Narrative definitely helped me engage in the collaborative and social aspect of the writing process. The way it did this was through the helpful peer review we did in class. For

example, in the peer review Yokelly gave me she said “Although i understand this is not Asif’s personal story, I would say that Asif has little to no sensory details in their writing, aside from a few sentences where there are mentions of places like the airport and an apartment.” I took Yokelly’s advice and added more sensory details in my final draft. For example, in my final draft I said “To this day my mother still remembers the new and wonderful aromatic smells coming out of the various food kiosks at the JFK airport.” The sensory detail I used here was “aromatic smells” and without talking to Yokelly I probably wouldn’t have realized I was missing sensory details. Another paper that helped me more recently was my final research paper.

My final paper helped me improve my writing and master a number of learning outcomes for this course. For this final paper I learned how to properly locate and cite research sources. For example I used a source from the website “tourosynagogue.org” which was interesting because it was a source that we had not been exposed to in class. Using this source I also used critical analysis and argumentation to support my thesis which definitely helped me as a writer. For example, in my final paper I said “Need I say more? This jewish soldier literally fought for this country and through his sacrifices the American people still to this day enjoy the freedoms people like Abraham Cohn helped bestow upon us.” I said this in reference to information about a jewish soldier from the research source I used. As you can see I was able to properly analyze the text and use it to argue my thesis.

In conclusion, I’m so glad I took this course in the beginning of my college career. I was able to learn so much about myself as a writer and was able to improve in so many ways. All these learning outcomes I was able to master this semester will definitely help me with any other writing assignments I have in any of my future classes. I’m so thankful for all I’ve learned from this course and I hope you enjoyed seeing my progress this semester.

