

Over the course of this semester, my writing has changed in ways I didn't expect in the beginning. My main focus was on getting assignments completed correctly, to follow the structure. The further we got in the semester, I realized that this class was teaching me to write in different ways and about different things. This course helped me understand how flexible writing can be. This made me think more about how I should say things and how it will influence or affect my audience. The main format we used was MLA. This semester really helped me learn how to correctly use this format on my papers. It was hard for me to remember how to do certain formats because previously I was using other formats for other papers, therefore I would always mix them up. Using one topic the entire semester, across all assignments was really helpful. Honestly, in the beginning, I thought I was going to get tired of writing about the same thing repeatedly, but that wasn't the case. Using that topic for each assignment allowed me to see each time from a different perspective. It showed me that the same topic can be talked about just in different ways. I picked my topic based on a family connection. My topic was about past convicted felons and the rights they lose and the new challenges that they face entering back into the real world. I picked that topic because my dad was a past convicted felon and I saw the toll it took on him trying to get his life back together. Some assignments throughout the semester were a little confusing. Sometimes I was unsure about what each assignment was asking for. I eventually learned how important examples and asking for clarification can be, because once I understood the purpose of each assignment, the papers began to be easier to write. Attending the classes also played a huge role in understanding what was expected of me. Outside of class is where things take a turn. I am a full time college student, working 3 jobs, and paying all my bills independently. Balancing life, work and school wasn't really stressful to me. I found a balance in it all, I had a routine that I kept the same every week to make things easier. Having assignments that were already familiar to me helped. The consistency helped me balance everything out. Quick side note, my professor was great. Any meeting that I had with her, she always checked on my mental well-being. She would listen, give advice, she would treat us like human beings and not just her students. As I've told professor Ivey, this was my favorite class this year. I love laughing and every time I attended her class, that's exactly what she made me do, laugh. I love teachers who are understanding and who know that real life is still going on. Professor Ivey was always so understanding. It saddens me that I will probably never get another who cares as much as professor Ivey. Overall, this semester has been great. I feel as if my writing has improved and I am more aware of my purpose and audience. I'm leaving this class with a better understanding of how to approach different writing tasks and to be confident in my writing and confident that I can adjust my writing styles.