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ENGL 211C

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Letter of Portfolio Reader

Dear Reader,

Throughout my English semester, my experiences with working on my ePortfolio was quite simple. There really was not anything really difficult with the website. I only had one problem which was my teacher could not see my website. I managed to figure out what was causing this problem by making my teacher an admin. The papers made me able to speak to an audience who do not share the same beliefs as I do. When it came to my Toulmin, I managed to get some nods from some people in the crowd. The same was basically the same with the other assignments and papers.

My critical thinking and evaluating skills were not the best when I started the class. In the 15 weeks I have attended class, my skills have not really improved as they should have improved. The major reason why my skills have not changed exponentially because I probably did not put too much effort in. If I were to take this class again, I would use more office hours so I can understand how to critically think and evaluate the text. I would also make more appointments with the writing center so I could get more insight on the text I am reading.

I have worked through several drafts while working on my Rhetorical Analysis, Rogerian, Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography, and my Toulmin. The typical problems with my rough drafts are the following: need to spell out contractions, fixing my

citations, needing to go into detail more with my examples and citations. The issues were typically the same with every paper and assignment in the class. There were various times when I thought that I did well on my rough draft for a paper but turns out that I did horrible on it.

My grammar could have been better than I chose to use for my assignments. Like with my Toulmin, Rhetorical Analysis, and Rogerian Argument. The grammar was constantly commented as being repetitive and overused. I probably should have gone back to change some of the words that I overuse like according to, states, today's society, and issue. My usage could also need some work because I never could figure out what to use certain words and phrases. If I had to take this again, I would probably work on my usage more than anything. There were just issues that I could not figure out about usage and I probably should have asked the teacher for more help than I did. When it came to my citations, I didn't really have a problem with them in the end. However in the beginning, I messed up certain parts of the citation when it came to cite scholarly article because I never had to cite a scholarly article before college. If I ever had another class that needed to cite a scholarly article, I would be in a better shape than I was in this semester.

If I had to choose three strengths, I would choose that my strengths are: typing a 1000+ paper, determining pathos, logos, and ethos, and making a research proposal and annotated bibliography. Before college, I had never written a 1000 word paper before. So when I saw the minimum word count for the Rogerian Argument, I was a bit intimidated in the beginning. I started to put it back until the Friday that it was due, that's when I went to the Writing Center and got some insight on what I need to do. So in one day, I managed to type this paper and I think I did a pretty decent paper. However, that was not the case but I was just proud of myself

for writing a 1000 word paper in one day. When it came to identifying pathos, ethos, and logos, I can typically differentiate between each of them. The articles I used for my Weekly Article were filled to the brim with ethos and logos, constantly using statistics and credibility of the author to prove their point in the article. There really was not any articles that contain mostly pathos except for one of them. But it was very easy to tell which is which. When it came time to make a research proposal and annotated bibliography, it seems easy enough and I completed it pretty quickly. However, when I got my grade back, I realized that I missed some things like the summary for the weekly articles. My three weakness are usage, grammar, and writing. When it comes to usage, I terrible at it in every paper that was assigned in that class. The same thing goes with grammar. I always used the same words over and over again without any difference. But overall when it came to writing, that was my greatest weakness in English Composition. When it comes to writing, I typically trying to think of a brief and concise way to say something but it never goes well. My words become clunky and unorganized. In my opinion, my weakness outway my strengths.

In the 15 weeks of ENGL 211C, the concept of argument and my topic have helped me understand the ways to argue to an uncertain crowd. Like the discussion on different audiences and what to do against that. Or like the outlines for the Rogerian and Toulmin where we plan out where certain articles will be added in there. Throughout the semester, the constant assignments on my topic made me more inclined to finding out more about it. My topic and the concept of argument help me succeed in my later classes in the semester.