Marijean Fernandez

EN202-002: English Comp.

Class Reflection

The beginning of the course, we were assigned to locate two topics that interest us. My two topics were “Are PSS effectively preparing high school students for college” and “How often do NMC students utilize student support services to succeed in college.” Both topics were interesting, but I chose the second topic. I chose this topic because I just recently worked at Project PROA and I saw the accessibility of this research topic considering the amount of time we have for this course. I believe it was a good topic because it informed me about the usage of student support services in NMC. With that said, I would work with this topic further to gather an accurate data result. The population size of surveying 38 students is too small due to the fact NMC has about 4,000 students.

 After selecting two tentative topics, Ms. Bunts had us write four different forms of essay which I like because it made writing the report easier. The first form was an illustrative essay explaining the pros and cons of both topics. This assisted me to make a choice. Then she assigned us to write a persuasive essay that discussed the importance of the topic as well as find literature sources. Later she had us write a process essay illustrating the steps I took to collect data. Lastly, she had us write a literature review about our sources. I like how we found our literature sources and read it throughout the course because it helped me evaluate my topic and understand my data collection better. In addition, she provided practices on paraphrasing, summarizing, and in-text citation which helped me write my literature sources. The problem with the literature sources were finding local sources as well as finding the right source. However, I was successful in finding case studies which were helpful.

 Aside from literature sources we utilized our textbook, visual aids, and handouts as guides to academic writing. All these materials were helpful to me because I was able to learn in different styles. However, I found the visual aids the most effective way of learning because it provided me a picture of what to do. The textbook was my least because I did not have one and I had to borrow a friend’s own. I think the only time it helped me was during class assignments.

 To conclude, I learned various writing skills in this course. I was able to write different types of essay and find and analyze literature, which I can use in the future. I can use these skills when writing a research paper or as guide when assigning a research paper to my future students. I was able to improve my writing, such as knowing when I am writing a runoff sentence, use third person to sound formal, and how to summarize an article. Moreover, my strengths in regards to the project was the fact I spend most of my time on campus. I tried to make sure I made time out of my busy schedule. The outcome of the research was like I predicted. Many students do not utilize services because they spend most of their time off campus. In the end, I felt rushed in the processed.