

Reflection

In the beginning of this College English course, my expectation was to gain writing experience during the summer. Little did I know what this summer course would entail. I have gained an enormous amount of knowledge in a short amount of time. Although this course was fast paced, the framework provided by the instructor was invaluable in learning academic writing. The instructor provided many resources for learning as well as many examples shown in class; this made the subject matter easy to grasp as well as provided a clear format of what was expected. Through time and effort, reading and practicing and trial and error, I have learned how to piece together an academically written research paper.

Writing academic essays in the beginning of the course was a bit uneasy, however, part of the course expectations was to read and review other scholarly academic articles which helped tremendously. Not only did the reading the literature expand the skills needed for the class, reading other studies provided a guide as to how I would frame my own research paper. In addition to reading the literature, learning how to properly cite material was provided to our class in many forms. APA style guides were provided by our instructor and were available on-line, print form, and video format. Therefore, I feel confident after all that has been provided as well as through practice; in future courses, citing literature will be an easy task.

Throughout the course there have been a few challenges to overcome. The first encounter was when instructors were changed during the first week when instructors. This took away about a week of our five week course. Which leads to the next problem; perhaps it would not be enough time to perform primary and secondary research that was required for the class. However the instructor divided the research project into essay assignments making it possible to prepare the required writing. This was quite helpful, but more time was needed.

Now that the class is almost over, and the research paper is almost finished, it is time to reflect. So far, I am satisfied with the topic I chose. I am also proud of the many hours I set aside to pursue this paper. Furthermore, I found that analyzing data was something I thoroughly enjoyed, which will be helpful for any future research projects. On the other hand, I could have probably managed my time better, as deadlines were difficult to deal with. Lastly, if only there were just more time to finish everything. In the end though, I gained more than just writing, I had an experience beyond any expectations.