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Reflection

I have done a lot of assignments throughout the course. The course itself has improved my skills in APA citation, researching, evaluating sources, and my overall writing. The assignments done that have improved my skills include; the evaluation of internet sources, reading notes, creation of surveys, forums, and essays. This reflection discusses the skills I developed, my opinions and answers to questions that were asked.

The topic I chose was the effects of the legalization of recreational marijuana. I think the topic was a good topic because it’s something that is in the works of being legalized here in the CNMI and if I were given the chance to change my topic, I wouldn’t. And my purpose was to inform people on the effects that it has. I would definitely work on with further as the legalization of recreational marijuana approaches, I would like to conduct a research after five years just to compare drug related crime rates, hospital visits, car accidents due to driving under the influence, etc.

The course essays that were assigned were given strategically so when we worked on our final research paper, we would have no trouble putting the information together. I believe that the method that this course used was beneficial. It’s something that I prefer because it’s was easier for me to put my research report together. The essays were also required to be in APA format which was something new to me but all the supplements the instructor gave made me more familiar with it. And I am confident to work with an APA format for future essays I write. I know in my future classes; writing will be required as I am majoring in education. In my current courses I am already required to write essays in APA format and this course has definitely helped a lot. The essays and research report assigned has also improved my academic writing skills. In addition, during this course my instructor give us supplementary handouts along with visual aid which helped me the most. Sometimes Dr. Bunts-Anderson uploaded recording of herself which helped a lot and I hope she does the same for her future classes. Each additional handout and activity including the textbook has benefited my academic writing skills.

The research report was something new to me. I have never written a research report but some of the strengths that I had was being able to work within the time limit. I was able to complete my interviews and surveys before the deadline and then gather all my research. One weakness that I would work on is paraphrasing, when I turned in my essay through Turnitin it was reported that my 21% of my essay was plagiarized so I guess paraphrasing would be a weakness that I would like to work on. But overall, my experience with the whole research report is something that I am thankful of. I had learned a lot of information on APA style format and methods needed.