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English 21002  
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Final Reflection  
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### My Experience with Writing for the Social Sciences

I remember that when signing up for the class I didn't know what I was getting myself into since I've never taken an English class related to any science, only AP English and courses like that in highschool where we discuss philosophers and how to write a college worthy essay. Although things went out of my way and I couldn't finish the semester with all my peers, the knowledge gain in class is still present with me and helps me write better essays. Writing for the Social Sciences is a class that teaches you how to dive deep into culture and subcultures, becoming a part of them and by doing so it allows you to see how all humans relate to each other in the simplest ways. We learned things from rhetorical analysis to ethnographies, and many more things.

When class started, I always looked forward to the beginning of the class, the 5 minutes that professor Furlong would give us to free write. For me, it felt like a diary because whenever I had a bad day I would just simply write all my feelings there and choose not to share what I wrote with the class, thank God sharing isn't mandatory. The way in which Furlong teaches the subjects is a very encouraging way that motivates you to participate and be present in the class; another thing that keeps you present in the class is his strict rules about no phones lol. There are many things I enjoyed from the class, from the people I was taking the class with and how we would make each other laugh with simple things to the part where each of us had to read and I could see how different we all are by the simple tone of our voices and the pronunciation we each have. Talking about my peers, something that really helped in the class was the peer review

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sessions we had multiple times in order to help each other out, get to know each other better and give positive criticism before handing in our homeworks, projects or essays.

Completing the essays and projects for the class was never a tough task, not because they weren't hard but because it would always be a topic that really intrigued me and I wanted to learn more about it. The drafts and the professor's thoughts about them really helped me in particularly a lot because every professor has a different sense of what's good writing and what's not and with the professor's critics I got to do things the right way, his way. One essay I enjoyed the most in particular was the one about the cultural artifacts and I got to talk about something really precious for my country and also to reminisce about a lot of beautiful moments from my childhood that the artifact that i chose brought back to me. In addition, something that also helped me while writing my essays or doing my homeworks was the book. Whenever i forgot something we discussed in class i had the option to go back to the book and read it all over again and then i would have no doubts about what needed to be done and how it needed to be done.

I believed the course learning outcomes were successfully met based on the fact that all of the students successfully completed all the assignments and gained an incredible amount of knowledge and things that we can implement at the time of writing a variety of papers like essays, rhetorical analysis, research papers, etc. We paid a lot of attention to one topic in particular and that was the rhetorical analysis. We learned how to analyse and evaluate articles, sources, etc by breaking them into parts and finding out how each part collaborates to do what the author wants it to do, and that can be to persuade, inform, or entertain the reader or expectator. Moreover, other learning outcomes that I believe were successfully met were those

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about finding strength in each other's differences and using that as a resource for our subcultures or any paper.

On the other hand, one paper that I truly enjoyed writing was the final research study that each of us did about one specific subculture. The subculture that I chose was a subculture that I am a part of, simply because I wanted to draw more attention to the hardships that hispanics and immigrants all face when moving from their homeland to New York. The subculture I chose was the immigrant community in NYC focusing more on the hispanic side of such subculture. I didn't want to only focus on the hispanics (although they were my main target) because it is not only our fight, but a fight that all immigrants fight for on a daily basis; therefore, I wanted to also give mention to all immigrants by using the word immigrants even though I didn't mention their ethnicity.

My main question for the research paper was that if all the physical, emotional and psychological pain that immigrants endure is worth it at the end of the day and my response to these questions was that it is worth it. I believe everything immigrants go through on a daily basis are just stepping stones on their road and that they would not be handling such problems if they were not able to overcome them. The hardships that immigrants go through help them remember their purpose of why they left their natal land and even though sometimes it's really hard to keep going, most of them do and do not give up. Most immigrants with the passing of time fall in love with NYC and everything it has to offer and they realize that the bad things that happen to them are just bound to happen because whenever there's good things there are also bad ones.

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In addition, the Final Research Study gave me a different point of view of the immigrant community of New York, since everyone's experience is different and I was able to listen to a few different experiences from mine. This made me realize how fortunate I am and how grateful i have to be each day for having all the opportunities that God puts on my path, from having an education to being able to go to college , or maybe the simple fact that I have a legal visa. Also, the sources allowed me to gather a full argument for my research paper, because the fact that I am a member of such subculture does not mean that I know everything about it. The sources helped me by informing me of things I would never have imagined went that far, things like hispanics being racially discriminated against on the rental market and also when it comes to getting a job.