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Self Assessment Essay

The start of any class is a stressful time to any student, they don't know what the teacher going to be like, what kind of assignments their going to receive, and if they are going to enjoy the class. The FIQWS class with Professor Brown and Professor Handy was like any other class, but I enjoyed it. The assignments were challenging, and they both helped me when I needed it. At the beginning I knew the class would have been interesting from the behaviour of the teachers.

The first section of the FIQWS class was with Professor brown, she taught us about the writing portion of the class. The second section of the class was with Professor Handy, who taught us about photography, and how to see the emotion, the truth or fiction of the photo, and how to tell what kind of message the photographer is trying to convey. In the class one of the first assignments was a digital storyboard. The project was to describe the difference between the fiction and reality of the picture that is important to us, also we had to put together a video with the picture being used and create an overlap of a voice recording. This project at first showed some problems for me due to the realization that all the pictures I had did not show any fiction to what it was showing. However after discussing in Professor Handy's class about how a picture can have many different stories based on the viewer's perspective, I realized that to myself the photos that I looked at first glance did not have any fiction because I was looking at them from my perspective. Based on that I took a new perspective, look at the pictures and pretend to be in someone else's shoes, look at it and try to figure out what others can see from the picture. This

helped me choose a photo that mean a lot to me, the picture of my aunt, my uncle, and myself. As in my project I explained why this picture means a lot to me. This project helped me realize how to to look at photos differently and how to compose a digital story.

Another project was a Annotated Bibliography and Proposal. The assignment I had to do was a proposal involving a famous photographer, Dorothea Lange. We were given the task of coming up with a question for research. I came up with the question “how did Dorothea Lange use her works to implement changes in society”. At first I did not know how to approach this question and thought I might have to change my question. One main reason why I was so worried about this was the fact that I did not know much about Lange, and I did not want to start an essay without knowing more on the subject. That is where the research problems came into play. One thing that really helped in a huge way was the feedback for Professor Brown, and my peers. A person can look at there paper for hours and find no mistakes, however an extra pair of eyes can go a long way for making a decent paper into a good or great paper. The feedback showed me what I needed to focus on and what I can leave out. After a lot of review it have been brought to my attention that I needed to be specific on my details and how it relates to my topic or question. This project helped me writing skills improve.

The last project we had to use all the skills we have learned in class. We had to use the research skills we learned, the skills we learned when we looked at photos, and the paper drafting skills. The assignment was a ten page paper on a photographer that we were assigned. This presented itself with challenging since i have never written a research paper before. However using the skills that I have learned in my FIQWS class helped me alot in this project. The

feedback from both Professor Brown and Handy, along with review from my peers help me work on the paper. The skills that I have learned from this class to work on this paper.

This class have taught me to write better than I used to before. Throughout the class the assignments helped me realize how to better my writing from my response papers from Professor Handy's class, to the papers from Professor Brown's class. Due to the deadlines I thought i could have done better had if i had more time to work on the assignments, however it have taught me how to do quality work under a time restrictions. This class have prepared me for the rest of my classes in my upcoming semesters during my time here in college.