

Joel Kissoon

Humanities of the Arts

Professor. Talero

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Self-Assessment Essay

Coming into the new semester, I had high expectations for ENGL 210, anticipating a course that would challenge and expand my writing abilities. I was eager to improve my communication skills and learn how to express my ideas more effectively. As the semester progressed, I found myself developing a deeper understanding of how to identify and write for an intended audience. This skill helped me develop my intended tone, structure, and content to better connect with readers. I also learned how to organize my thoughts more clearly, ensuring my arguments flowed smoothly and cohesively. Each assignment gave me the opportunity to refine these techniques and apply them in different contexts. Overall, ENGL 210 helped me grow into a more thoughtful and purposeful writer. The course was an experience that I find valuable because all the valuable lessons that I have gained throughout will be used in real world scenarios.

The most significant takeaway I had from ENGL 210 was finding my intended audience who wanted to hear or read my work. During the course there were assignments that were given to us to find a specific audience that you would like to share your work with. At first I thought this would be an easy assignment, I can just find a publishing website or public speaking organization that speaks about anything. However, as I got more deep into the assignment I started to say to myself I do want my message to be heard loud and clear, and make an impact.

For instance, the very first assignment given to us in ENGL 210 was the Author Bio assignment, in which we had to document and record all our past experiences that related to writing, but at the same time add our personal touch. That personal touch was finding the audience you want to share your bio with. The professor left a key note within that assignment “Think about your audience! Are you writing only to me (your professor), to your classmates, to students at CCNY, or all your adoring fans in the general public?.” The answer I developed was, my intended audience to read or listen to my author bio is HS or college students that have a vision in their mind on how they want to build their future but don’t know where or how to start. Sharing my experiences about how I got to where I am with the general public doesn’t always feel right, it can easily be misunderstood or taken out of context. However, when I speak to those who truly connect with my journey, the impact is deeper and more meaningful. There’s a level of trust and understanding that allows my story to resonate in a powerful way. These assignments did great in displaying the meaning behind how important an audience is to making your work memorable.

Another course learning outcome that I gained during the course is finding a stance or finding your purpose on why you created this writing piece or why you want to share a story. The story/telling assignment prepared us to find our stance as the goal of the assignment was to “**zoom into a particular moment** from your life. What moments in your life have defined who you are as a person, and therefore, as a writer?.” I chose to deliver my story through speech by speaking in front of the class. I stated on the story/telling proposal worksheet that I wanted my stance to be both humorous and critical. This allowed me to structure my speech in order to showcase my stance. Overall I believed the presentation went well as I felt like my purpose and

overall stance of why I'm sharing this particular moment in my life is important to how it shaped me to be who I am today.

In the final analysis, my high expectations that I had coming into ENGL 210 were happily reached. The lessons learned and all the value in them stuck with me because I know that they will have a significant impact in my future. As stated previously, the audience is the most important factor to making your work memorable. As a future Architect, we must design structures for an intended audience so our work can be respected and acknowledged. Lastly, I want to say thank you to CCNY's English department and Professor. Talero. Having a professor who is dedicated to sharing the craftsmanship and tricks of writing is what made ENGL 210 even more special which is why I am honored to have been a student of ENGL 210.