

Critical Assessment essays allow a person to reflect on their time of doing an assignment or class. This essay will critically examine my performance and growth throughout my time taking FIQWS COMPOSITION FOR CREATIVE EXPRESSION Fall 2025. It will help me analyse my growth, strengths, and weaknesses in certain areas. This class helped me improve my writing skills and increased my knowledge of musicals and musical theatre history. I believe that taking this class will aid in future writing-based classes.

The first essay that I did was the Analysis essay paper, in this essay I had the prompt of “You will select ONE element or “artifact” (music, book excerpt, lyric, or design feature) from one of the musicals you have studied to this point and write a 2-3 page essay analyzing its role in the overall show.”. The element I chose was the song Rent by the Musical RENT. I believe that this essay was one of the best essays I have done in this class. I was able to use the lyrics in my essay to analyze music. From this essay, I don't think that I really gained anything from it, but I did accomplish everything that I wanted to do.

The second work that I did was the genre translation project. In this project, I had to take a musical from the syllabus and turn it into something. The Musical I chose was In the Heights by Lin-Manuel Miranda, and the translation I chose was an online sticker craft journal. This was one of the most fun and interactive projects that was done. I was able to find different stickers and elements for the musical. From this project, I was able to gain

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the knowledge of using different images and elements to describe a topic instead of words. I was able to accomplish all that I wanted to do.

The third essay that I did was the Research essay, where my topic was "The Influence the genre Blues had on Rock and Roll. This essay was the most challenging because there wasn't A lot of direct information on my topic, so I really struggled with it. I felt that I spent more time trying to find sources than writing. From this essay, I feel like I gained better sourcing skills, and my ability to write without a lot of sources was better. I don't think that I accomplished everything that I wanted for this essay.

In Conclusion. Being a part of this class has not only improved my ability to create written responses to different topics, but it has also allowed me to increase my knowledge on the different subtopics of American Musical Theatre.