

FIQWS 101

The FIQWS semester of this semester taught me essential knowledge about writing and research methods which helped me understand my academic growth. I walked into the class without any understanding about how college writing functions. I wrote based mostly on my feelings or what I thought sounded right. Authors need to review their work during research activities while adding evidence to their statements to achieve their defined objectives for creating effective written content. The Final Reflection Essay presents my explanation of the four main lessons I learned throughout this semester backed by evidence from our finished work which includes the NYC Cultural Narrative and the NYC Poem and the Inquiry-Based Research Essay and all self-assessment materials and cover letters.

The first assignment we finished was the NYC Cultural Narrative. The assignment provided me with steps to link my personal experiences for explaining fundamental elements about identity and cultural background. I had not understood how my Bronx life and family history should matter for my writing until this class revealed their importance. The story showed me that my individual existence deserves recognition because it possesses academic value. Students need to show both actual facts and their individual self when they perform writing tasks.

The NYC narrative I developed demonstrates my connection to New York City while it explains how my environment shaped my understanding of reality. The sounds and locations and human beings which I encountered during my development period are what I described. The writing process showed me that reflection develops from individual life experiences instead of needing academic references only. The assignment helped me gain confidence because it proved that my life experiences should be available for others to hear.

The NYC Poem (our city/identity poem) showed me different methods which I could use for creating written work. I used simple sentence structures in my writing but poetry forced me to learn how to use imagery and emotional expression and rhythmic language. The process of writing this poem taught me to communicate emotions by using basic words. The process of creating strong mental images became accessible to me through selecting basic words.

The poem contains my written descriptions which describe city sounds and city movements and city energy. The description of the environment uses short lines which combine with clear images to present the information. The experience showed me that I have creative abilities which I can express through my fundamental English writing abilities. The poem demonstrated to me that strong literary work can be achieved through brief statements instead of needing multiple sentences. Basic language expressions tend to deliver messages more effectively than complex ones.

The Inquiry-Based Research Essay assignment became my most difficult assignment because it enabled me to learn the most. I used to believe that violent video games caused real-world violence because many people asserted this connection to be accurate. The research results showed that my belief did not have any proof to validate it. I learned to

doubt information through my process of identifying reliable sources and checking the truth of presented facts.

Evidence: The research essay and subsequent self-assessment showed that I accepted video game violence as factual until I started working on this paper. The scientific research I studied showed that multiple scientists found no evidence which supported the claim that video games lead to aggressive behavior. The knowledge I acquired helped me build my critical thinking skills. I have learned to check information before accepting it because multiple statements do not guarantee the truth of something. I need to verify information through evidence while making my own decisions.

The first part of the semester revealed my writing pattern which alternated between multiple subjects. The sources I used lacked proper demonstration of their essential value. The process of creating multiple drafts and receiving feedback on my cover letters enabled me to improve my organizational abilities and develop stronger communication skills.

Evidence: I mentioned in my self-assessment that the paper includes transition elements which help readers follow the argument. The process showed me that I learned to understand how written content should follow its natural flow. The three essential skills I learned involved using signal phrases to introduce sources and showing source origins and establishing evidence connections to support my main argument. I learned to build direct academic sentences which used formal language throughout my writing process. I converted various sentences into versions which maintained a structured format and easy-to-follow reading sequence. The skills I learned allowed me to create written content which used professional and confident language.

The research essay required me to analyze articles which presented complex terminology. I would have left the difficult parts of my work untouched when I began this academic year. But this time, I stayed patient. I read at a slow pace while I searched for essential information and I occasionally read the same section multiple times.

Evidence: The studies contained complex information which required me to study them multiple times according to my self-assessment. Learning requires students to experience typical obstacles which form essential components of their educational development. The challenge helped me build my reading skills which led to better academic results. The selection process of a subject which interested me about video games turned out to be an essential learning experience.

The image below represents the progression of my writing throughout the semester, from my early drafts to my final revised essays.

DRAFT

What moments stand out to you when it comes to your own cultural experience as a representation of NYC? I would say that people tend to mind their own business and don't care about what others are doing or saying, and the loud music.

How do you define culture? That is, in your own words, what does it mean to you? To me, culture is what defines a group of people. It's a means of recognition as every culture possesses its own unique characteristics, one example of which is that Mexico has 'Dia de los muertos'.

Can you recall any family, cultural, or social events related to language that you found enlightening, encouraging, awkward, frightening, challenging, or unjust? I don't know if it is like the culture but it is like everyone that has been born here is too individualistic, like if they see someone bad or asking for something they would not do anything.

What key language moment is connected to your culture, whether positive or negative? I kinda know a word (gringo) and is neither of positive or good this word was made or create back to when Mexico and United States were in war where the Americans were using green clothes and the Mexican were saying 'green go home'.

What object or artifact serves as a key connection to your culture and your language and how does that relate to the NYC experience? I don't know if this enters in the range of object or artifact because is Mexican food. I'm saying that because everywhere in New York is a restaurant about Mexican food and is something added to the own culture of NYC.

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FIQWS 10115: Composition for the U.S. Experience

10 December 2025

Do Video Games Produce Violence?

People in my life when I was young repeatedly told me that playing video games would lead me to become violent. Adults consistently warned me that playing Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto would transform my behavior and lead to aggressive conduct in actual situations. These beliefs gained acceptance through repeated exposure in news reports and political arguments and community conversations. Some Mexican government officials support new video game taxes because they believe violent games lead to criminal conduct and social problems. The perspective fails to understand human conduct because it reduces gaming activities to basic actions while dismissing the actual ways people use video games to unwind and build relationships and manage their emotions and develop their minds. The analysis of scientific research together with psychological studies and international crime data and media narratives shows that violent video games do not lead to actual violence in society. Violent conduct emerges from multiple elements which include social elements and psychological aspects and structural components that exceed what games actually show.

The connection between video games and aggressive behavior depends on unproven assumptions instead of scientific research findings. People who discuss media through their discussions focus on immediate emotional responses which include frustration and excitement to demonstrate that games create negative effects. Research conducted over many years has proven that this notion is incorrect. The Frontiers in Psychology journal conducted a longitudinal study which tracked Czech Republic
