**ENGL 1120**

**Exploratory Investigation**

**Formating:** 1-2 pages 12pt Times New Roman or Arial, 1 inch margins, single-spaced, MLA heading format.

**Prompt:** The goal of this Exploratory Investigation is to truly just start to think and explore a potential topic for your research this semester. For this assignment I want you to be a little more free-wheeling as you work to answer some questions about your ideas. I would like for you to format this as an essay, so do not just answer these questions one at a time in a list, but know that I won’t be judging you based on your writing ability, but your ideas. The questions I want to see answered are as follows:

1. What identity do you think you want to research?
   1. What led you to this identity?
   2. What, if anything, do you already know about it?
2. What concerns do you have about researching this identity?
   1. What are you excited about researching?
   2. What are you uncertain about?
3. Where will you start your research?
   1. Do you know what academic fields will be the most relevant?
   2. Do you know of any research starting points?
4. What are the next steps?
   1. What questions do you need to answer first?
   2. What can I do to help your research?

Once you’ve answered all of these questions I will help you think about next steps and how to shape your ideas into a research topic that can serve you well this semester.