**Early Writing**

I remember being asked to write an essay about my goal for the future when I was in grade one. The topic persisted all my primary school. At that small age, I wrote my essays without any thoughts and structures, and they were full of grammatical errors. As I moved to middle school, I began to have a decent grasp of grammar. However, I still couldn’t figure out how to structure my paragraphs and create proper transitions between them. This problem lasted throughout high school. As a result, I could never secure good scores in English writing. I used to always get feedbacks that my grammar was correct but there were no proper transitions between paragraphs, or the paragraphs did not complement each other. At that time, I did not understand what that even meant. So, I dreaded writing. However, after coming to the United States and taking a few writing courses at ULM, I began to understand a little about creating a flow between paragraphs and structuring them properly. Before I came to ULM, I hated writing so much that I would avoid classes that involved writing as much as possible. However, the classes at ULM taught me that if I work hard and try to understand the correct techniques, I can be better at it. Currently, my goal as a writer is to be able to communicate effectively in a professional environment through my writing and I hope to achieve that in this course.

**Writing Process**



Whenever I face a writing task, I usually engage in reading the requirements a lot. It takes some time for me to fully understand all the requirements. After that, I brainstorm ideas and design a writing structure in my head. Eventually, I jot down whatever comes to my mind regarding the writing assignment. I use my laptop to draft because I can keep up with my thought process and write as much as I can without missing any information that comes in my head. This must be done in a quiet surrounding with earphones in my ear because I cannot make any progress if there are people around. My first draft will most likely be full of grammatical and technical errors, so I write successive drafts and revise heavily to fix as many errors as possible. I re-read my writing silently during the process of composing and revising. To assist with my writing, I usually use spelling and grammar checkers in addition to the thesaurus for finding appropriate words. After I feel like I’m done with my writing, I go to the ‘Write Place’ to get feedback on my work.

**Reading**



Reading has never been a hobby of mine. I prefer watching videos to reading books about the materials that I’m interested in. However, I have read a few books that are not related to my course. Most of the books that I’ve read are self-help books that focus on improving myself. I enjoy reading such books because they help me reflect on my actions and improve myself. The best book I’ve read so far is ‘The Untethered Soul’. However, I haven’t read many books to come up with my favorite author yet.

**Expectations**

Honestly, I am still not very comfortable with writing. However, as a computer science major, I’m required to take this course. I expect this course to help me get better at my professional writing skills. I want to be able to write in a way that I can express myself efficiently and professionally. I expect myself to fulfill all the tasks that are required of me in this course and I hope other students also do the same. I hope all of us can learn as much as possible from you and be better at writing.