

Professor Friend,

Taking this course has taught me a couple things and also reinforced some ideas and thinking I already had. One of the course outcomes that I did achieve was gathering data and analyzing it. I knew how to do this at its core before, but I never did it with the organization or the refinement level that the context analysis had us doing it. I think I got pretty good at it considering we had to gather and analyze a source and its findings 15 times. Also learning how to use EndNote was helpful in organizing sources, and made the citations a lot easier to do, I believe one of the course outcomes was learning to use technology to help achieve writing and research goals, and learning EndNote I think fits in that outcome. So I guess coming out of this class I mostly learned how to research better and more efficiently than I had previously, and that should benefit me down the road. I don't believe that my writing has changed or improved at all though, but I think that is my fault as I didn't really strive to improve upon it.

I didn't like doing any of the assignments in this class, but honestly I could say that about all of my classes this semester, it sucked. The context analysis was a huge pain in the ass but I do see the benefit of doing it. It was nice having sources in one place and having the ideas combined into one cohesive unit. Really the only thing that made it terrible to do was the volume of sources we had to collect and analyze, otherwise it was a good assignment and I learned the most from it. I also see the benefit of the outcomes analysis and final project as it is important in applying what you have learned in your research to help and inform others. As for the reading responses and quizzes, I don't think I gained anything from them. I barely remember doing them, much less what they were about. The same goes for the other assignments; there just wasn't much to be gained as a whole from the brainstorming reflection or the research proposal. Don't get me wrong, they were necessary for the class and what we were doing, but I didn't draw any long-term skills or knowledge from doing them, which is what I value more.

The main goal of the class was to learn about the research process, and I have, but more importantly I gained valuable research tools and skills from doing the required coursework. I say that those skills and tools are more important than the whole research process we went through, because I doubt I will have to do a project similar to the one we did in class in the future, but I'm pretty sure I'll still have to research information to some extent later in my college career and perhaps beyond. I didn't like composition at the start of the semester and I still don't like writing or composition after taking this class; I'm just not that kind of person I guess. However I will say that the way you taught the class made it at least bearable for someone like me, which is impressive considering I have cars on the brain 24/7 and I rarely ever read books or deal with any sort of writing at all. Basically if I got something out of this class, then anyone could.

Sincerely,

C Student