Project III: Portfolio Assignment

**Course**: Composition I| ENGL 101

**Professor**: Dr. Hadi Banat

Portfolio assignments showcase the writing process students and instructors engage in throughout the semester. They walk the reader through the journey students took in their writing course. They expose the writing genres students composed and relay their learning curve and the progress they have made. How do you asses your learning? As a writer, I usually compare my prior to my current learning, and I examine artifacts and drafts of my writing to examine how I have developed as a writer and what I have learned during the process. It is a process of self-examination and introspective reflection by relying on actual evidence. For that purpose, you are compiling your portfolio and submitting it as your final product this semester.

# What will you include in your portfolio?

You will include the following writing artifacts:

1. A rewrite of your literacy narrative
2. A rewrite of your genre analysis essay
3. A final reflection

The improved drafts of your literacy narrative and genre analysis essays must address the feedback I have provided. As we learned together in class, we annotate feedback we receive and devise a strategy for revision, thus focusing on our priorities. During your rewrite process, you might invent other improvements that you will explore autonomously as you implement the feedback. Trust your gut, simply because you have become a more experienced writer by now. You have already finished your literacy narrative rewrite. On Tuesday (12/13/2020), you will annotate my feedback in response to your genre analysis essay and plan your rewrite. The only new piece you will compose for your portfolio will be the final reflective essay, which focuses on your continuous development as a writer. To find out more about what you will prioritize in the final reflection, please go on reading.

## Reflective Essay

My favorite writing scholar, Kathleen Blake Yancey, has shaped my thinking about writing, my research on writing, and the way I teach writing. If you have ever wondered why we were writing reflections this semester, here is ‘our’ answer to your question:

As I watched students work, as I began to appreciate how little I knew without asking, to learn from my students when I did ask, to understand ever-so-gradually that the teaching of writing, like the writing of text, is a social process, an interaction, an exchange, and finally, that to learn from these experiences what they had to teach. I needed to structure them, to find several means of framing and ways of aligning them. (Yancey, 1998, p. 200)

For this project, you will write a letter to instructors in the Composition Program explaining what you’ve learned about writing and rhetoric this semester and how your new knowledge will benefit you. In order to explain your learning thoroughly, name what you’ve learned and reference specific examples of your learning from your own writings and from the readings in the course. The purpose of this letter, coupled with your portfolio, is to help instructors in our program learn more about what students are learning in our classes.

A successful reflection letter will do the following:

* Explain at least one significant writing **concept** you’ve learned and where/how you learned it.
  + refer to and/or quote from your portfolio materials to demonstrate your understanding.
  + use precise language for naming and defining the concept, referring specifically to shared class sources (readings) to explain it.
* Explain at least one new writing **practice** that you have developed and how you learned it.
  + refer to and/or quote from your portfolio materials to demonstrate how this new practice worked for you.
  + refer specifically to shared class sources (readings and/or assignments) that helped you learn this practice
* Explain how this course has changed your thinking about writing and rhetoric, and/or explain how your thinking about writing and rhetoric has stayed the same.
* Explain how you anticipate using these writing concepts and practices in the future—including in *non-school contexts.*
  + provide a few examples of future contexts where you expect to apply your new knowledge and practices.

# How will you organize your portfolio?

Your portfolio will start with a cover page that aligns with APA guidelines. Please refer to the [Purdue Online Writing Lab](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa6_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html) to remember what to include in your cover page. After your cover page comes your reflective essay; the improved draft of the literacy narrative follows, and finally you place your genre analysis essay rewrite. Please remember that a list of references should go after each essay, as we have previously done in the first drafts of the literacy narrative and genre analysis essays.

Also remember the following:

* Use **Times New Roman, Font Size 12.** Your paragraphs should be **double spaced**.
* Provide a reference page and use appropriate in-text citations according to **APA**.
* Submit it to Blackboard on **December 17 by 11:59 pm**. The deadline is **not** negotiable for students who do not have accommodations. Students who have accommodations may ask for a one-day extension, just because I have a deadline for submitting final grades. Any late assignments will receive a grade of **zero**. I need to take my time grading your final assignments and give you the final grade you deserve.

# Success Criteria

* **Completeness (50 points):** Does your portfolio include all the assigned components? Does your portfolio include the improved drafts of the literacy narrative and genre analysis essays? Did you make improvements to address my feedback?
* **Quality of Revision (75 points):** Have you made substantial changes to address your instructor feedback? Have you made other changes that became necessary through addressing your instructor feedback?
* **Quality of Final Reflection (75 points):** Did you respond to all four requirements? Did you provide rich evidence from your literacy narrative and genre analysis essays to show your improved knowledge and practices about writing?
* **Language Use (25 points):** Have you maintained clear writing prose throughout the essay with effective use of transition devices, grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation?
* **APA Documentation (25 points):** Did you adhere to the recommended portfolio format? Do you have proper citation of sources in the document and reference page?