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COM210
3/4/2018

Differences between Academic and Professional Writing

Academic writing focusses on executing a series of class-based tasks which requires synthesizing, analyzing, and evaluating appropriate sources to develop strong evidence of claims or arguments developed. In this case, the learner requires analytical and critical reading skills in order to understand the main assumptions and declarations of other authors while increasing their understanding of a certain subject. This shows that academic writing requires students to demonstrate their research skills, incorporate their arguments and ideas to those of other authors, and apply the rules of citation and attribution effectively. On the other hand, professional writing requires an individual to develop a competent and convincing work to an audience that may not be familiar with the theme at hand. In this case, the learner follows a certain document design and adheres to paragraph coherence and structure. Besides, professional writing aims at communicating a message to influence opinions or actions in a specific field.

In writing my draft on the innovation project, I aimed at being concise and targeting the main point of improving office interactions. Due to the differing level of knowledge and expertise of my target audience (supervisor), I had to remain professional by adhering to a memo structure, using short sentences and paragraphs, visual appeal, and simple words. In addition, I used a tone that reflects the message portrayed and the expectations of my supervisor who tends to be the audience.

Response to my classmate's Discussion post

I agree with Angela Kissane that academic writing is informative, uses a neutral tone, and uses evidence to support the main claim. The conclusion of an academic writing may refute, support, or modify the main subject of discussion. On the other hand, Kissane argues that professional writing is an informal but creative way of convincing the superiors by using excel sheets, PowerPoint slides, and graphs on how main goals of a proposal will be achieved