First-Year Writing Spring 2021 / Dr. Vestri

Project: Multimodal Reflection

The final major assignment we will complete for ENGW 1111 is a **Multimodal Reflection**. The purpose of this last assignment is to give you a chance to look back at all the work you have done this semester and to be thoughtful about how you engaged with the materials and experiences of our course as you worked on molding your compositional processes, strengths, and skills.

In this reflection piece, you will think not only about the products that you created—drafts, brainstorms, revisions, exercises, etc.—but also about what you learned and how you learned it.

In addition to being a useful endpoint for our coursework, reflection is an essential real-world skill that you'll need to cultivate for your future academic and professional lives. Nearly every employer asks their employees, no matter what level, to reflect on their goals and to explain how they have worked on them. Even in your co-op, you may be asked to plan for, and later to explain how you met, your objectives for the position.

Assignment:

Produce a **5-minute non-written piece of communication**, such as a screencast, narrated slideshow, audio recording, or webcam recording. In this reflective piece, examine **one key lesson or takeaway** that benefited you most and/or that you think you will carry forward into future writing.

Tips:

- Develop one central theme / focus for the reflection. Then, choose examples from your past work that would best illustrate this theme.
- For instance, you might talk about learning "they say / I say" techniques and show examples of applying that rhetorical strategy in your writing. Or, you might discuss how a free-writing exercise changed how you approach drafts, and show a set of sample brainstorms. There is no right way or right subject for this assignment. You should, however, provide concrete illustrations of the lesson or takeaway you are focusing on.

Technology:

You may use any free technology to which you have easy access. In Canvas, **Studio** lets you record a screen capture (like the screencasts I've sometimes sent you) or a webcam capture (to create a video of yourself like a TED talk or lecture). You could also use free online software outside Canvas, like Screencast-o-matic, for the same purpose.

You could also use an audio recording app such as **Voice Memos** (Mac/iPhone) to record an audio clip. You may also want to use **Google Slides** or **Microsoft PowerPoint** to create a visual slideshow presentation; you can either record narration within Slides or use screencast software.

Whichever format you choose, your production should be multimodal, meaning that it is using other forms of communication aside from writing (such as audio, graphics, video, images, etc.).