Nick Marino

ENGL 102

Secs. 016, 017

9 November 2020

Portfolio and Reflection

**Your task is to assemble 20 pages of prose that reflect your development as a writer in this course and then to introduce the 20 pages with a 1-2 page reflection on your development in this course as a whole. Your assignment should be at least 21 pages total, double spaced, including the works cited pages and the reflection assignment. Your portfolio should be a single document in .pdf or .doc form with the reflection being the first page(s) of the document.**

What is assessment?

Universities use first-year writing portfolios to see how a program is doing generally, as in what types of writing students are doing and for what purposes and intended audiences. Writing assessment is part of the accreditation process. ULL, like any university, could potentially lose accreditation if standards fall below expected parameters (though this is extremely rare).

Assessment consists of graders (professors and or graduate students) who read first-year writing portfolios anonymously and score the writing in various categories. This score in no way reflects on your grade in the class, or on the instructor’s performance in teaching the class. Assessment is always holistic in that the graders read portfolios from multiple class sections. The point is to holistically look at writing in the university, not to single out good or bad examples of student portfolios from specific instructors.

What to put in the portfolio

You can include any essays written for this class, in either first draft and or final draft formats. You can include essays that you have written for a grade but that you have not yet received a grade from me.

If you have over 20 pages of writing you can include everything, but I would suggest that you include your best work only. This is because it is possible that someone will read your portfolio for assessment purposes and you may want to only include what is representative of your work instead of all your work. You must include at least 21 total pages (including the works cited pages). If you completed all 4 writing assignments but still do not have 20 pages total, then you will have to write more for your reflection in order to get at least 21 pages (including the reflection). Portfolios and reflections that are under 21 full pages will not receive the highest grade regardless of the quality of the content.

What to write in the reflection

The reflection assignment should answer these questions, not necessarily in this order:

* How has your writing improved or not improved as the semester progressed?
* What was your favorite and least favorite assignments and why?
* What was your favorite and least favorite class activity and why?
* Why did you include the essays that you included in this portfolio?
* Have you changed any of the essays included in this portfolio? If so, why?
* What sort of knowledge can you take from this class and apply to future classes or jobs?
* How has your knowledge of writing and rhetoric changed from previous high school English classes?
* How has your knowledge of visual rhetoric changed from previous high school English classes or college English classes?
* Do the classical rhetoric readings help you apply rhetoric to your everyday life or not? If so, how? If not, why not?
* What do you know about writing and rhetoric that you did not know before this class?

You are welcome to discuss other issues in your reflection if you would like but you should provide answers to all the above questions.

Because this assignment is a reflection of your subjective experiences in this class, it is recommended that you use 1st person prose to write it.

Grading the portfolio and assessment

This assignment is open-ended in terms of grading because you are reflecting on your experiences as opposed to formulating an argument. For the reflection, you will be graded primarily on grammar, organization, spelling, and whether you have answered the above questions since it is impossible to assess the honesty of your reflections within the parameters of a letter grade. The reflection should not be difficult to write if you have kept up with turning in drafts of essays this semester, as opposed to saving everything until the last moment.

Remember that you must turn in at least 21 pages total (this number includes the reflection).

Formatting

Please include your reflection as the first page(s) of your portfolio. You can order the portfolio in any way you wish beyond that.

Your essays should be in 12 pt. type and double spaced and should be in MLA format. Your final draft should be at least 21 full pages double spaced. Your name should appear on the first page and in the header of every page along with the page number. Please include a Works Cited section at the end of your essay (it does not need to be on a separate piece of paper) if you include outside sources.

Remember to consult the Purdue OWL website for how to cite scholarly sources in MLA format @ <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/> .

There will only be a final draft of this assignment. The final draft is due by 11:59 PM CST on 25 November 2020. Please submit your assignments digitally via Moodle.