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Self Assessment

Throughout the semester in the section of literature and psychoanalysis it consisted of doing multiple writing assignments. These assignments required analyzing, interpreting a variety of different texts and then making arguments on a prompt. In this course, I improved on formulating a thesis, gathering evidence and analyzing. This class further taught me how to make connections through different texts and viewing them through a Freudian lens.

This class was really helpful in the fact that students in the class were open about where they needed improvement and further helped the rest to understand. For example, during thesis workshop students would volunteer to share their thesis. This was the most helpful because I would use it as a guide for my own thesis. Often times me and my peers were missing similar things, or would word sentences better than I could. This helped me to revise my thesis statement and better my essay. During peer reviews I would also gain a lot of insight and many different critique on my writing. Critiques were given well in this class, everyone participated and gave good feedback. I was able to always revise and make my essay better by including the feedback I received into my writing.

New strategies that I developed that I will carry onto future writing is that I will not be writing a introduction paragraph first. In past english classes, it was always said to start with an

introduction. I found it rather difficult the first time I heard this advice because I was so used to writing an introduction first, it was engraved in my mind. I thought *how am I supposed to write the essay without an intro?* but quickly realized it was useful advice. I was able to formulate my thoughts faster and start on the body paragraphs quicker than before. Ending my final draft by writing the essay was easier; it allowed me to use most of time developing the body paragraphs and thesis without having to worry about little details in the introduction.

My writing goals were developed through the assigned reading in class. The short reading assignments that we had in class were always somehow related to grammar and sentence / paragraph structure. It contributed to showing the class different styles of writing and get used to seeing different punctuation in writing. It conveyed different ways to showcase writing and helped while drafting my own essays as no essay was similar in style. Evidence was integrated and supported differently in each of my essays. I would say the Critical Research Analysis essay was the most detailed as it required me to interpret outside sources and not just Freud. By engaging in peer reviews I learned to be more precise in my writing. As many times, I would receive comments to expand on certain ideas, and to sound more confident in what I'm saying instead of writing a claim and sounding uncertain.

I also found the library sessions important and informative because it explored a new way to gain information which will be useful for future classes and writing assignments. During the library session it went over MLA formatting, and the schools database where students are able to get scholarly journals that will be used in research essays. This was important because they showed how to find and navigate the database to find what we are looking for. The last essay required us to use at least two scholarly journals and I was able to navigate through the website

and find what I was looking for. In this class I also learned how to write for my audience, because these essays consisted of writing to my professors; I had to write my essays in a way that fit both their requirements. For example, in regards to writing about Freud and his concepts, I had to make sure to explain them or else, one of my professors would have no idea what I'm talking about or how it relates to my evidence. I had to give the right amount of context and not give too much summary because then it would be excessive, take up word count, and drown the analysis of evidence. It wouldn't be beneficial to my writing or my professors reading.

Overall, I improved in my writing. I learned how to write a well written thesis by advice from professors and peers and reflecting on peer reviews and thesis workshops. I learned how to correctly cite evidence using MLA. I also learned how to integrate and analyze different texts and make connections. This class was very helpful and useful it's one of the classes where I gained a lot of insight and learned a lot from both the assigned texts and writing.