

Self Assessment:

In the beginning of the semester I can say that I was a mediocre writer at best, but throughout this course I've been able to improve the depth of my writing and apply my skills in different writing assignments. I think one thing that I struggled a lot with in the beginning of the course was going in depth with my writing and analyzing the work I'm including in my writing assignments. In addition to this I felt that I would be able to put the information into my assignments but lacked the ability to extend on what I've included with my own inputs but rather just restate the information almost as if I'd circle around my analysis rather than getting to it. Another problem I had with my analysis is that it would take me too long to get to the points I was trying to make when analyzing my information. As I completed more and more of the big writing assignments in this course I had been able to make my writing more concise and get to the points of my arguments or writing much quicker allowing the flow of my writing to improve. In our first big writing assignment, the technical description, while I knew a lot about physics and skateboarding as separate entities I had trouble fully connecting the two in my analysis even though both topics can easily be related. This was because my analysis was not concise and lacked depth making it very repetitive and overrepeated. In our next assignment where we had to talk about a specific scientific controversy, I had chosen the topic of animal testing which is evidently controversial. Even though my knowledge of animal testing had been minimal going into the assignment I had noticed that in the analysis of the points I made in that paper had been more concise and had more depth compared to the technical description. This was due to the improvement in my writing through the sub writing assignments in this course that really helped me better how I go about analyzing the information in my writing even if it is a topic I'm not very familiar with. In our group research paper the topic my group chose was hydraulic

fracturing, a very complex topic that I had little understanding going into. Even though this was the most complex topic I had to write about throughout this whole course I was able to grasp the information of the sources I read and properly analyze the information with more ease than any other assignment I had turned in before. This also is an example of the improvement in my writing as I've developed the skill being able to read and understand complex topics better also allowing for my writing especially my analysis to improve when writing about complex topics which was a skill I can confidently say I lacked coming into this course. Overall this course really has had a positive impact on my writing, especially the way I comprehend and analyze information that I need to write about. Because I am a physics major, most of the topics I will be writing about regarding the sciences will be very complex. Since this is true I feel that the skills I've developed in this class will become very applicable in my future writing for my major which I'm very thankful for. I think there definitely are things I still need to improve on such as citations both in text and in my bibliographies as I've consistently lost points in those categories for my writing. In addition to this I think one bad habit I need to fix is revising and checking my work. I feel that I still have the habit of being a lazy writer with more of a concern of turning the assignment in rather than completing it to the best of my ability. I think in the future I need to work on going back to my work after I've finished typing and re-reading it in order to spot potential errors in my writing. On top of that I need to put more effort into my writing all together to make sure I'm putting my best work out there as I feel that even in all of these assignments I haven't been able to get myself to turn in the best work I could possibly produce even though these assignments highlight the improvement in my writing.