

Dear Professor,

Over the semester innumerable life-changing experiences have occurred to my life. I believe every obstacle and step has turned me into a better reader, writer, and learner. I am sometimes worried that these events may have had negative effects on me and that these traumatic events may have turned me into a bitter citizen instead of the optimistic citizen I used to be. I am hoping now to turn a corner and use those unpleasant moments to make me into someone stronger and better. I am not sure how long this journey will take, but I will go the distance nonetheless. Every day, I am praying, attempting to look at the bright side, and taking small steps to reach my personal goals and my full potential. I push myself to take positive action by seeking therapy, reading self-help books, and spending time with loved ones so that someday soon I can look back and see that I have grown into a more positive individual.

I feel that I have become a better reader over the semester- The signed assignments this semester were captivating and enlightening for me. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to have been exposed to that knowledge. I believe that I have obtained a considerable amount of wisdom from the readings assigned. They opened my eyes and shaped the way I see the world. One of my favorite articles is "Sound Unbound" by Paul D. Miller. This article speaks of language, words, and sounds and their effect on our reality. A paragraph that I still recall from the article is "language usage is a reflection of consciousness, thus, the future of language is connected to the ever-evolving state of human awareness. As we become more aware of our existing reality it becomes clearer that we live with the power to dictate our given situations and thus the power to determine our future. Our present reality is present, dictated by what we asked for previously. No, I am not saying that everything that happens to us is within

our control. But, through our perception, we can determine much more of our reality than we realize (all puns intended). And what we say, which is a reflection of what and how we think, is of the utmost importance”. I recall this paragraph to this day because I also firmly believe that the thoughts, languages, and ideas I have been introduced to have molded me into the person I am today. So, I am saying that the things I have said in the past have become my present reality. I recently began reading books about manifestation and the law of attraction. So reading this article was an eye-opener. I am thankful that I got the chance to read those articles and gain knowledge. I can also clearly recall the article “Vital” by Nicholas Carr, which speaks of the internet and how it changes our perceptions and brain. It teaches us that it is crucial to be aware of the things we expose ourselves to on the internet. I also read an article about Mexican migration and the troubles they face while crossing the border. Many articles speak of the unspeakable acts that happen around the world. It was fascinating to learn about all of this. I hope to one day spread this knowledge to others and create a better and safer world for all regardless of my own negative experiences over the course of this semester, so that I may inspire others.

One of my most favorite articles I read this semester is “Electracy”. I appreciated having the opportunity to read this article. It was an eye-opener. Professor Greg Ulmer gave us incredible insight and answered our inquisitive questions. I hope to continue reading Electracy and learn even more about this subject. While growing up, I was never interested in reading. However, recently I have started taking my education very seriously. I believe it is impossible to get through life without proper education. Education is the key to success, so I hope to stay devoted to education and become a lifelong learner.

Throughout the semester, I have taken small steps to evolve into a better learner and I believe those steps have helped me become a great learner. For example, I have started waking up very early in the morning to study because I want to fit in as much time for education as I can, and to be my most effective self. I have also started to understand the importance of re-reading the articles because I find that it gives me a deeper understanding of the message through repetition. I believe my writing has improved through the semesters. I have written many essays and assignments for my classes, and many of those assignments helped me to further understand myself and the ways I can connect to this world. For example, the culture jam and creative project were great learning tools. Those projects helped me to speak up and not hide my voice. I grew up being very shy and reserved. I believe it has to do with the fact that I am the youngest and only daughter in my house. I never had to raise my voice or ask for anything, because everything was provided for me. I am beyond thankful for that. Working on writing assignments this semester made me realize that I am my own person and I have a voice. I should always speak my truth and share my belief when it's necessary. Overall, being part of this course was a great learning, reading, and writing process for me. I am thankful to have had the chance to register for the class and to have such a great professor. Thank you so much for everything, professor Robert. I wish you happy holidays and all the happiness in the world.