



ENG 1133 Assignment | Initial Self-Assessment

Please compose detailed, thoughtful, and legible answers to the following questions. Hand this portion of the assignment in during class.

Your name (first, last):

Telephone (cell):

City Tech email:

Personal email:

Where were you born and where have you lived?:

Where were your parents born and where have they lived?

What language(s) do you speak besides English? How well?

What language(s) do you write besides English? How well?

Courses you are currently taking:

Current job (where, what, how many hours per week):

This course requires approximately 10 to 12 hours per week of outside work (no joking). Do you have any other responsibilities that may affect your coursework? If so please explain what and how you will accommodate the added workload of a summer course:

Intentionally left blank.

Skills and Abilities Self-Rating

Please give a numerical rating to each of the skills on the following pages that identifies your level of experience. Hand this portion of the assignment in during class:

- 0) I know nothing.
- 1) I have minimal experience.
- 2) I have some experience but am unconfident.
- 3) I am experienced.
- 4) I am skilled and confident.
- 5) I could teach a course about this.

Technology Skills:

PC computer: _____

Mac computer: _____

The "Internet": _____

OpenLab: _____

MS Word: _____

MS Powerpoint: _____

Adobe Photoshop: _____

Adobe InDesign: _____

Adobe Acrobat Professional: _____

Social Media: _____

Other Skills [what?]: _____

Writing and Design Skills:

Audience analysis: _____

Templating: _____

Document formatting: _____

Developing complex texts: _____

Developmental editing: _____

Line editing: _____

Copy editing: _____

Web-based content: _____

Team writing: _____

Online research: _____

Page layout: _____

Reference/documentation: _____

Argument analysis: _____

Argument construction: _____

Paragraph structure: _____

Sentence construction: _____

Punctuation: _____

Writing in another language [what language(s)]: _____

Professional Activities:

Business report writing: _____

Memo writing: _____

Resume writing: _____

Cover letter writing: _____

Business letter writing: _____

Marketing writing: _____

Workplace writing: _____

Procedure creation: _____

Web content creation: _____

User manual creation: _____

Online help creation: _____

Communications coaching: _____

Process documentation: _____

Translation [what language(s)]: _____

Writing books/blogs/articles: _____

Training/mentoring: _____

Empirical research: _____

Personal branding: _____

Presentation/pitch delivery: _____

Job searching: _____

Question and Response

Due 2/4/16 (Thursday) in Class

Please design and print a separate document, formatted to the best of your ability to look like a “workplace document,” that responds thoughtfully to these questions. For each response, be sure to explain and provide the relevant context that will help me understand your answer. A paragraph for each question is sufficient. Upload this document to your Dropbox folder:

1. What is a “writing process”? What does your individual writing process look like?
2. What is “professional writing”?
3. Why are you interested in about writing? Anything? What are you least interested in?
4. How do envision the ability to produce good “workplace writing” fitting into your career?
5. What work experience do you have? What’s next for you?
6. What experience(s) do you have writing, or producing texts, outside of a classroom setting?
7. What are your strengths are as a writer? What do you need to work on?
8. What are your strengths as a student? What do you need to work on?
9. What knowledge, skills, and habits do you think that you will need to be successful in this course?
10. What do you need from me, your professor, to be successful in this course?
11. What are your interests outside of college? What do you spend time doing outside of work?
12. What is your greatest achievement in life up to this point? Realistically, what do you want to achieve in the next 10 years?
13. Who is the person that you look up to in life the most, and why?
14. If you could be known for one thing in your life, what would it be?
15. What are you passionate about? How did this passion develop.

Personal Classroom Bio

Due 2/4/16 (Thursday) in Class

On a separate sheet of paper, compose a two to three paragraph (300 to 500 words) bio for yourself and upload it to your Dropbox folder. See my sample as a guide (if you need it).

PATRICK CORBETT, PHD

As you know, my name is Patrick Corbett. During our short time together, we will embark on the most intensive study and practice of writing that you have yet experienced. The work of this course is demanding, but will provide you with immense benefits as you learn the major concepts, and practices of using the written word to advance your career in the professional world.

I've included a few words about myself below to give you a better sense of how I approach teaching and writing. After you read my bio post, compose your own. You may include whatever information you want, but it's important that you share *something* about yourself and why you are here for the personality of our course and the work we will be doing together. Be aware, I will share these with the class.

Here we go...

Education

My educational credentials are a B.A. in Economics from Northwestern University, an M.A. in English from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. in English Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Louisville. I have taught many different types of writing courses. I am also a digital literacy and usability researcher with an interest in video games, new media, and cultural aspects of communications technologies. In other words, I like to study how people do things with digital tools and how these tools fit into their lives.

Work Experience

For six years after college, I worked in story development in the motion picture industry at Paramount Pictures and the Mutual Film Company (and a few other places). After leaving the 80-hour work weeks common in the movie business, I worked as a screen-printing apprentice in a textile factory in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania (home of the weather prognosticating groundhog). While working on my Master's degree, I did technical writing and policy research for a large HIV/AIDS treatment consortium.

I am in my second year teaching writing here at The New York City College of Technology. I have also taught writing at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Bellarmine University, Jefferson Community and Technical College, the University of Louisville, Madison College, and Axia College. Along the way I have worked as an independent contractor, technical writer, and consultant for various companies including *Star Trek: Voyager*, Kaplan, Inc., the William Morris Agency, and Virgin Records, Inc., as well as several Internet start-ups.

Teaching "Philosophy"

I love, love, love to work with writers. It is the part of my job that I look forward to each day, so I look forward to working with each of you. I expect that we will learn a lot from each other. My M.A. and

Ph.D. level training in teaching writing comes out of the “Constructivist” philosophy of teaching, meaning that I believe that we create our knowledge together. I spent eight years of graduate school learning the most effective methods of teaching writing, and I try to incorporate that training and education into an engaging environment for you to make better writing.

I take my teaching responsibilities seriously, and I will invest a lot of time into making sure you receive the education you need to be successful in the professional world. The other side of that is **this course demands your commitment to succeed and involves continuous real work**. A lot of it, in fact. This work is crucial for your success as a student, and for an engaged professional life outside of school (no matter what your career). Together, we will create a stable and productive learning environment to do this work.

Your responsibility in this course is to complete the course activities and actively engage me and your peers in thought-provoking discussions. You will find me to be a respectful but challenging professor who will demand good work from you. My goal is that this will be a perspective-changing course for each of you and I am relentless in pursuit of that goal.

Now tell us about yourself! What do you feel like you are doing in college? What is your philosophy as a “student”? You can write about anything that you feel connects you to writing. Or, you can even write about that lack of connection if you don’t feel one. Or, you can write about whatever you want as long as that subject is you.