**Final Portfolio: Revision and Reflection on Your Theory of Writing**

**(adapted from Kim Liao)**

**What defines my writing process? Tracing your development as a writer**

For this final portfolio assignment, consider the trajectory of your writing throughout this semester. **Specifically, you’ll revise all of your major assignments, based on my feedback and your own reflection on what makes an effective piece of writing**. You’ll submit your final portfolio that includes an introduction describing how each piece evolved since it was first written.

**You’ll then write a Final Reflection Essay defining your “theory of writing.” You may frame your final reflection essay as a letter to me, if that would be helpful.** Consider how your writing process has evolved across the genres of writing that you produced, as well as through increased awareness of audience, rhetorical situation, and how authors build credibility using research. Recall that there are eight key terms that emerged from our research as the most important for students to understand in writing across contexts. These were:

1. rhetorical situation (where we also discussed the concept of exigence)
2. Genre
3. Audience
4. Reflection
5. Purpose
6. Knowledge
7. Discourse community
8. Context

Consider incorporating your understanding of these key terms and how that understanding has changed in order to discuss your theory of writing. You should specifically address moments in your essays, in class, discussions you’ve had, or other times and places throughout the semester that has helped you formulate your perception of writing, its utility and possibility, and how it functions across contexts.

**Here are some questions that may be helpful to you in the Reflection Essay:**

1. **What did you believe about your own writing process coming into ENG 1121? How has your theory of writing evolved with each assignment?**
2. **What has contributed to your understanding of the writing process the most?**
3. **What specific skills or strategies have you developed? To what extent how you found them to be successful in helping you express yourself effectively in writing?**
4. **What is your theory of writing? How might you apply approaches from this class to other writing situations both inside the classroom and outside the classroom?**

**The Final Portfolio is worth 40% of the Course Grade, and includes:**

* + **Final Reflection Essay of 4-5 double-spaced pages, explaining your revision process of the piece you revised and theory of writing as you have understood it this semester**

* + **Revisions of a Previous Assignments from this class:** Please include the previous drafts with my feedback and previous grade. Before each essay, write a paragraph where you explain how each piece has changed over the course of the semester.

**Final Portfolios are due as hard copies turned in during class on Tuesday, May 21st. Since your Portfolio will be used as your Final Exam Grade, late Portfolios will not be accepted after 12:45 p.m. on 5/21.**