

Final portfolio

ENG 1121

Prof. Cipriani

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Reflection:

Since it's the end of the semester, my journey of growth as a reader and writer has been drastic. Over the past few months, I have faced challenges, celebrated successes, and learned valuable lessons that have shaped my understanding of myself and my abilities. Learned new skills on how to do certain things in different ways, and also did new assignments that were hard but eventually got through them and learned what I had to do. Learning how to do fieldwork and new ways of doing research and citing sources.

One of the most important things I have learned about myself as a reader and writer is the importance of proofreading and revising your work. Throughout the semester, I encountered moments of frustration and doubt as I worked on hard texts and struggled to be able to start some assignments. However, with the determination to do well, I learned that I can grow and improve beyond what I think and my limitations. Reflecting on my experience, I realized that college is not only about overcoming obstacles but also about the learning process getting through the hard challenges, and using them for future growth.

In terms of development, I have experienced significant growth as a reader and writer this semester. By doing a variety of writing assignments and learning different types of new ways of studying, I improved my overall skills and deepened my understanding of what it is to write in different ways and forms. As a result, I gained confidence in my abilities as a reader and writer, feeling that I can do work that is on a whole different level and can get through any type of assignment that is thrown at me. I have also improved my research skills to help me look for better citations and how to use MLA citation formatting in the best way possible in a text and in general. I feel like some things I could've improved on would've been seeking the guidance that I needed because I tended to try to be the lone wolf and always wanted to go ahead and do things all on my own.

This class was important in building my understanding of writing and its importance to life and academics. From learning about different genres and strategies to the importance of audience awareness and attention, I gained valuable knowledge that can be used for various assignments writing problems, and situations in college and other real-world or real-life problems. For example, in my research on the importance of marriage, I learned how to research, and use complex data, and use my work cited in order to support my claims. These skills will help me in future academic and professional settings, allowing me to know how to communicate and how to use my resources to my advantage in order to get what I want from my audience. It shows me how I am going to be using the skills that I learned throughout the semester not only in a workspace or school but in real life as well.

As I look at the work I did throughout the semester I look at what I could've done better or some things that I need to work on. For example, I looked at the progress from my work from my last semester English class to now and I can see significant change. Not only that but there are also some things that I need to improve that I did from this semester. This came from a thought of wanting to be a better writer and see how I can write in different aspects. I also learned how to read like a writer and take information from texts to use it the right way.

Unit 1:

The word from my community or something I have heard from my community growing up would be “professional”. Now this word is something that is and always was said around me. That is why I chose to talk about the word and how it plays a big part in my community.

Growing up I would always hear this word and I would always wonder what it meant, I would think to myself, “What does being professional mean?”. I would always hear this word from my peers even from my parents and family as well. My parents always told me growing up “Tienes que hacer una carrera cuando seas adulto para que te hagas profesional” in Spanish which translates to “ You have to pursue a career when you're an adult to become a professional”. I know that everyone as well as me in my community has heard that from their parents, even (you) the person reading this right now has heard this either multiple times in their life or at least once. My first encounter with the word was with my parents ever since I was little and when I first gained actual consciousness it has always been something that was talked about because being successful is something very important to my family and I know everyone can agree as well. It goes for every family that they would want the younger generation to strive for success and be better than the last generation. It also does not matter who you are no matter what generation you are a part of you always hear the word “professional”.

The meaning of the word “professional” has changed throughout the years because before when I was younger the way people would explain the word would be to grow up to be successful. But now that I am older it has a deeper meaning than just that, it's not only about being successful and having a career/profession but it is how you also carry yourself in a setting with professional people. You may ask “In a setting of professional people? What is that

supposed to mean??”, well let me explain for example when you go to a job interview how would you speak to the interviewer? You definitely wouldn't talk to them the way you talk to your friend or cousin because you want the job right? Exactly so what I have learned has been that anywhere you have to be professional not only does that make you look good but it makes you credible. Credible meaning that people would look at you and see that you not only have a good reputation but you are also worthy of anything whether it is in the workspace, a classroom, etc. This word has played an importance in my life because it is something that has always been either said to me or said around me and to this day I still hear the word. I know that the word is not only used in my community but in other communities as well, sometimes you may be in class and your teacher will start talking about being professional or you can be at a job and your colleagues may talk about how professional someone is or how it is to be professional.

Currently, people of any community are already aware of the word “professional” and everyday people learn different meanings of it in every aspect of their lives. I know that my community isn't the only community that would use the word to describe success but other communities may use it to describe other things and not necessarily describe success with the word. There are no limitations on who can use the word and who can't use the word due to the simple fact that it is something that will always be brought up when it comes to being in a workspace, school, you name it it can apply to all aspects of life. I feel like everybody should know the different meanings of the word because it helps them in the long run when it comes to anything in life, the people who understand the different meanings of the word would understand what it is to be “professional” in the real world and different places. All kinds of people who want to have a good reputation and who want to get jobs or things of that nature should know about being “professional”, also the benefits of it and teach other people and young ones how

important it is in life. To see the benefits and how your life can improve by knowing the meanings and applying them to yourself.

My community says that being “professional” is a way of life and you may wonder why and may ask yourself how being professional takes you places or makes you seem a certain way. In the course of my life throughout my years of academics, it has helped me understand that you can make valuable connections with people that will help you in the long run. It has helped me understand how different workspaces and academic spaces are in terms of how they operate. Also, it is very important to make good first impressions when it comes to being new in a place like work or even in a class wherever you go because you never know who those people that you make connections with know or what they can do for you in the future. It allows you to have more opportunities in your life and also makes people know you are worthy of being a hard worker and reliable. Being “professional” has helped me in my life for the better because I have met people and made connections with people who have helped me and have presented me with more opportunities.

To sum it all up the word “professional” is the word that I have heard throughout my life while growing up and I still hear it to this day. It also helped me in the long run and made me who I am today.

Unit 2:

Understanding the Importance of Marriage

By: Willdarlyn Martinez

The topic of marriage has been a debatable one for years now, and with the newer generations, it has become even more of a hot-button issue. There are questions surrounding whether or not the younger generation values marriage and if they understand the significance of this unity. Successful families that grow together and flourish throughout the years and long-lasting partnerships that create more generations to come with a single person by your side - these all sound like meaningful aspects of life that many of us would want to experience. However, the question remains: is marriage important to a person's well-being and overall happiness? Marriage is important in society because it gives people stability, emotional support, and personal growth. It helps the well-being of families and communities by providing a stable foundation for children to grow up in and by creating a network of support for individuals. With this in mind, it is important to address the fact that many young adults and teenagers heading into adulthood do not believe that marriage is important.

Marriage is important in society because it gives people stability, emotional support, and personal growth, helping the well-being of families and communities. My audience would be young adults and teenagers heading into adulthood since this generation doesn't believe marriage is important. The purpose is to persuade young adults and teenagers to reconsider their views on the importance of marriage and encourage them to seek meaningful relationships. The fieldwork I will be doing will be interviewing young people and adults to see their views and outlooks on the topic also by using quotes from my sources and also by using statistics and asking them what they think about them.

As the people consist of young adults and teenagers transitioning into adulthood, many young adults and teenagers don't prioritize marriage. However, by digging deep with information about marriage and into their mindsets and beliefs surrounding marriage, giving them the proper information and guidance of why it may or may not be important we may make a change. Through concrete research, including interviews and evidence from articles, looking towards justifying the claim of why marriage should be important. By showing the real importance and views on marriage and also getting feedback, changing people's views or making them rethink their choice is possible about how marriage may be important.

On March 3rd Willdarlyn Martinez, started by interviewing one of his colleagues from work and asking her about her views on marriage and her outlook on it, and if she thinks it's important. Aylin Ortiz starts by saying "It's really important!" So before that, Martinez asked, "What are your views on marriage? Is it really important?". She responded by saying "I think marriage is really important because it brings unity and it also brings partnership", Martinez followed up by asking her "What about bringing unity and partnership?". She responded with " Marriage brings unity because you guys get to make decisions together and you due to more life responsibilities and you both have to be on the same page and that's what brings partnership". To close off Martinez then asked her "How do you feel about people in today's society not thinking marriage is important?", she said, " I feel like it is a stereotype, I feel like people in today's society just are stuck on the fact on wanting to do things on their own and they don't need partnership". This supports the claim by showing that there are still some people in today's day and age who believe that marriage still has importance in society. Not only that but we still have hope that some people believe in partnership and unity!

Martinez's interview with Aylin Ortiz gives an important understanding of the significance of marriage. Ortiz talks about her belief in marriage's importance, stating its role in unity and partnership. By making decisions together and sharing life responsibilities, couples form a bond that strengthens their partnership. She believes that the reason people hesitate to prioritize marriage may be that people get comfortable being independent, where people would feel the need to explore life on their own. In any case, Ortiz's views of the value of partnership and unity show trust, stating that there are still that there are people out there who recognize and cherish the importance of marriage in building meaningful connections and growth alongside partnership.

First and foremost, This article "54% in the US say marriage is important but not essential to leading a fulfilling life" by Amanda Barroso talks about how Valentine's Day is often seen as a day of love and marriage. Still, for many Americans, marriage is not seen as a necessity. A study by the Pew Research Center found that some people find marriage important, while others prioritize their career and financial security. The importance of marriage varies according to age, gender, and relationship shows the attitude toward the feeling of marriage. This conveys that there are people who would much rather care about their careers instead of marriage stating that it is not something that should be worried about.

Another perspective from the article "To Be Happy, Marriage Matters More than Career." by David Brooks talks about how Many young people quit their jobs before marriage and believe that marriage is not a priority but a contribution to their future. Surveys show that young people's

belief in the importance of marriage continues to decline, with fewer people saying marriage is an important lifelong commitment. However, research shows that early marriage can increase happiness and life satisfaction much more than income and career success. Even though statistics are showing that marriages can help improve people's lives for the better they tend to prioritize a career rather than a lifelong partnership that would benefit you in the long run. Marriage is on a decline implying that marriages are becoming rare.

Financial concerns also play a role according to the article "40% of Millennials and Gen Zers Think Marriage Is Outdated-but 'it's Important to Be Realistic' about the Financial Benefits, Says CFP." Ryan Ermev talks about how many young people have expressed wanting to get married, but many are worried about the cost of marriage. Even though weddings can be expensive, marriage itself provides benefits, including tax advantages and Social Security benefits. However, since the couple is not married, considering the relationship between family difficulties and the relationship should be important for the decision to marry. The cost and the benefits are some of the main important things that society now cares about in marriage not only that but some people prefer to have costly weddings.

Moreover, authors Bunkanwanicha, Fan, and Wiwattanakantang in the article "Marriage is a lifelong contract and creates an enduring bond between the 2 individuals and their families. Marriage contracts often make divorce a difficult option, as they can only be broken in extreme circumstances." This shows why marriage is important not just now but in the long run making it have long-term effects on your life, changing perspectives and outlooks of people. It explains how long-term marriage can help you grow as a person and family by learning from each other. They also emphasized the importance of unity and family, not just marriage as the only thing that is important regarding the topic. Different cultures have different views on marriage, and some cultures value marriage more than others and have certain cultural standards. This supports the idea that marriage is important today, although some believe it is more important than it once was and some may also believe that it is or isn't important today. As attitudes have changed, there are still many people who value marriage and want to get married and there are also people who don't want to look towards a marriage.

Marriage, which is regularly respected as an image of love and commitment, has started to have different views from people in today's society. A few prioritize their careers and financial stability over marriage, stating that it's not a necessity for a satisfying life. This move is clear as fewer young people see marriage as a priority and less important than themselves, choosing to continue life alone and focusing on personal development and goals. Money-related concerns play a really big part, with stresses almost taking a toll on weddings and the common benefits of marriage. However, while people change their views, marriage remains a partnership that ensures long-lasting bonds and unity of a family. Where a few cultures have put heavy importance on marriage, its importance is far greater than any social boundary, serving as proof of long-lasting

love and shared growth. Despite changing perspectives, marriage offers personal and familial development.

Unit 3:

Multimodal Project

In a world where social media dominates the attention of young adults and teenagers, gaining their interest in important topics like marriage needs attention-catching things. TikTok, a platform known for its short-form video content, provides a special opportunity to show and spark conversations about the significance of marriage. By using the power of TikTok, we can make content that would bring attention to young people and would have them gain interest in exploring this important subject in advance.

To catch the attention of City Tech freshmen, TikToks are not only visually attention-seeking but also informative. The TikTok that will be used offers a different perspective on marriage, showing different perspectives and sparking interest for the watchers. By using TikTok I can provoke the interest of City Tech freshmen and encourage them to dive deeper into the topic. To use TikTok as a multimodal tool I can use it by getting it to catch the attention of my chosen audience. I will be creating a TikTok that will be a stitch of another TikTok and will be pointing toward my unit 2 project which would gain traction from my audience.

In addition to my tiktok, I can also include statistics from my article that talks about the importance of marriage which has all the information that is needed. For example, Amanda Barroso's article says that 54% of Americans believe marriage is important but not essential to leading a fulfilling life. By visually presenting these statistics, it should catch the audience's attention which would lead them to eventually develop interest in my article. Not only will the statistics lead my audience to my article but also as well as the video I will be using. Which would be a clip of a tik tok which would also be infiltrating my audience

The TikTok will be plain and simple, It will start with a clip of the other tik tok which will be a podcast. Then halfway or when the clip is over I will be coming in and talking about the importance of marriage and how some people don't believe it is important, Also I will be talking about the statistics. Afterwards, I'll end it by saying if they want to know more information read my article in the link in my bio. Using TikTok as a platform for attention and opinions, encouraging viewers to share their thoughts and opinions in the comments section. By talking about the topic of marriage, TikTok can help my article gain traction where City Tech freshmen share their thoughts and opinions and feel comfortable expressing their aspects, engaging in the community, and gaining interest in the topic.

In conclusion, TikTok has the potential to be a powerful push toward putting my article out there to catch the attention of City Tech freshmen and encourage them to explore the importance

of marriage. By creating content we can spark interest and motivate positive change in attitudes toward marriage. Through this sort of content that gains recognition, we can get young adults and teenagers to rethink their views on marriage and appreciate its importance in today's society.

This is the final product of the tik tok that I made: <https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZPRwvr2qp/>

Unit 3:

Artist Statement

I chose to use TikTok as a platform to gain the attention of my audience which would be city tech freshmen. In a world where social media has a big influence on young people, TikTok stands as an interesting space for ideas to come to life and gain traction.

My decision to create a TikTok video comes from its popularity making it easy to reach the target audience and is a great opportunity to attract the attention that I would want it to. TikTok has an opportunity to create content and spread information that will get the attention of young audiences because most young people are on the app. My goal is to use TikTok to spread messages about marriage and get more viewers to gain interest in marriage. A short informational-style video should be something that many people are interested in nowadays. Showing something important and using it to spark ideas.

I chose the audience of city tech freshmen since they are the only ones that are in the prime age range to think about marriage. By using the TikTok platform, I wanted to spark curiosity and make viewers feel more interested in the topic. Also by using a statistic from one of the articles I used before in my article from unit 2, I felt like it would help since it had hard proof. Not only that but since social media is a big thing that is used among teenagers and young adults it would reach them easily and even reach the older audiences as well. This audience should be able to then see this topic from a different perspective and think about it instead of just brushing it off. Showing that marriage is important and that should be taken into consideration.

This genre was the best choice for me since it was pretty straightforward. If I had gone with anything else I felt like it wouldn't have been as effective as a TikTok would be because the topic can somewhat be controversial due to the views in today's society. This means that in any other genre in my opinion I feel like it wouldn't get any attention considering that it is one of the widest platforms out there. Since the video is short and straight to the point viewers gain information and interest on what is being said, and it's 50/50 they can watch the video to gain interest and click to learn more. Or they just keep on going on about their days which means they have no interest at all whatsoever.

In conclusion, TikTok has the power to serve as an amazing source for promoting my article and sparking interest in the importance of marriage among City Tech freshmen. Through engaging content, it can spark interest and encourage a change of perspective on marriage in

today's society. By using the impact of TikTok, it will be able to create engagement with the community and have a positive change of views towards the importance of marriage.