

Reflection Journal #1

As a developing writer in ENC 2135, I have seen clear strengths and weaknesses in my researching, reading, and writing. Researching has always been a daunting task to me because it is entering the unknown. Finding the right, credible resource that is on topic is not a given and can be difficult to come across. However, my goal this semester is to take this perspective and approach research as an opportunity to find abstract branches off of my research topic to add further depth to my projects. As I further develop my research skills, increasing my patience is something that will help me understand that it will take time to find the right resources. When it comes to reading, it is challenging for me to read large, specific text in one sitting. The Swales QQC in particular was especially difficult for me to digest because of the number of different ideas that are intertwined. I have found that as I break the reading up into sections throughout the day, I am able to retain more information and be completely present while I am reading. This also helps me to sit on the information and really ponder it out in my mind before moving quickly to the next page. A strength that I have demonstrated in this course so far is collaborating ideas with others to both successfully expand and deepen my research question as well as others'. Communicating effectively with my peers about our different majors helps me to look at my major in a new light and open doors of new topics I did not know existed. For instance, I am a Business Marketing major and so collaborating ideas with my classmate who is a Psychology major allows me to recognize the role behavior psychology has in the business world. All of the different ideas that come together to develop and build on my research question will ultimately strengthen my writing and my ability to tie in contrasting views without taking a stand.