Gabriella Seib

Ms. Reilly

ENC 2135

2 August 2023

Reflective Statement

Before taking this course, I had surface level knowledge about most concepts. Already within the 2nd day of class, I was already learning new lingo and concepts. New vocab words have been one of the main things I've learned throughout the course. I've never heard of discourse community, genre conventions, exigence, genre, rhetorical strategies, rhetor, Kairos, etc. Now I have a good understanding of these new words and how to properly use them when writing. But more specifically, I was surprised when learning about the term genre. I have always thought of it as comedy or romance in movies, or fiction and non-fiction in books. Now I understand that in literature, genre really means a text form that is used to communicate a message. With that, I've taken my new understanding of genre and used it within project 3. I did this by using different genres like composing an email, creating a poster, and creating an Instagram account to deliver my topic to my targeted audience. This included many different genre conventions, such as captions, highlights, images, colors, questions, etc. All these elements within project 3 made it easier to understand how my discourse community communicates. Since the genres involved statics, visuals, and hands on opportunities, this represented exactly how stranding biologists communicate.

Moving on, new concepts I've also learned how to do is a rhetorical analysis on a rhetorical situation, like project 2. Within this project, I've included my audiences, exigence,

purpose, conventions, ethos, logos, pathos, Kairos, constraints, etc. As well as construct a

compare and contrast section of the paper that allowed me to think deeper about my artifacts and

discourse community. These are all things I never had to use when doing work in the past, so the

whole project was a learning opportunity for me. I now know how to properly analyze and

convey my rhetoric using all the elements stated above. Furthermore, a huge and crucial skill

I've learned from all the projects, but mainly project 1, is to find good and creditable sources to

use. I did this by making sure I pick sources that I can get a lot of information out of that relates

to my topic. Specifically, I used one search (a new website I learned about) to find my scholarly

articles. I learned more about the components that go into a peer reviewed sources and how to

find good ones by checking the creditability of the publishers and where its being published

from. With non-scholarly sources, I still had to be aware to check that they are going to be

beneficial to my writing process. With finding good sources, comes learning how to properly

cite in APA 7 format, which is another new thing I've learned. Most likely I will be having to

use this format again in my future assignments at FSU, so knowing how to properly cite good

sources in this format is crucial.

Overall, my understanding of these course concepts has changed dramatically since class

started. I now have more than just surface level comprehension of how to write research papers,

analyze them, and then turn them into different genres. All while including rhetorical strategies

and new vocab terms. My personal writing and composing process was smoother. This was

because of the many drafts I had to do that allowed me to write in chunks, versus all at once.

This made it easier to formulate my thoughts and go back and check to make sure I checked off

each requirement. Lastly, doing peer review workshops after each project draft has allowed me to

get different perspectives on my work. This enabled me to be more aware of how I convey my

rhetoric to my audience, while making sure it's understandable and simple for them.