Lacey Bodenstein

ENC 2135

26, April 2023

Reflection

Throughout the course of the semester, I greatly improved my writing skills and through each project. Project #1 taught me how to sharpen up my skills for summarization as well as helped me have a clear understanding of how to complete an annotated bibliography. I learned similar things through completing both Projects #2 and #3, but I would say that my biggest takeaways from Project #2 had a heavier focus on analysis and the use of rhetorical appeals. I also learned how important it is to know the credibility of your sources. Project #3 had a much more in-depth emphasis on genre and audience and specifically, how to use certain genres and rhetorical appeals to attract specific audiences. Overall, I think that I learned the most through completing project #2, and I approached ideas that were most unfamiliar to me which is why I chose it for revision. The artifacts that I chose I feel are a good reflection of what else I have learned this semester. Each artifact that I selected demonstrates how I incorporated genre, rhetorical appeals, etc. into the topic that I had chosen prior to the first project.

The revisions that I have completed for project #2 focused on both smaller and larger details associated with the essay. The more trivial areas that I wanted to improve upon was my use of vocabulary throughout the paper. There were certain parts of the essay where I would mention genre or audience without directly mentioning those terms, and I wanted to be much more explicit and directly state these terms in places where it was lacking. The biggest change I made however, had to do with incorporating information about the author. When referencing my sources, I referenced the author, however, I did not go into detail into why they were a credible source. I went back into where I listed the author and made sure to add background information about them so that the audience would know that the information I was providing was coming from a credible place. I made these changes by looking back at past peer-reviews, self- reflections, as well as the comments left when I turned in my final draft.

The first artifact that I chose to incorporate into my website was my research proposal that I had completed prior to project #1. I chose this artifact because it gives a detailed description about the basis of all my projects throughout the semester. I also discuss what I had hoped to learn by completing these projects and I implied I did not have a clear understanding of how to pose a research question to go with my essay. Now, I have a clear idea of how to pose a research question and also write an investigative field essay following it.

The second artifact that I selected was the poster I completed for project #3. I chose this poster because it demonstrated my newfound understanding of genre and audience. I highlighted all three rhetorical appeals throughout this poster as I use this specific genre to appeal to the demographic of citizens of California that would approach this hanging outside. Before completing this project, I did not have as strong of an understanding of genre and how to use certain genres to appeal to a niche audience, and now I understand how to do that.

I hope that when my website is viewed, my progress throughout this semester is clearly demonstrated and I hope that the concept and rhetorical appeals I portrayed were able to be capture by their respective audiences. I also want it to be noted how I executed my ideas starting from my first proposal and leading up to project #3 and how I incorporated genre and audience into conveying my argument.