**Inquiry 4: Director’s Commentary Portfolio**

Director’s commentary special features on DVDs typically involve the creator of the film sharing trivia or reflections about the process during the creation of the film, highlighting important moments and describing what they learned in the process. For this project, you will assemble a portfolio of inquiries 1-3 and create a director’s commentary throughout using the comment feature in Word. This is a chance for you to write *about* your writing experience through informal reflection.

To start, create a document in which inquires 1-3 appear in order—please signify where each begins and ends by using some sort of divider or beginning a new page between inquiries. Include **at least 30 substantive comments** throughout your writer’s reflections and essays (you can distribute these throughout the 3 essays however you’d like, but no less than 5 for each essay). Director’s commentary can often reveal something unseen in a film—this is your goal here. By close reading your previous work and highlighting what you learned, what you might have changed, or trivia about your process, you should come to some conclusion about what you learned this semester. Think about what your writing, reflections and comments in this portfolio can teach incoming freshman writers about how to really engage in English 112 and the types of writing you’re asked to produce. It’s of monumental importance to **be specific**—look for places in your writing you want to highlight as an important moment where you struggled, or a place where you successfully accomplished your goals. Be direct-- highlight specific words, sentences, or phrases that provide meaningful, insightful explanations of your rhetorical choices and writing processes.

Your portfolio should begin with a creative title that speaks towards your learning experience as a whole in English 112 and a **250-word minimum introduction** in which you reflect on the entirety of this course and your learning experience from it. This is not your moment to write about how you’re a changed person or how this class has forever bettered your life. Instead, reflect **honestly and critically about your unique, individual experience**. What has changed, if anything, for you? Again, be specific. Because this serves as the introduction to your portfolio, you may choose to focus on something that consistently came up for you as you left comments throughout your work. What patterns do you notice in your writing? How would you describe your style? How has your writing changed or improved throughout the semester?

Important Dates

Rough Draft due Tuesday May 6th

Final Draft due Tuesday May 13th by noon

Grading

\*The bulk of assessment will rely on:

S**pecificity:** Does it showcase concrete examples of the author’s writing process/learning experience?

**Engagement:** Does it go beyond the bare minimum? Does the author demonstrate a substantial amount of attention and effort to the reflection in the introduction and comments?

**Creativity**: Does the author just answer prompting questions? Does the author demonstrate autonomy in their ability to reflect in unique ways that are perhaps *not* outlined on this assignment sheet?

Introduction: 40 points

Director’s Commentary Portfolio: 100 points

Rough draft completion and peer response participation: 10 points

**150 points, or 15% of your overall grade in the course**

Some Tips

Here are some models you might use when thinking about what types of comments to leave:

“Looking back on this piece…”

“While writing this I remember I was/I felt…”

“This part was particularly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to write because…”

“I decided to [use a specific writing technique or style] because I wanted to accomplish…”

“I chose to revise this in response to \_\_\_\_\_’s feedback, which suggested that I...”

“In revising, I changed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…”

“I chose to use this specific word over others because…”

“Rereading this, I see now I would change this part because…”

Other questions to consider for your comments:

Where were you successful? What’s working well and why?

Where were you not so successful? What did work so well and why?

What can you highlight that can teach an incoming student something about what’s important about English 112?

Be candid, and have fun!