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Writing for Engineers

Ms. vol Uhl

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## Theory of Writing

At the beginning of my college experience, I had limited knowledge about college writing, particularly within the context of engineering. However, throughout my time in Ms. vol Uhl's Writing for Engineers class, I have not only learned a great deal but also developed as a writer within the engineering discipline. The different assignments in this course have allowed me to achieve various course learning outcomes specific to engineering writing.

One of the assignments was a formal letter of introduction, which required me to apply the course learning outcome of acknowledging linguistic differences as resources. In the context of engineering writing, this involved recognizing and utilizing the specialized terminology and jargon used within the field. By understanding and incorporating these linguistic differences effectively in my letter, I demonstrated rhetorical sensibility within the engineering discourse community.

Another assignment, the technical description, allowed me to practice the course learning outcome of engaging in genre analysis and multimodal composing to explore effective writing in engineering contexts. In this assignment, I had to describe a technical subject in a clear and precise manner, using appropriate diagrams and visuals. Through this task, I not only honed my

skills in technical writing but also understood the importance of considering the genre and medium specific to engineering communication.

The lab report rhetorical analysis and reflection assignments provided an opportunity to enhance my strategies for drafting, revising, and editing within an engineering context. By critically analyzing and reflecting on a lab report's structure, language, and effectiveness, I improved my ability to write comprehensive and well-organized lab reports myself. Additionally, this assignment allowed me to engage in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes, as I received feedback from peers and Ms. vol Uhl, incorporating their suggestions to strengthen my analysis.

The final project, the engineering proposal, encompassed several course learning outcomes, including the development of effective teamwork and collaboration skills. As part of this project, we were assigned to work in groups, focusing on different engineering topics. This collaborative approach provided us with a valuable opportunity to engage in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes. By collaborating with my group members, we were able to combine our diverse perspectives, knowledge, and skills to develop a comprehensive engineering proposal. Through active discussions, brainstorming sessions, and the allocation of tasks based on our strengths, we fostered a collaborative environment where each team member contributed their expertise. This collaborative writing process not only enhanced our understanding of the engineering topic but also reinforced effective teamwork and communication skills. By engaging in this group project, we achieved the course learning outcome of developing and engaging in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes, while also producing a well-crafted engineering proposal that reflected the collective efforts of our team.

Lastly, the presentation and digital portfolio assignments allowed me to practice articulating my stance through and in my writing. By presenting my research findings, analysis, and proposals to an audience, I learned to effectively communicate my ideas within the engineering field. Furthermore, creating a digital portfolio showcased my growth as an engineering writer, fulfilling the learning outcome of reflecting on my writing process and development throughout the course.

Ms. vol Uhl's Writing for Engineers class has been instrumental in my growth as an engineering writer. I have not only acquired valuable skills in technical writing but also gained a deeper understanding of the rhetorical aspects of engineering communication. The assignments in this course have enabled me to achieve the specific course learning outcomes, preparing me to excel in future engineering writing projects. I am grateful for the knowledge and strategies I have acquired, and I am eager to apply them not only to future writing assignments but also to my future engineering career.