Project 1: Narrative Essay (10%)

We read stories about what’s happening in the world, in our communities, in the public lives of politicians and celebrities, and in the private lives of friends and family. We tell stories to entertain, inform, connect with others, and persuade. For the first essay, you will write an essay that tells the story of your experiences with writing—whether creative, public, personal, or academic. The essay should map your understandings of academic writing based on these experiences.

guidelines.

There are many ways to tell a story, but strong narratives share three qualities:

- **A compelling story.** Your essay should be engaging, provide enough context for readers to follow along, and create tension or an issue that keeps them reading.
- **Details.** Details allow your readers to experience your story by visualizing events, hearing dialogue, and feeling emotions of the narrator. Show, don’t tell.
- **A clear purpose.** You don’t need an explicitly stated thesis statement, but the significance of your narrative should be clear. Think about what you want someone to take away from your essay.

Along with these three qualities, your narrative essay will be graded on the clarity and organization of your ideas, from the macro-level (how is the essay structured?) to the micro-level (how are the paragraphs and sentences structured?).

submission details.

The Project 1 Narrative Essay must be 3–4 pages and formatted according to MLA 8th edition guidelines. You will submit your essay on Google Classroom.

Project 1 is due by the start of class on Thursday, February 1st.