Taylor Alvey

Goal 2.3 Reflection

Being able to interpret scientific literature and put those thoughts into writing is extremely significant. Most of the things that I used scientific literature for was literature reviews. This is where you take out certain parts of the literature and cite them to support a question or hypothesis that you are asking. That is what all three of my artifacts did, but they all were at different points of my career at Longwood. This was extremely helpful for me to start this in my biology 250 class because it gave me a solid foundation to build off of as I got older and became more confident. My latest literature review in my upper level ecology class focused on an invasive plant species.

I want to talk more about my confidence with using literature and other sources to interpret and use data in scientific writing. I feel that I am very comfortable interpreting scientific writing, but that I am very uncomfortable using those writings to ask a question and complete literature reviews. I find it extremely hard to extract data from those writings and successfully put them into my own. I also find it extremely hard to read literature and learn information and from that information as a new question that hasn’t been asked yet. I feel that I can’t step out of my comfort zone and ask risky questions because I think that they will be wrong.

In the future I hope that I can step more out of my comfort zone and ask the hard questions. I know that I am successful at reading and interpreting literature, but am not very successful at being able to put that into my own writing. I think that in my future endeavors as a nurse I will be able to take these skills and perfect them and I look forward to becoming more efficient at doing that.