

Ducce Michael

Reflection

12/7/2022

I'm grateful for the opportunity to study social research and program evaluation (SOCL 345). My ability to conduct research, write papers, and even present has significantly improved as a result of this training from Dr. Pederson. I believe I am now more qualified and prepared to enter the workforce. As we move from one level to another and from one class to another over each semester, I expect to learn new and valuable things. The things I've learnt have had a significant impact on how I write and complete each step of the research process, and I'm confident that they will continue to be very helpful to me in the future. Although research was not one of my strengths, this year's Social Research course helped me to recognize how much I still needed to learn while guiding me through the processes. I think I've learnt a lot from all my classes this semester, but especially from my social research course.

When I first came into the course, I was aware of reading research and completing the steps of the Scientific Method but that was about it. For example, this is my senior year of college and I've attended two universities and I've never written a literature review. I didn't even know what it was when first talking about it in class. But the next week I learnt what it entails and how important it is in setting up a base for the rest of your study. In choosing my sources it took a little while because it was hard to find specific research on what we were speaking about from there being a lot of foreign studies to not having access to research because of the need for payment. Yet once I

found the first two it was much easier from then on. The biggest reason being that I was trying to find the most perfect one that encompassed the whole study. The only strategy I really utilized was trying to preserve and gather as much knowledge that I could take in lectures whether it be research or even coding. I just didn't want to miss anything. My confidence in conducting my own research has no question been boosted from a sort of broad sense to a very specific detailed one. To think like a researcher is to continually question and seek for better. In the course we never settled, we always were talking about changes being made. Things I thought weren't that serious are that serious even for something like wording in a survey will make or break it I learned. The more meticulous and detailed you are in your work the better the outcome is. It goes to show in a lot of things in life just like the job force. So just as I gave the research what I got I hope I can show you what I can bring to the table as well.