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ENGL388V

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Learning Log #3

So far this semester, I’ve had a wonderful experience being a TA. I have developed a great relationship with some of my students and my professor. I am feeling more confident when it comes to addressing my students. I have a small class, so I feel that I’ve gotten to know each student and I feel lucky to be in this position.

We’ve been talking a lot in 388V about peer review and editing students’ papers. The things I’ve learned from my 388V classmates have helped me edit my students’ Inquiry assignments. I learned to suggest instead of critique. I also learned different strategies to edit papers and posts for content instead of just for grammar. I feel more confident about my ability to peer review since the lessons we’ve seen so far in 388V.

Since the last learning log, I have delivered my second lecture on incorporating source work into professional papers. I think that the lesson went fairly well. I ran into an issue with my students, though: no one wanted to participate. It could have been due to the boring nature of the lesson or the fact that Catherine wasn’t physically in the classroom for my lecture (we decided I’d try to make it work on my own on a day she was not able to attend class), but whatever the reason, my students did not want to raise their hands. This lack of discussion in a usually talkative class forced me to finish the lecture early. I accounted for this by adding an optional activity to the end of the lesson. I had the students get into groups and peer review their source work in their own papers. However, they also did not want to work on that. It was disheartening, but after talking with Catherine, I felt a bit better. We talked about ways to fix this next semester so that I can try again!