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May 7, 2023

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Writing for the Sciences

### Collaborative Research Project Individual Reflection

For our collaborative research project, my group members and I researched various mental disorders and then provided examples of each disorder. The featured disorders include: narcissistic personality disorder (NPD), major depressive disorder (MDD), bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). I chose to research narcissistic personality disorder. Using the information I collected, I wrote a script to a scene between a therapist and a patient with NPD. Next, my group member, Winnifred, and I recorded the scene with her as the therapist and me as the patient with NPD. Then, it was time to prepare the presentation. I attached infographics and images that help describe NPD and our recording of the scene. After I finished my part, I helped my group members attach their recordings.

I chose Mental Health because it is a subject that I am particularly passionate about that I do not get to delve into often as a Biomedical Sciences major. Since I knew we would be presenting to college students with science majors, I wanted to educate them on a topic that they may not be familiar with and provide helpful information that they could use when academics become stressful. I also wanted to cultivate empathy for all those that suffer from mental illness, raise awareness and remove stigma around mental illness and the treatment of it because mental health is very important for the betterment of individuals and society. We drew upon pathos by providing examples of people suffering with various illnesses.

Creating a visual essay for our group research project was very different from writing a traditional essay. Firstly, it requires teamwork and communication, which is essential to a successful project, and developing such skills is essential for successful professional lives. We had to make sure everyone was on the same page and that all our ideas meshed well together. With the visual essay, we could get really creative to come up with interesting ways to present our findings. Therefore, we used images, infographics, videos, recordings, and even interactive elements to make the project super engaging and easier to understand for everyone. The visual essay forced us to be selective with the information, only including key points, to make sure everything was clear and concise. Overall, it was a more fun and dynamic learning experience than a traditional essay.

Each of my group members put in the right amount of effort and did their parts. A few of my group members missed class on days we were working on the project, but they made sure to still communicate in the group chat we created from the beginning, so while it did not affect the overall success of our project it delayed a few things. Everyone followed the group contract outlined in the beginning of this project. Everyone followed through on communication, but one of our group members joined late so it put a little extra work on all of our parts to catch her up, but since it was a group effort and she was very quick to pick up direction and with responding it was not burdensome at all.

Now evaluating my contribution, I followed the group contract and put in the level of work agreed to do. I put my best quality of work forward while completing this project. I did a really good job of communicating with everyone, familiarizing Mariam, delegating responsibilities, and guiding group discussions. One thing I could have done to improve the project is worked on it in the extra time my group was given and confirmed with Excellence when

to stop her video so that we did not have to skip Mariam's slide. All in all, our group's project on mental disorders was a very engaging and informative project, and even though we faced some challenges along the way, we all learned a lot and became better at teamwork and communication.

### Collaborative Research Project Self-Grading

Content:

18/20

Genre:

20/20

Effectiveness:

20/20

Presentation:

18/20

Audience Strategy:

10/10

Creativity:

10/10

Total: 96/100