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# *Writer's Statement about "From a Diary to an iPhone: The Extension of Journaling to Digital Forms"*

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Throughout my semester of ENC 1102, I was working on a three-step assignment that focused on the idea of writing-based literacy. Essentially, in relation to the course text, I was asked to choose a writing activity that I engaged with frequently. Initially, I was a bit stumped because I didn't really view myself as an active participant in any kind of writing. As a computer science major, I spend most of my time using my laptop and creating code or doing mathematics. I didn't spend much time writing prose or any formal work and thus felt like I had no options for my project. However, while reading our course text, it became more apparent that, in order to properly approach the assignment, I needed to reconsider how I defined writing and reading. I came to realize the notion of writing isn't simply limited to academic prose but rather made up of all forms of creation. From typing out code to recording in a journal or even composing music, it became clear to me that writing activities are more diverse than I once thought.

After considering my own daily activities, I chose creating online posts on Instagram as my writing-based activity. However, instead of regular Instagram use, I chose to write about Finstagram, a fake Instagram used for more personal and private posts. The first task of my three-part assignment was to explain my writing-based activity both in general and through my personal experience. Basically, I aimed to write a thorough description of how I use Finstagram to express myself in a manner similar to journaling. The second task of this assignment was an annotated bibliography of twelve relevant sources relating to online writing, social media, and journaling as well as personal recorded data to illustrate my participation with this writing activity. Initially I struggled with finding relevant sources regarding Finstagram, but Professor Roozen was able to point me in the right direction and as I broadened my searching scope I was able to find plenty of relevant work surrounding the use of Instagram and other social media. Finally, the third task was to create an elaborate research paper with an autoethnographic approach in order to explain why the crafting of posts on Finstagram is a valuable method of self-expression.

As I worked on each task, I was able to work in peer review groups in class where my classmates and I were able to exchange valuable and critical feedback regarding each other's papers. I found this to be extremely helpful in terms of cleaning up certain areas of my paper and ensuring the clarity of the message I was trying to convey, especially because the intended audience was literacy scholars. In terms of rhetorical context and genre conventions, I had never written a paper of this kind before. Being able to work with my classmates and see past examples of similar assignments provided by Professor Roozen as well as utilizing the course text really helped me craft this final task into a piece of work that I am extremely proud of! If I had to write it again, I would try to incorporate more examples of different online rhetoric in direct comparison or parallel with that written by hand.