

Professor Wymer

ENG 101: Portfolio Essay

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### Portfolio Essay

When I heard about the Corona Virus in China, I was in school, and I remember telling my friends that the virus will never get here; it's way too far. About a month later, mother nature made me swallow my words when my teacher informed us that there are five confirmed cases in the Virgin Islands. In the middle of my senior year, I was sad to say that it was my last day seeing a classroom.

I loved on-the-ground learning mainly because it was more interactive. I had opportunities to ask questions when needed, collaborate with classmates, and engage more in the lesson. Also, teachers could evaluate their students' strengths and weaknesses and adjust their teaching styles accordingly. As a result, my grades were higher, my stress- levels were moderate, and school was enjoyable. However, on-the-ground learning did have minor limitations, such as time flexibility. If I wanted a job, it would be challenging to attain a shift that corresponded with my school hours. Also, because I played sports and got home rather late, I had limited time to do any homework assignments. It was rough trying to get an adequate amount of sleep for the next school day. All-in-all I would always rather on-the-ground learning.

Virtual learning has its benefits and downfalls, which in my opinion, downfalls outweighs. I enjoyed virtual learning initially because it could all get done in the comfort of your own home. That is the best part for me; I could wake up right before class starts and still be on time. It is a bit more flexible with my time, making it possible to run errands and complete assignments between classes. However, as time transpired and everything settled in, I realized that those were the only benefits. Lessons are less interactive, making it harder for me to retain anything that's

taught. As a result, my grades were lower than they have ever been in life. I always had a procrastination problem, and although that is a personal problem, virtual learning made it worse. I've become laid back and, not to mention, careless. I thought online school would be highly easier for me than in-person learning, but I was wrong. Instead, it is discouraging and strengthens my ultimate worst habits that I have been trying to break.

For my future college classes, I expect to be on campus and in the classroom learning face-to-face. Being that I am a freshman, I haven't experienced real college life, and I am more than anxious for that opportunity. I want to meet and interact with new people, build relationships with my professors, participate in campus activities, and enjoy my learning environment.