

APOLOGIA

Overview

An *apologia* is not an apology (the words are false cognates) but an explanation and justification of one's actions. It addresses the justness or appropriateness of choices one has made, presented in the context of explicit principles and ideals to which one declares adherence. It also implies the existence of a body of people on whom one's actions have influence and impact, as well as an audience in the position to judge the quality and candor of one's self-analysis and to compare it to their own perceptions.

The Task

This reflective essay will show *and* tell how the work you are submitting in the final portfolio demonstrates that you have successfully met the following objectives for this course. In other words that you are able to:

- Articulate a multifaceted understanding of the idea of communication
- Display rhetorical skill as a responsive and resourceful designer of meaning in multimodal and multilinguistic contexts
- Formulate questions and lines of inquiry that 1) synthesize or integrate different perspectives and approaches to constructing knowledge and 2) cultivate critical awareness of the ethical, cultural, and political dimensions of the ideas you encounter and explore
- Employ skills and strategies for effective collaboration as a learner, researcher, and teacher
- Address different audiences and contexts effectively, in speech and writing, both within and outside the classroom
- Articulate and assess the effects of the choices you and others (peers, scholars, and authors) make in writing and creative work

***** An effective apologia will show your mastery of these objectives both by demonstrating them *and* by indicating where particular elements of your final portfolio demonstrate the objectives. *****

Consider the following questions as you write:

- How can I demonstrate success with this objective in my writing?
- What work am I presenting in this portfolio that demonstrates my success with this objective and how does it do so?

Keep in mind that this is an essay, not just a list of evidence. I recommend framing the essay as a discussion of your learning about linguistic diversity / fear of miscommunication and organizing it to mirror the arrangement of the components of the portfolio.

Format

- 2-3 single-spaced pages
- 12 point Times New Roman
- 1 inch margins