

# ALLISON FIELD-BELL

Even through a purely online format, more than any other writing instructor I've had, I think Professor Bell helped me realize how thought-provoking, creative, and most importantly, fun analytical/rhetorical writing can be. She has given us the ability to express ourselves in our essays in a way that creates memorable and interesting arguments, whether through being able to choose our topic for assignments or even something as simple as allowing us to use personal experiences and the pronoun "I" to illustrate our points and create meaningful connection with our audiences. I've actually started to think of my audience as more than just my teacher in my writing, which has been incredibly educational and constructive. Meeting with her over Zoom during her office hours shows that she also gives great attention and care to her students and their work. I think the greatest thing I will take away from her class is the ability to approach writing in a way I hadn't before: realizing the process through which I write and how I can best utilize that process to create effective rhetoric.

Professor Bell fills the role of being a fantastic descriptive, not prescriptive, teacher. She didn't teach us the best process of writing for herself. She instead gave us the tools to be able to analyze our own writing and other's writing in a constructive fashion, so that we could develop our own best process. And to top it off, these assignments have just been fun! I've never had this much freedom to write what I want to write about in any of my classes while still being kept to a certain format and scope. I've actually realized some important lessons for my own life just from writing about the topics I wanted to write about. This has been my favorite writing class, hands down. It's almost enough to convince me to take another one when I don't even need it! Thank you Allie, you're the best.

DWRS EXCELLENCE IN WRITING AWARDS 2021



# CHRISTIE TOTH

Christie cares about TEACHING her students. Given her research accomplishments, she could easily take the route most professors do - sidelining seminars and prioritizing her own political/career interests. Instead, she emphasizes the education of her students. Her class made me want to learn, as if there were stakes to the material and I was an important part of the conversation.

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# CHRISTIE TOTH

Christie opened my eyes to inclusive teaching. She showed me how we need to include diverse content, and she always encouraged me in whatever way I understood the assignment. I felt so comfortable talking to Christie, and she made me feel welcome at a time I felt quite isolated and alone.

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# CHRISTIE TOTH

Christie is really committed to diversity and inclusion. She's always been extremely kind and understanding and always centers Students' voices. Her courses are always well designed. She is an overall amazing teacher who always tries to center and uplift her students.

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# CHRISTINE ALLEN

Professor Allen's dedication to helping her students through the course and making sure they understood concepts was truly extraordinary. She is extremely understanding of people's situations. For me, I unfortunately have a number of health problems, and Professor Allen bent over backwards to work around it. She was always willing to have on-on-one zoom meetings to go over assignments. She provided numerous resources to help further our understanding and provided constructive feedback. Not only did her feedback explain her critiques, but also commented on where we did well and offered encouragement. Overall, Professor Allen is truly inspiring, not only as a teacher but as a person as well, she felt more like my friend than my professor by the end of the course.

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# DAVE HAWKINS

Professor Hawkins is great with breaking down the elements of an essay. He explains every part perfectly and gives us time to get better with it before moving on. He gives us enough time to learn and write and revise our papers multiple times. He's also very understanding and helpful.

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# DAVE HAWKINS

Professor Hawkins has been incredibly supportive, understanding, and accommodating during this unprecedented year. He approaches each student with compassion and will go to lengths to help students find sources for their papers, recommend resources when they need it, and facilitates a safe space.

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# DONNY PENNER

He has a very high priority to see his students succeed and understand the material being taught.

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# DONNY PENNER

I am nominating this instructor because of the hard work he puts into my class. I learn a significant amount in this class because of how Professor Penner engages with the class. While in class he makes an effort to include everyone and make sure everyone in the class is participating. This helps me to learn a significant amount because it causes me to actively participate and put forth my best effort.

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# DOUG CHRISTENSEN

Professor Christensen starts class asking us to be involved and expects us to be engaged and vulnerable in our class discussions. He wants us to be clear and daring in our writing assignments. I believe he loves teaching and it shows like on the first day his head was gigantic on the zoom screen trying to take in all his new students. He was excited to see who was in his class and looked at us all with a smile and energy that we all get to glean from during his class each week. Even his irritation at our silence is a lesson to be better and get greater at writing. He makes sure if we need more time or help he get what we need from him. His grading leniency is to give us room to do better. When he is strict in his grading he very clearly points out its because we should be up to the level. I enjoy how he is aware of the class and what diversity exists in his students. He makes sure we all have an opening to express ourselves. I hope all my writing teachers are this lively and engaging in the future. I dreaded my writing classes because I haven't known how. Now I think I can strive to learn it and to go further in writing than I planned. Maybe there is hope for students like me! :) But really, I am extremely grateful for the way he teaches. I feel lucky to have picked his course without knowing what I was going to get.

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# HUA ZHU

Doctor Zhu maintained a classroom that fostered inclusive discussion and growth. From finding unique ways for the class to engage with theory and methodology, to building the class around unique and engaging reading the class not only fostered academic growth but also personal growth as well.

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# HUA ZHU

Dr. Zhu has gone out of their way to develop a course that has been engaging of all members of the classroom while also going above and beyond to inform from her own vast background of knowledge and expertise while also helping students develop and establish their own insights on cross-cultural rhetorical analysis. Her commitment to student engagement has stood out in particular as both novel and pragmatic. In addition to making use of Zoom's breakout rooms, student led lectures, and other techniques revolving around the academics of the course, Dr. Zhu has gently pushed for students to discuss non-academic related material such as articles of clothing that the student uses to self-define, but might not be seen through video lectures, as well as personal items the student finds "meaningful". These aspects might seem trivial, but I think it has not only encouraged students to invest personally in the classroom, leading to further engagement, but has also led students thinking deeper, in non-trivial ways, about the development of meaning and symbols of personal importance, and how they attempt to understand and analyze the meaning and symbols developed by their fellow classmates.

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# HUGH SCHUCKMAN

Dr. Schuckman is a wonderful professor at the University of Utah Asia Campus (UAC). He is always willing to teach, guide, and coach students' writing and rhetorical styles both in class and outside of class. One of my experiences that I truly appreciate is that he has corrected my writing during vacations for three years since I was a freshman. I was not good at writing because I am a Korean, English is my second language, and I had no experience in English writing. However, thanks to his consistent feedback and advice, my writing skills have dramatically improved; I became a writing tutor and declared Writing & Rhetoric Studies as a minor.

The courses taught by Dr. Schuckman are well-known as great classes at UAC, as he allows students to think deeply and reflect on different contexts on rhetoric. He leads classes with respect and trust toward students. As one of his TAs and students who took several of his classes, I got diverse opportunities to broaden my perspectives and learn different styles of writing and rhetoric. One of the recent opportunities he made for UAC students is to launch the minor degree program of Writing & Rhetoric Studies at UAC.

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# HUGH SCHUCKMAN

Professor Schuckman always encourages students to research broad topics related to religion, culture, gender, race, and philosophy. Professor Schuckman is always enthusiastic to teach students how to discuss and what to discuss. I love to take his classes because I could study various subjects related to global society. For example, every course has creative discussions, role-playing, and debating. Sometimes, professor allows students to lead the assigned materials with creative activities. Professor Schuckman tries to listen to many students' voices through the open journals and discussion posts before the class. I am so glad to participate in his classes!

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# JAMIE SMITH

This professor truly cared for her students, and the craft that is writing. She made sure to be helpful in anyway possible, and help us (students) to enjoy every assignment as much as she was able. Very warm, and welcoming, one of the best professors I have had thus far at the University of Utah!

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# JENNA FISCHER

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# JENNY ANDRUS

When I was a prospective law student, I decided to take classes studying the law, to get a better idea of whether I'd enjoy it. Jenny was an expert in the language used, chose very interesting and unique cases and statutes to study, and made learning about the law a blast. She was always available to answer questions, and she would work diligently with me every day until she and I both felt satisfied with how my projects were composed. Jenny helped me find my direction in life. I am choosing to pursue a law degree in large part because of her, and I don't know where I would be if she was not there to teach those classes, teach them well, and make them fun. With all she has been through and overcome, I have one hundred percent confidence that she is the most deserving professor for this award.

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# JENNY ANDRUS

Jenny has made my online course with her genuinely enjoyable. I love that she asks her students how they're doing and then actively makes changes when we aren't doing so hot. She is constantly asking for our feedback and our enthusiasm, and receives it from the whole class because she is so genuine. She gives us a 5 minute break in the middle of class and we all come back ready to learn. If we aren't talking at the beginning, she takes the time to get us feeling ready — whether that means having us do stretches as a class, take our zoom devices outside, or play an icebreaker game. I love her course and have loved learning from Jenny.

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# JON STONE

I have taken four of Jon's courses and they were some of the most influential courses I have ever taken. He is a very welcoming professor and knows how to make students feel welcome and safe in his space. He uses great modern and historic sources for his teaching and is overall the best professor I have ever had. I would take his courses over and over if I could.

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# KARL HAASE

When coming into college I was and am still not the best writer. Professor Haase's class truly helped me advance my writing skills. The class was fun and honestly made me go from hating writing exams to preferring them over multiple choice.

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# JO SUNGGYUNG

It's safe to say that Jo Sunggyung was the most invested and inspiring teacher that I've had so far in my college experience. She genuinely cared for her students and wanted them to succeed in learning. She would check in individually to each student to see how they were handling the workload. Her assignments were well thought out and helped my thinking a way that was critical and creative. Her class also reignited my passion for reading and writing.

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# KELLY CRAIG

She is an amazing teacher who has taught the class in an efficient way. She provides feedback on every assignment that she grades and truly works with students in an understanding way.

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# KENECHI UZOR

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# MARIA ALBERTO

Maria Alberto has gone out of her way to give detailed feedback on every single assignment, ensuring students understand how to further their writing capabilities not only in her class, but in all academic settings.

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# MARIANNE MADSEN

She was so well organized and gave very helpful advice. It helped make the transition to online when COVID hit easier for me. A lot of other classes had issues using CANVAS but her class was as good as any in-person class I've taken at the U. She was always available for help and her lessons were very informative.

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# MAUREEN MATHISON

Professor Mathison was committed to diversity and understanding. Over the course of her class I experienced several setbacks due to life outside of school and she was wonderfully patient and understanding about my situation. She also demonstrated great patience and knowledge of her craft. I feel much better prepared to enter the work force as a writer and technical editor after her class.

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# MAUREEN CLARK

I am nominating Maureen Clark because of her ability to clearly detail what makes up the essay type she wants you to write and her amazing critical feedback. Really helps to know what you need to do better but also the strengths you have. Class has been great so far and I've really enjoyed it.

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# MAUREEN MATHISON

Prof. Mathison is a perfect example of how a professor should teach, engage with their students, as well as ensure they are successful not only in her course but in life. Prof. Mathison goes the extra mile to help students and is very understanding of real life problems that can have significant effects in a student's academic and personal life. I truly wish the U had more professors like her.

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# MAUREEN MATHISON

I'm nominating Professor Mathison because she takes so much time to ensure the success of each of her students; with meticulous care, she reviews our work and engages with it and with us as students about it. She's not a red felt-tipped pen telling us all the mistakes we made. Rather, Professor Mathison builds us up. She nominated me for the Excellence in Writing Award for a piece I wrote that was incredibly personal. Whether I get the Award or not is beside the point- She believed in me. It gave me the confidence to pursue writing and recently I was accepted as a contributing writer for a website and I published last week. I never would have gone for it if not for her support.

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# MAX WERNER

Professor Werner was the first writing teacher who made the class fun for me. He gave us lots of tips to improve ourselves. He would go out of his way to talk to students and make them feel welcome in a online class format. I improved my writing in his class and also became a more engaged student.

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# MAX WERNER

Professor Werner has been very understanding through this pandemic! He is very engaged with all the students, is quick to respond to emails, and is very knowledgeable in what he teaches!

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# MICHAEL MATHISON

He was more interested in the students success then the rhetoric of the course. Also made the class interesting with everything he did.

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# NICHOLAS PIERCE

DWRS EXCELLENCE IN WRITING AWARDS 2021





# NICOLE CLAWSON

DWRS EXCELLENCE IN WRITING AWARDS 2021



# NKENNA ONWUZURUOHA

Nkenna Onwuzuruoha is one of the nicest instructors I've met. She comments on all of my assignments and highlights my strong points on the specific assignment. I've never had an instructor that made me feel so encouraged like her. Since I know she thoroughly looks through all of my work, I always want to do my best and provide work that she would be proud of. Her course design is very easy to look at because she makes a separate page on canvas for all the materials she wants you to look at each week. Kenna breaks the work in small pieces and that helps me feel less anxious looking at all the things I need to get done and helps me see my progress of completing the work that's due. I believe that Kenna is a great instructor who deserves to be recognized for her excellent work and teaching.

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# NONA BROWN

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# PAM BALLUCK

I enjoyed Dr. Balluck's teaching style. She was always very quick with feedback and correction. Dr. Balluck responded quickly to emails and always helped me to be able to better understand the course. The course design is amazing and it is set up in a way that almost could guarantee success. Dr. Balluck is the best writing/english teacher I have had throughout my two university experiences.

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# PAM BALLUCK

I took Dr. Balluck's WRTG 3015 class last semester. I was hesitant to take an online class, especially writing. However, Dr. Balluck's class was very detailed and organized. She provided weekly videos and outlines the week's assignments. It was a professional writing course and I learned how to write memos, resumes, annotated bibliographies, and grant proposals. She provided me with feedback that enabled me to become a better writer that I have implemented in my work. I feel more confident as a writer in the workplace.

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# RON LOVIK

As challenging as this was over Zoom and the lack of engagement from others on blank screens, this man does not spoon feed nor does his students a disservice by creating an easier work load. He is patient and will be an A grade if the hard work is there (and not just for trying, but seriously doing the work as if you're already a hire). This is also the reality in the real world, so instead of coddling his students he actually encourages them to do their best even if the institution wants to make classes easier for students during this time, they won't actually walk away with any skills that will be hireable.

Ron treats you with the potential of being a professional, and overall being a genuine writer without bias from personal emotions/opinions. This can take you very far in life, whether law, English, public speaking, philosophy, or any discipline for that matter. Writing is an important aspect of how we communicate, and of life, and he wastes no time showing his passion for just this reason. Without logic and reason, one can't go very far. Not anywhere successful anyhow. Very much appreciated that he did not underestimate everyone's intelligence as many professors tend to do, he treats you like the adult or young adult you are, so then it's up to the individual to be responsible, on time, do their research, and gain competency.

His grading may be a bit subjective, but overall very on point. He will not chase you to communicate, so this is again a responsibility of the individual. He does not infantilize anyone he works with, which means he values everyone's will power, conviction, and autonomy to show up and prove themselves, because in the real world no one will come knocking on your door: it's all on you. This is rare and honorable!

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# ROMEO GARCÍA

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# SAMAH ELBELAZI

Dr. Elbelazi is very engaged with her students which is particularly difficult during this time. She always makes herself available to answer questions either via email or during office hours and gives excellent feedback on our writhing. She also not only allows but encourages resubmission of an essay so a student can refine their writing based on that feedback. She takes on more work then she has to in order to help us improve and her unique perspective has helped me learn to write for a more diverse audience that I was never aware of before. I have never considered how my writing could be interoperated by an audience outside of the United States, but she broadened my horizons forever to include people that it never has till now. Dr. Elbelazi is a credit to the University.

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# SAMUEL NELSON

Sam Nelson is completely focused the individual learning. He make sure that every single person in the class gets exactly what they specifically need to succeed in becoming the best they can. He doesn't focus on the class, but he focuses on the student.

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# SARAH SMYLIE

She was nice to me about having problems with my internet connection in India and my late submissions. She was very understanding about taking courses online and she does not grade harshly because she understands that some students have too much to manage and she is gentle with students. Her course was structured well and she helped me prepare for higher level classes as well as prepare me on how to approach a wide variety of writing styles, techniques and documents.

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# SEAN COLLINS

He motivated me to be a better writer.

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# SHERTOK LAMA

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# SUNDY WANTANABE

I appreciated her fair grading policy, and her personal approach to students.

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# SUNDY WANTANABE

As Professor Wantanabe was the first instructor I had after entering the U of U, She was the best display of what I felt like a real professional should be like. She is extremely engaging with students even in the era of zoom as opposed to being always in the classroom. She not only has a great understanding of what she is teaching, but you can sense her passion for the content. Passion goes a long way to making a class enjoyable, entertaining, and educational. That is not something that can be taught, it is something that must be felt, nurtured and embraced. Professor Wantanabe does all those things while still showing care and compassion for her students.

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# SUNDY WANTANABE

Very well structured, Good feedback, Very helpful, Great person overall!

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# SUNDY WANTANABE

Sundy has a fair grading policy and a personal approach to students.

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# SUNDY WANTANABE

She cares about, is really helpful, and respectful to her students. Her topics were also interesting.

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# TRACE DANIELS-LERBERG

She gave specific feedback that made it so I could actually improve my writing. Throughout the course I really did develop my writing. Two semesters later she even reached out to extend opportunities to be a tutor. It touched me because even though we were online she took the time to get to know each of us and our writing styles.

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# TERI KARREN

She helped me to better understand the importance of business writing as well as how to properly create a resume and business proposals. I really enjoyed her teaching style even though it was limited due to Covid. I really thought that she was able to convey an caring attitude as well as a good style of teaching.

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# WYETH THOMAS

I have never in my life enjoyed writing. Wyeth inspired us to move out of our comfort zones and write about political issues and current events without the fear of bias or discrimination for our beliefs. He made himself available for all students in the class as a resource with future essay help and had a strict, but fair class structure. I enjoyed the reading we did and I enjoyed all of the material we covered. He made the class a comfortable place to learn and discuss topics. He truly gave me hope for writing classes in the future.

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# ZAC CHATTERLEY

From all the professors I have had during the pandemic, he puts the most effort in contacting students. I find that despite the course being online and asynchronous - I communicate with students and the instructor as much as I do in other synchronous courses and offline classes in general. He gives meaningful comments about my writing which not only shows that he reads our assignments but that he analyzes our writing as well- for example he points out little errors such as repetition of sentences and gives general advice on how to make my writing much more readable. This helped me develop and improve my writing style. He regularly is in contact with his students and is easy to reach out to. He gives out notices about discussions and participates in classroom discussions, but also making sure to allow students to come up with ideas on his own as well. The course design really changes how I write in general and it made scientific writing much more approachable.

I genuinely appreciate how the course is structured because the readings he gives and the videos he records help me understand how fluid some academic papers can be. I like the fact that he gives readings about common errors that are made and how to avoid them. His grading practices are fair - he is not too harsh that if I make mistakes I don't get discouraged but he is lenient in the sense that there is a pandemic so he understand the issues that students face. Since I am in an online class, I don't know how inclusive his classes are in person but I find that he is inclusive with how he structures the course and how he engages with students. He is inclusive of different writing styles, and he encourages us to use our voices in classroom discussions - He definitely is open to different perspectives and different identities - I chose to write about taking seminars on sexual harassment and sexual identity on one of my assignments and he had no problems with me talking about such issues. In fact, he gave me tips about how to write on the topic and it helped me practically approach the paper.

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# ZAC CHATTERLEY

Professor Chatterley from the minute I started his class made it enjoyable to attend and to try hard in. You could tell immediately that he cared about what he was teaching the class and cared that we understood it. He made class engaging and worth-while. I retained everything he taught, and it's already been a whole year since I had him. I would be very happy to hear if he got this award because he deserves it.

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# ZAC CHATTERLEY

I am nominating this instructor because of the personal impact he had on my writing success. In Professor Chatterley's class I learned a significant amount because of his course design and his care for the student. When I was in his class it was clear to me that he actually cared and that he wanted the best for me. This allowed for me to learn and succeed that I didn't think was possible. I will forever be grateful to Professor Chatterley for his care and dedication.

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# ZAC CHATTERLEY

Professor Chatterley was fully committed to my learning and mastery of scientific writing from the start of the class. The structure of his course had a strong curve yet was fully comprehensive and anticipated shortcomings in the students writing skills allowing us the opportunity to excel at every turn. I created documents, that I had previously thought were beyond my skill level, with the guidance of Professor Chatterley.

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# ZAC CHATTERLEY

He motivated me to be a better writer.

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# ZEB PISCHNOTTE

He gave engaging lectures and helped his students work their way up to a 10 page research paper. Honestly one of the best teachers I've ever had.

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# ZEB PISCHNOTTE

Zeb has made my writing class interesting and timely. I feel like the things he is teaching are extremely relevant and useful.

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