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Final Reflection

As a journalism major, English classes can be very hit-or-miss for me. The styles of writing and the intention behind the words are quite different and so the practices do not always translate appropriately. However, throughout my matriculation at Howard thus far, out of all the courses I have taken, I feel as if this class has most closely aligned with the type of work that I want to do in the future. I want to be a print journalist, but I know that print journalism as we once knew it is dying. Therefore, the inclusion of multimedia elements and writing in nonlinear methods is the way of the future and exactly what I want to do. I want to make nonfiction storytelling accessible, digestible, and enjoyable for everyone and not just the select few.

With our classroom discussions and especially the reading of *Digital Griots* by Adam J. Banks, I was able to really dive deeper into why I write the way that I do. Ever since I was in elementary school, my way of writing has always been challenged. Whether I was saying something “incorrectly,” being “too long-winded,” or being “too personal,” someone has always had something to say about the way that I write. This has always confused me because I was told since day one to find my own writing voice. It was not until reading *Digital Griots* and being in this class that I was able to conceptualize that I write how I talk. I write with influences from African American rhetoric. I am a storyteller that tells intentional stories that only certain people are supposed to understand.

I am starting to get to the point where I am becoming more okay with the fact that although I am going into a public service field, I can selfishly write what and how I want. That is why I created my blog *Myla's Muse* (to have a writing outlet) and why I created this specific remix project *A Navigation of Black Queerness*. I wanted to create something that I wish I had seen years ago. And as I reflect on this, even if I am the only person who will click on every single button and watch each video from start to end, that is perfectly fine because I am the target audience and the impact of one is much better than the impact of none.