

2A: Observe & Analyze 2

Julie Candio Sekel, MA, Adjunct Instructor, English [00:00:02] All right, so it looks like we have time for two more reciprocal interview questions. Yes?

Student [00:00:09] What assignment or activity do you think is most important?

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:00:13] Okay, that's a good question. I would say that the research paper and the final exam are both very important. But if we're thinking about the activity that students usually learn the most from, then I'd say the research paper, because it requires you to develop your own argument and find credible evidence to support you. And that's a very, very good skill to have for the future. All right. Yes?

Student [00:00:40] How do you actually evaluate the research papers?

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:00:43] There's a specific rubric that I use for grading and it's posted on our course site. When I go over the guidelines for that assignment, I'll hand out a copy of it to you then. Okay, so let's wrap up. I'm going to do a quick recap of what we went over today and to give you the opportunity to ask some questions. Moving forward, I'm going to do this at the end of every class so you have the opportunity to ask questions and I can clarify any confusion, okay? So, what did you find most valuable about today's class? Yes?

Student [00:01:22] I liked interviewing you about your expectations for us. I've never been to class where I got to ask the instructor what they want from us from the get-go. Usually I find out by reading the syllabus, or as soon as I get a bad grade.

Student [00:01:36] And then you quickly know you're not doing what's expected.

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:01:39] All right. Well, that's exactly why we do the interview. I want you to know up front exactly what you need to do to be successful here, okay? And, did you have something that you wanted to add that you found valuable?

Student [00:01:51] Sure. I liked that you got to tell us your expectations, but honestly, it was cool that we got to say what we expected from you, too, so it wasn't so one-sided.

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:01:59] Yeah, that's exactly why it's called the reciprocal interview. It allows us to create the type of class or community that we want to be involved in and we want to be part of. All right. Anyone else? Yes?

Student [00:02:14] I hadn't really considered all the ways that I use writing in my life before. I wouldn't consider myself to be a writer per se, but I can definitely see how this class is going to be useful for me.

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:02:25] Okay, great, and I think this class will be very useful to you.

Student [00:02:28] Excellent.

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:02:28] Anyone else? Yes?

Student [00:02:31] To be honest, I was kind of surprised what you had us write today. I really enjoyed doing the bios and I really enjoyed the assignment. But I think this will all help with my other classes and it will integrate into even my business class.

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:02:44] Okay, that's a great point. I want you to be able to see the connection between what you're learning in this class and your role as a student or your future role in the workplace. You know, even though this is a Gen Ed course, one of my goals for this course is to teach you some tools that will enable you to approach writing in any subject or in any career. Okay, so thank you for your thoughts on the class activity. So just to recap, you seemed to really appreciate the reciprocal interview and thought it was a good way to clarify expectations. In addition, I think it was helpful for you to hear how this course is relevant to your outside lives in terms of just general skills and other classes and also your future careers. Does that sound about right? Okay, so unfortunately, we're out of time for today, so I won't have time to address the questions that you posted in the parking lot. I know that these questions are sometimes the most important because you did post them anonymously, but time just slipped away from me today, so. . . .

Student [00:03:55] Can we actually add to the question parking lot now?

Julie Candio Sekel, MA [00:03:58] Yeah, absolutely. I have some sticky notes on my desk. So if you have any questions, feel free to pick some up and write a question and post it before you go. I'm going to collect all of those before I leave and I will try to respond to them next class, okay? All right, see you then.

Student [00:04:21] I think this is going to be a decent class. It's the only class I had this week where I didn't just sit and listen to the instructor.

Student [00:04:27] I know what you mean. It looks like we'll be doing a lot of group work in here, which is cool. I don't really know anyone in here, do you?

Student [00:04:35] No, just you. I guess that'll change. I just hope they take this course seriously. I need to get a good grade.