

Ava Brocchini

Catherine Mintler

EXPO 1223-002

9 May 2025

Final Reflective Cover Letter

Reflecting on Paper 1, I can tell that it was the first English paper I wrote in college because it took a lot of revision at the end of this semester to fix the final draft I submitted in February. I like that I chose the American Dream because it was a theme I had continued interest in throughout this class, leading me to my following paper. Paper 2 was about the difference between *The Great Gatsby* and *Beautiful Little Fools*. I compared the two using the American Dream and the narration tactics in the novels. After reading both books, *The Great Gatsby* was still my favorite. For my research paper, I decided to write about the Gatsby Curve because it relates to finances and the American Dream. It was my most developed essay in this class, and I am actually proud of my writing. After writing all three papers and cover letters, I see a clear progression in my writing and improvement in organization and research.

If I could travel back to the first day of this class, I would tell myself to stay focused and not procrastinate my work because there will be a lot of work. If I could do anything different, I would plan out my assignments better and complete them early so I had extra time to revise if needed. The part of the course that resonated with me the most was reading *Beautiful Little Fools* and comparing it to *The Great Gatsby*. I think that even though the reinvention of the novel was not what Fitzgerald intended when he wrote the original, it answered many questions about the female characters that made me understand them better. The last novel we read was the part of the course that resonated with me the least. I think that it could be dropped from the course content and potentially make a positive impact. Including more media projects could make this

course more interesting because I enjoyed taking a day in class to watch my classmates present their ideas and see their creativity.

After taking this class, I realized that I am not as good a writer as I thought I was. In high school, I was always far more advanced in my writing than most people in my classes, so I thought that made me a good writer. However, after being in this collegiate environment, I learned that I have a long way to go in terms of improvement. As a student, I realized that I need to improve my time management skills and that attending class is vital for succeeding in the course. When it comes to my writing process, my writing has evolved from a five-paragraph format to a developed college-level paper. I will leave behind my old, bad writing habits. I will take the things I have learned in this class with me, like developed writing and research, collaboration skills with my classmates, and communication with my professors.