

# Prologue: A First-Year Writing Journal

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Volume 14

Article 1

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2023

## Process Note on "The Golden Standard: How the 'Model Minority' Stereotype Harms Asian Americans"

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### Recommended Citation

Isberg, Natalie (2023) "Process Note on "The Golden Standard: How the 'Model Minority' Stereotype Harms Asian Americans";" *Prologue: A First-Year Writing Journal*: Vol. 14, Article 1.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/prologue/vol14/iss1/1>

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*Natalie Isberg*

### Process Note

My paper titled “The Golden Standard: How the “Model Minority” Stereotype Harms Asian Americans,” was a research paper I wrote for my Writing 101 class. When creating this essay, I started by identifying an issue or fact I learned about while reading and having discussions surrounding Asian American history. Specifically, I tried to find an issue that could tie into Asian American foodways along with how those foodways have impacted Asian American survival and assimilation into the United States. I ended up settling on the model minority myth, since I felt that it remains a prevalent term in today’s society that undermines many of the struggles Asian Americans have faced in this country (especially with regards to certain foodways). Once I found the issue my paper was going to address, I began examining potential sources I could use that my class referenced (such as films like *Minari* and the book, *Seventeen Syllables*) before branching off using the library’s website to search for more sources. The articles I found were of great help, as they provided me with an opportunity to expand my essay and discuss the consequences of the model minority myth and how its effects reach far beyond the Asian American community. After this, I printed out and annotated each article using different colors and tried to find common threads between each. This made it easier for me to synthesize my essay’s argument later, and it allowed me to visualize my initial thesis. During this time, an outline of the essay’s structure was already forming in my head, and possible quotes had already been sectioned out of their respective sources. The hardest part was the actual writing process. Because I am a slow writer, the page limit felt daunting at times, and it would often take me over an hour to simply write a paragraph. However, I still thoroughly enjoyed the process of working on the essay and found great joy in watching its structure and flow take shape. The revision process (for this publication), went smoothly and presented me with a great opportunity to revise and polish my work. After a leave of absence from the paper, reading it again from beginning to end, as well as meeting with an editor to determine its strengths and weaknesses,

helped me pinpoint places in need of edits. I specified my thesis, making sure to emphasize more clearly what the paper argued for. In addition, I created new topic sentences that aligned better with the arguments of each paragraph, as well as combined paragraphs so that the lengths of each appeared more uniform. Overall, the creation of this essay familiarized me with the longer essay format, which has come in handy in other classes. And, most importantly, this piece, along with its research components, helped acquaint me with a topic I felt passionate about.