

Consultation Reflections on "Beyond the Binary: An Exploration of the Implications of Gender Binaries in Fashion and Choice"

Taylor Hardin
Denison University

Juliana Zeller

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/prologue>



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hardin, Taylor and Zeller, Juliana () "Consultation Reflections on "Beyond the Binary: An Exploration of the Implications of Gender Binaries in Fashion and Choice"," *Prologue: A First-Year Writing Journal*: Vol. 15, Article 8.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.denison.edu/prologue/vol15/iss1/8>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Writing Center at Denison Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Prologue: A First-Year Writing Journal by an authorized editor of Denison Digital Commons.

Consultation Reflections

Taylor Hardin

Writer

Whenever writing my final paper for my Writing 101 course at Denison, I never anticipated that I would be submitting it to Prologue. I've written a fair amount of research papers, but I haven't had much experience with revising an already completed research paper. So, this experience was very eye opening for me and served as a great learning opportunity. The topic for my research paper is gendered fashion and the implications of gender norms on clothing choice. It has stayed mostly the same even after revisions, but with the help of the Writing Center, I was able to make some small yet impactful changes to my paper. Since my initial paper was written for a class, I had some constraints, such as a word count, which limited my ability to really dive into my topic. Although my initial paper contained the necessary scholarship, some areas lacked the depth of my original thoughts. I worked with Juliana from the Writing Center to come up with more interesting and well rounded ideas to give my paper the depth it needed. Additionally, she encouraged me to take risks and write in my unique style rather than focusing solely on the scholarship. As a result of taking these risks, my confidence as a writer grew, and I was able to make fruitful additions to my paper. Juliana also gave me great tips in general about how to write clearly and fluidly. All of her help made me confident not only in my writing abilities, but in my paper itself. At the end of the process, it was evident that my paper became more personal and true to my writing style. Now, I have a paper that I am proud to share, and I hope others enjoy it too.

Juliana Zeller

Writing Center Consultant

In her essay "An Exploration of the Implications of Gender Binaries of Fashion and Choice," Taylor Hardin analyzes the effects of gender binaries to what she terms "fashion freedom." Her contextualization of the aspects of society and market that contribute to a lack of choice in the clothing industry call attention to under researched and underrepresented areas of gender studies. While Taylor's initial draft was endlessly compelling in voice and the strength of its questioning, it lacked deeper exploration of some of its key points. During her first consultation with me in the Writing Center, Taylor worked to further immerse herself into understanding the implications of historical fashion trends and how they are contributing to or have been shaped by society. As a result, her second draft of revisions contained a more focused and specific survey of what inhibits the choices we make concerning the clothes we wear. Her final draft retains and enhances all the best qualities of the original. Taylor's hard work reflects what I love so much about Denison's Writing Center, as the changes she made were not simply topical. Our conversations led her to think deeper about what her argument needed, how to best utilize her sources, and even how to rearrange paragraphs to ensure the best parts of her argument were being highlighted at the right moments. Overall, her unique voice presents an investigation that simplifies us to what we have in common—clothing and choice—but digs into the nuances to ultimately question why that divides us.
