

Dyonne Diggs

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ENGL 492

Dr. Maor

During my matriculation at NC A&T, I have learned a lot from professors and experience since stepping foot on campus. Pre my collegiate career I considered myself a fairly decent writer. My professors have challenged me to never be content with my ability as a writer. One year I was taking Hip-hop with Dr. Randolph and all semester I would turn in papers and he would give me a really low grade and ask for a deeper analysis of whatever the subject was I was writing about. I would get so frustrated because I felt like he was asking the impossible of me, I didn't know what deeper was, I didn't understand what he meant by critically thinking. I was always under the assumption that I thought critically. Finding out that he just wanted me to dive deeper into the topic, he wanted me to go beyond the basic summary was and really apply the summary to an overall theme.

During my time in Dr. Randolph's class, and also Dr. Hope-Jackson's class I also learned more about systematic racism and how it intersects with sex. I also learned about the fluidity of gender and sexual preference. These are things I would have never learned anywhere else on the planet. Having my eyes opened to the layers of every day things I'd previously experienced was an amazing experience. I now have solid knowledge to be able to share and educate others. Understanding more about race and culture and ivtersectionalities have helped my success in my

African American Literature classes, my American Literature classes and even some education courses I have taken.

My knowledge has influenced what I want to study in Graduate school. In Graduate school I would like to study African American Studies and also Black Women Studies. I have a hunger to understand more about the inner workings of several different intersectionalities that have to do with black people. I wouldn't have developed this interest if it wasn't for the amazing professors in the English Department pushing me to think past the surface of theories and really go deeper.

If I would have gone to a PWI I don't believe I would've gained the same knowledge, challenges and experience as I have at NC A&T. My professors have pushed me to know that I can achieve all that they have achieved and more if I never become stagnant. As long as I am always chasing after more knowledge and more experiences I have no choice but to be successful.