*A Self-Introduction*

My name is Arielle San Antonio and I am from a small town called Delano, which is located in Central California. I am currently Undecided/Undeclared, but wish to declare my major as Public Health Sciences. The town that I come from plays a large role in what I am striving to become in the future.

I aspire to be a physician’s assistant since Delano is such a small town populated with very few people that is close-knitted and encompasses the idea of family. When I think of family I am reminded of the amount of love, care, and support I receive from them. These thoughts that involve community and family ultimately motivates me to passionately seek for an education in order to become a PA, so that I will maintain personal happiness and spread the same love, care, and support to others around me. Other than education being one of my passions, I also consider dance as one of them too. Dance is one of those pastimes that relieve my stress when I find myself struggling through school or personal problems. Ultimately, I like to lose myself through dance, laughter, and hip-hop or r&b music. I feel that physically expressing your emotions through music, constantly laughing at hilarious jokes, and listening to soothing music serve as an escape from real life. During the weekends, I enjoy being occupied with these three things; Also, I occasionally read books that are written by Nicolas Sparks and Suzanne Collins.

We all have been acquainted with English since we were able to easily say our first few words when we were little infants. However, once we actually started taking English courses, we became exposed to new words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. When I started taking English courses in elementary school, I experienced different genres of reading which gave me excitement and thrill. I recall the time I almost cried when my 4th grade teacher read a “scary” story from the series *Sideway Stories from Wayside School*. Throughout my elementary and middle school years, we did a lot of creative writing or free writing. Before high school, it was easy to get by because my teachers allowed me to freely write about a topic of my preference. Once I got to high school, my peers and I did less free writing and focused more on close reading and insightful essays. Each English course I took over my high school years became more intense in terms of how detailed we wrote about a specific reading and of how well we supported our topic with evidence. My high school teachers did not require us to do any peer review. However, in my freshman year of college, my English course highly suggested doing peer review, which helped me improve my writing over the year. I suddenly became more confident in my writing and tried harder on the following rough drafts or final drafts I had to turn in.

Now that I am in Writing 39B, I hope to continue to improve as a reader, writer, critical thinker, and communicator in order to assure my success in the future. I desire to pursue better communicating skills as means to help me survive college, but most of all, reality. In addition, I expect to gain analytical skills so that I will be able to capture an academic audience to assist me with future endeavors such as applying for a job. I am worried about the amount of horror movies we will be watching because I’m a “chicken”, but for the most part I’m excited because horror is an exciting theme! I am intrigued by this theme because I wonder how it will help me advance as a writer.