ENC 2135 Assignment Description

**Project 1: The Role of Genres in Your Life: A Personal Essay**

(Minimum of 1500 typed, polished words)

This assignment will help you develop the strategies you'll need to rhetorically analyze different genres and to explore the ways in which these genres function in your life and surrounding culture.

First, we will define “genre of composition” and develop an understanding of how genres operate in practical terms. We'll go on to consider the genres of composition we use on a regular basis. These might include particular categories of music, books, magazines, comics, social media, TV shows, films, etc. Then you’ll think about a time of trouble in your life and explore how a genre of composition helped you through it.

We'll consider why and how we use these specific genres, what our choice of genres reveals about us as individuals, and how these genres shape our lives.

In conjunction with our fairly broad discussion of genre, we'll examine the distinct conventions and rhetorical strategies of one genre in particular: the personal essay. Through a process that incorporates multiple drafts, students are asked to develop, revise, and polish a 1500-word essay in which they share with their audience a time of trouble if their lives and the genre or genres that helped them through it, why and how they used this genre, and how the genre has shaped them as a person.