



# ACADEMIC AND CAREER PREPARATION

## Gabi Guerrero

English Upgrading (EU)

When I took English 1099 I didn't know what to expect, or even what it was about. All I knew was that it was required for me to begin a new chapter of my life. My first language is Spanish, and when I immigrated to Canada I was far from speaking English. So, I began reading—every magazine and newspaper I could get a hold of, I read. During that time I found good jobs, but I knew I could do more. In 2014, I started exploring the possibility of going back to university. I was anxious thinking that I wouldn't be accepted because of my proficiency in English, but I passed all of my assessment tests! I was advised to take English 1099, so I did. I had a fantastic instructor and the course has been key in my decision to continue studying and moving forward. Not only did I polish my writing, but I also improved my communication skills. And above all, it gave me the confidence to keep going and keep trying. It was a great experience that shaped me as a person, and a student.

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