

COVID-19

X

Department of English, East Carolina University

ENG 1100 Foundations of College Writing

Dr. Cheryl Dudasik-Wiggs

Fall 2020

COVID-19

In the matter of seven months, the world has drastically changed due to the outbreak of the highly contagious disease, COVID-19, also known as “The Corona Virus.” Because of this, the disease was classified as a pandemic and required many changes to be set in place. As a result of COVID-19, many basic societal rules have been altered as well as government enforced rules. Although the new rules can be viewed as tedious, it is necessary that we follow these rules to limit to spread of the virus. Being that the severity of this illness was acknowledged by the World Health Organization, I was affected by this outbreak in several ways.

Initially, I noticed swift changes at my school. As it was nearly the end of my senior year in high school, I was expecting a prom. My ecstatic dreams of senior prom were quickly vanished after a stay-at-home order was announced by the governor. This too quickly changed, it went from a short-term rule to lasting rule, resulting in online school and approximately a month and a half of quarantine. It was very upsetting to learn in my last year of high school that I’d no longer be able to participate in the things limited to seniors. The whole class was already planning our senior trip and senior prank but those ideas went down the drain. It was also a difficult adjustment to make, regarding online learning. Prior to the last two months of high school, I had no experience with one-hundred percent online learning. With this new way of learning, I was required to learn a lot of material in a short amount of time along with purchasing internet services and many other things. I’ve now become very familiar with this way of learning since we’re using it in college currently, because of the overwhelming amount of COVID-19 cases. The thing that affected me the most was the adjustment of graduation, being that it was the thing I looked forward to the most. It forced me to alter the amount of people who could witness this critical moment in my life.

COVID-19

The newly discovered virus not only affected my senior year, it affected my everyday life as well. Now whenever I go out, I must remember to wear a facial mask. It took me some time to adjust to this new requirement. In the beginning of this all, I found myself having to turn around every time I went out because I'd always forget my mask in the car. Now I'm much better at remembering it as I don't see this law changing any time soon. Because of this pandemic, it has caused my family and I to be extra cautious when feeling abnormal. For instance, my dad had a slight fever and congestion, which are symptoms of a simple cold or seasonal allergy. Due to the current times, I had to go stay off with one of my family members for a week as he stayed home from work and got tested for the virus.

All in all, the Corona Virus has greatly impacted my life in a number of ways. My life has changed from an extended spring break to a new set of societal and government enforced rules. This virus has altered my education in two ways, it changed the end of my senior year in high school and it's currently changing my freshman year in college. It has also made me more mindful of my wellbeing and extra cautious to stay safe from the contagious virus. Ultimately, the virus has changed my everyday routines but it's something that I'm getting used to.