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ENGRD 349W

Journal Submission Cover Memo

The piece that I am submitting to a publication is a research paper that I wrote about the 2020 Senate election in Georgia. This is a paper that I originally wrote for my freshman year national politics course. After going through a few different options, I ultimately decided to submit my paper to the Columbia University Journal of Politics and Society. I decided that this would be the best place for me to submit my piece because there weren't many submission requirements. It did not require me to cut anything out or make the piece longer.

Although there were not many grammatical or simple edits for me to make in order to submit the piece, I did need to make a few substantial changes so that the piece would be relevant for me to submit now. For example, I decided to add an introduction paragraph explaining that my research was completed in 2019, prior to the 2020 election. I felt that this was necessary to include because without it, readers would have a hard time understanding why I was writing about an election of the past. In addition to this, I added a conclusion paragraph explaining the relevance of all of the information that I presented in the paper. I illustrate that even though we already know the outcome of the election, by looking at the trends that I analyzed in the paper, we can understand and even predict the outcome of elections in other states. This paragraph was helpful to include because it explained the importance of my research and why even though it was done in 2019, the data and information that I collected is still valuable.

Overall, learning about the journal submission process was very insightful. I learned a lot about the process of submitting something to a journal including writing an abstract and cover letter and editing and revising a paper to fit specific criteria. I plan to utilize this knowledge in the future to submit other research papers that I develop.