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The Art of Making Paper

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The Art of Paper Making

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Reflection for Creative Works

A reflection paper is required for creative works. This paper should address why you made the choices you made for your creative project and a self-evaluation of the final product along with any other information you wish to include.

The Art of Paper Making is an exploration into an overlooked field. My goal was to learn not only how to make paper, but how different materials and processes can change the final product. One of the biggest things that impacted my studies was the amount of time I would beat the paper pulp. The amount of time the pulp runs through the beater drastically changes the texture of the paper. Some batches I have beat pulp for only 30-45 minutes, some batches were beaten for an hour. By the end, I was beating the pulp for about 2 hours in order to get the desired texture. When the pulp is beaten longer, there are fewer and smaller chunks and bits in the paper. Instead, it is much more smooth and thin.

I chose to create a video documenting the papermaking process. When I tell people that I make paper, they are often confused and have very little knowledge about the process. This is a fun and informative way to present the process to those who are unfamiliar.

I was extremely pleased with the paper that I created and I can only imagine how much my paper would have improved or changed within the last two months that were cut short due to the pandemic. At the beginning, my paper had some holes and thick chunks, but by the end, the paper was much smoother and thinner. It was more consistent and easier to work with as a final product.

My final video was a brief representation of the papermaking process. Again, my process was cut short due to the pandemic but I am grateful to have the necessary footage. I wanted to experiment with more creative video angles and clips but this is the only footage that I already had. Regardless, I am pleased with the final video and my paper.