For the writing assignment, you are to choose any material from our course and explain how it relates to your specific major, career goals, and/or broader life objectives.

Your paper will be evaluated based on whether it conveys successful college-level writing (e.g. a clear main idea, good organization, acceptable grammar, transition between sections, adequate summary and conclusion) as well as content (e.g. the paper links material from the course to something about you) You should be sure to draw upon specific information from the module (s) as you explain how the module's information relates to your major, career, and/or life goals.

**Note that this writing assignment is *not* a research report.** You are expected to relate the psychology material you discuss to some part of your life. Papers that simply report psychology facts will not earn full credit. Likewise, papers that discuss a psychology topic and life area separately with minimal integration between these ideas may not earn full credit. Maximum credit will be awarded for clear ideas that are linked to the chosen module and written with good grammar, prose, organization, and focus.

Papers achieving a strong grade will include the following:

* A clear introduction and thesis statement
* A coherent discussion about specific psychology concepts, ideas, and/or theories
* Citations to substantiate and elaborate on the psychology information discussed (you may use our course text for this)
* Clear discussion about how the psychology concepts are relevant to your life topic
* Elaboration on how the psychology concepts are relevant

Sample Outline for the paper:

1. Intro = give an introduction into what you will be discussing
   1. Brief idea about the topic
   2. Define terminology
2. At the end of the first paragraph, include a thesis statement.
   1. In this paper, I will discuss…..
3. Discuss specific concepts related to the module(s) of choice
   1. You must include a reference here (Myers & DeWall, 2015, pg. xxx)
   2. Summarize the interesting stuff found in the text
4. Discuss how these concepts summarized above are relevant to you
   1. Include something about you (job, personal life, major, future goals), and how the material learned changed your perception/understanding of the material, and how you will apply this knowledge in the future.

Paper Rubric (200 points)

Length (25)

I need to see at least 4 written pages, double spaced, Times New Roman 12

A clear introduction and thesis statement (25)

The Intro needs to give the reader some structure on the content and direction of the paper

A coherent discussion about specific psychology concepts, ideas, and/or theories with citations to substantiate and elaborate on the information discussed (textbook) (75)

You must address at least one Module, or theme, from the textbook (you can use as many as you like). Example: Genes dictate brain structure, but experience fills in the details (Myers & Dewall, 2015, pg. 152)

Clear discussion about how the psychology concepts are relevant to your life topic (75)

Must incorporate your personal reflections *and* how they relate to the topic