This paper allows you to explore the importance of strategic planning by answering the question: "why strategic planning?" This assignment begins to frame the context of your final strategic plan by your describing the foundation for strategic planning that emerges from your life. I believe that the extent to which you can lead a strategic planning process for another, emerges from your own experience "strategically planning" your life. To that end, **I also expect that you will draw from your achievements and challenges, highlighting principles that persevered and supported your development as a more holistic leader.**

For now, you will not be expected to "cite appropriately" nor provide references, unless, of course, you are directly quoting. I am requesting, however, that you tap into your own experience and expertise to reflect upon the impact any of the exercises or readings have had on you thus far.

Pragmatics

1. For the most part, I expect this paper to be "free flowing" and focused. In other words, make sure the paper "as a whole" makes sense and avoids rambling. Although this paper needs not be APA at this point, please strive for grammatical excellence. Also, please limit your "reflecting" to 3 - 5 pages, double-spaced.
2. Given that I want this to come out of your "truth", please use the readings to complement your paper, not dictate how you "define" your purpose for strategic planning.
3. The following list of questions can serve as a guide. DO NOT feel compelled to answer every question below. The primary question the reflection paper needs to answer is **"How can your approach to strategic life planning offer perspectives about why are you the way you are?"** drawing from your life successes and failures, and the extent to which you have been effected by systems of power and privilege. However, go beyond simply describing yourself and provide some personal analysis to your reflections (e.g., "I believe I am this way because..."). This is your "theory of you."

- How has your leadership emerged from achievements and challenges?
- What does strategic planning mean to you?
- What is the relationship between your identity and systems of power and privilege, as well as your own opportunities and barriers?
- How have you been affected by your life experiences?
    - What experiences have contributed to your strengths and weaknesses?
    - What opportunities do you currently have access to that can facilitate your goals?
    - What barriers exist that might obstruct the kind of leader you wish to be?
    - Who do you rely on to give you support, advice and feedback?
- How have you been affected by your social, physical and educational environments?
- What role have you had in affecting your social, physical and educational environments?
- How have you been influenced by the larger sociopolitical society?