**Personal Narrative**

You will be writing or presenting a story about yourself.

You have **two options** for this assignment:

1) word-based, i.e. a blog post (which involves more writing)

2) image-based, i.e. a Tumblr page or Instagram account (which involves more researching)

**Option 1:**

You will write an essay for a blog. You do not need to create an actual blog for this assignment, but your essay should be written with a blog audience in mind. Your essay should be about **500 words long**. Your essay should be written in first-person voice (“I” statements) and should tell a simple story about an adventure you have had that led to personal growth. Possible ideas: a tough diet, a new/old friendship, a move, SATs. Once you have decided what you want to write about, study some blogs you like and consider how bloggers describe their personal stories.

At the end of your post, include a **100-word commentary** that explains why you chose this story, who you envision as your audience, and which bloggers inspired you.

**Option 2:**

You will create an online account in order to present a story about yourself using **at least 15 images**. You may only use **Tumblr or Instagram**. These websites are free – you do not have to pay to create an account. I will not be teaching you how to use Tumblr or Instagram; while I encourage you to challenge yourself to learn something new, if you consider yourself “computer illiterate” and don’t want to learn to use one of these sites on your own, you should choose the other option. You must **create a new account** instead of using one you already have. Your account name must have at least your first or last name in it.

You will need to study similar websites for inspiration and follow the conventions of the format you choose. For example, Tumblr mostly uses images created by other authors (do not worry about appropriate attribution in this case – we’ll talk about citations later in the semester) while Instagram mostly uses images created by the user.

Using visual images, your account should tell a simple story about an adventure you have had that led to personal growth. Possible ideas: a tough diet, a new/old friendship, a move, SATs.

You must post a link to your Tumblr or Instagram account to the Dropbox on iCollege. In the comments section of the Dropbox, you must also include a **100-word commentary** that summarizes your story and explains why you chose it and who you envision as your audience.

**Grading Scheme:**

Grading will consider clarity, formatting, and evident attempts to engage your blog or website’s intended audience.

**An A assignment (90-100)** demonstrates awareness of audience, contains a smooth flow of ideas, presents an interesting narrative, and exhibits awareness of website conventions. The writing style is strong (avoiding unnecessary repetition, wordiness, excessive use of “to be” verb, etc). It has smooth transitions between ideas, sentences, and images. There are no significant mechanical errors.

**A B assignment (80-89)** indicates limited familiarity with audience, does not transition smoothly between ideas, presents a somewhat interesting narrative, and exhibits awareness of website conventions. There is some awareness of writing style techniques and there are a few mechanical errors.

**A C assignment (70-79)** presents very little awareness of audience, relates a dull, vague, or nonsensical narrative, and contains significant mechanical errors.

**A failing assignment (69 and lower)** does not follow instructions, demonstrates no awareness of audience, and contains numerous mechanical errors.