By the end of this activity, you will draft an expository essay. This essay will be submitted to the discussion board for peer review (see instructions for M2D1). You also will submit a draft in the M2A1 assignment drop-box by the Sunday night deadline for your instructor's feedback on your draft.

For this writing scenario, you have been asked to write a short essay on an issue important to your major or in your career. If you do not yet have a major, consider a topic from a field in which you might be interested.

You will submit this essay to a student magazine that is publishing a special issue on topics important to students in various academic fields. The topic is up to you, as long as it fits the scope of the special issue of the magazine, and you determine that it is important to a particular field or discipline. You notice the magazine usually publishes short student essays, with a few sources.

For your draft assignment, you may use two sources of your choosing, including from Web-sites that have .edu or .gov URLs. Of course, it is best to use the Excelsior Library database to research your topic. Be sure to record authors, year, titles, journal or location, volume, number, and page numbers. It is important to include the exact page numbers on any quoted material. Be sure to review the APA references section of the OWL while researching your topic ([APA References (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.](http://owl.excelsior.edu/posts/view/81) and [Documenting (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.](http://owl.excelsior.edu/posts/view/67)).

Your task is to write a short essay, 250-300 words, on the topic above. Your essay should include at least two outside sources of your choosing.

Compose your work in a .doc or .docx file type using a word processor (such as Microsoft Word, etc.) and save it frequently to your computer. For those assignments that are not written essays and require uploading images or PowerPoint slides, please follow uploading guidelines provided by your instructor.

Check your work and correct any spelling or grammatical errors. When you are ready to submit your work, click “Upload Submission.”  Enter the submission title and then click on “Select a file to upload.” Browse your computer, and select your file. Click “Open” and verify the correct file name has appeared next to Submission File. Click on “Continue.”  Confirm submission is correct and then click on “Accept Submission & Save.”

**Turnitin**®

This course has Turnitin® fully integrated into the course dropbox. This means that you should **only submit your assignments to the dropbox below. *Please do not submit your assignment directly to Turnitin.com.***

Once submitted, your assignment will be evaluated by Turnitin® automatically. You will be able to view an Originality Report within minutes of your first submission that will show how much of your work has been identified as similar to other sources such as websites, textbooks, or other student papers. Use your Originality Report as a learning tool to identify areas of your assignment that you may not have cited appropriately. **You may resubmit your assignment through this dropbox as many times as you need to check to see if you have made improvements, until the due date of the assignment.** However, once you have made your first submission, you will need to wait 24 hours after each subsequent submission to receive a new Originality Report. Plan accordingly as you draft your assignment. Once the due date has passed, your assignment submission will be considered final.

**Evaluation**

This assignment will be graded using the Written Assignment Grading Rubric located on the Course Rubrics page within the Start Here section of the course.  Please review the rubric prior to beginning your work so that you ensure your submission meets the criteria in place for this assignment.  This assignment is worth 10% of your final course grade. Your instructor will focus grading on content development, although other rubric areas will be considered. Completion of this draft will help you prepare for the final essay submission in Module 4.