

# McNair Scholars Program Central Michigan University

## ASSIGNMENT #6 PART ONE DUE: JUNE 19 PERSONAL STATEMENT AND CV II

**Assignment Part One:** You should be able to “finalize” your CV at this point. This means incorporating feedback you have received (via Maureen and Lynn) and making sure that you have consistent and easy to read formatting in addition to strong content.

**Assignment Part Two:** You should be working on your personal statement continuously. For this draft, it is expected that you are beginning to solidify its content and working to create an effective structure and flow. You should incorporate feedback you have received (via Maureen, Lynn, and perhaps, others). This will be the draft that you present to your mentors for their input. Note that another draft of your statement is due July 10 and that you will be asked to describe the feedback that you received from your mentor as part of that assignment.

**Recommendation:** Read Chapter 7 and 8 (sample essays) in the Asher book to become inspired and for ideas on structure and flow. We will discuss sample essays during our seminar on June 18. In particular, please read:

- Essay #13 (career goals/research interests/why here)
- Essay #15 (envisioning a future/recurring theme/intellectual development)
- Essay #42 (grades/three major influences)
- Essay #50 (intro/background/clear goals/values/who she is as a person)

Make this one tailored to your top-choice school – essays not tailored to a top-choice school will be considered late.

## ASSIGNMENT #6 PART TWO DUE: JUNE 19 GRADUATE SCHOOL LIST AND PROGRAM RESEARCH – PHASE TWO

You are likely in the “thick of things” with respect to your search for the best graduate program for you. Hopefully, you are finding the process to be interesting and exciting, despite the challenges in navigating numerous websites and search engines. You should be using your graduate school matrix to help you keep track of your research – listing programs you have considered in the “schools explored” tab, ranking your programs of interest according to criteria important to you in the “school rankings” tab and even outlining a plan of action for all of the necessary items that will have to come together for a successful application process in your “timeline” tab. As you solidify your list, begin to add important information to your school datasheets for quick reference.

**Assignment Part One:** Insert graduate programs that you are considering into the “school rankings” tab and rank according to each criterion (feel free to modify and/or insert additional) so that you can begin to distinguish which programs are potentially the best fit for you. At this point, it is reasonable to expect that you will have **at least six programs** in your “school rankings” tab.

**Assignment Part Two:** Complete a school datasheet for one of your programs of interest. Be sure to **complete all fields** which might require a phone inquiry to the departmental secretary if the information isn’t readily accessible online. This exercise is intended to demonstrate how important each piece of information is to the entire application process. Being diligent and thorough now will save you time and stress later on when you are trying to figure out all of these details during the actual application process.

Upload your ENTIRE OneNote notebook housing your graduate school matrix to the McNair SharePoint site.