This semester wasn’t too difficult, but it taught me a lot about myself. There were things that I could have done better (which I’ll mention later), but I am happy with my performance. It started off a little rocky because of the money situation. Tuition payments were definitely a big stressor for me, but once that was paid off, I was able to focus more on school. Towards the middle of the semester, I got into the swing of things and successfully kept a consistent schedule that worked for me. Once I got into that rhythm, completing tasks became very easy: I finished assignments early and other responsibilities (volunteering, working, meetings, etc.) did not clash or interfere with each other. However, towards the end of the semester, I started to slack. I didn’t allow it to greatly affect my grades or get in the way of my responsibilities, but I knew I wasn’t trying my best. I knew I could have been doing better. I started to turn in “okay” essays versus “great” ones. I started showing up a few minutes late to volunteering. I got really lazy, and I’m not proud of it.

One thing I realize is actively talking/thinking about my goals helps me regain focus. When people ask me what I want to do after I graduate, I light up with excitement to tell them my plan. So, I disappoint myself when I choose to do the minimum. To combat my laziness (or lack of motivation), I decided to create a vision board to hang on my wall. Reminding myself of my goals is the incentive I need to keep going.

Overall, I think my personal failures were the most meaningful. From them, I realize I am not there yet: I am not the person I want to be. I am not as responsible as I want to be; I’m not as focused as I want to be; I’m not as social as I want to be. I can do better, and I plan on doing better this semester. I don’t need to make any huge changes. I just need to adopt a better mindset. I need to step away from being okay with mediocrity. Eventually, I want to expect and accept nothing but the best from myself.