

“Chronicle of a Campus”  
Preliminary Research  
Due September 29, 2014

With *Chronicle of a Summer* as your guide, please complete the following in preparation for next week’s important workshop activities:

I). Create a hypothetical list of five individuals to interview regarding their personal experiences of ‘happiness’ at UMass Lowell. This list might include fellow students, professors, university staff, or all of the above. I only ask that you imagine a total of five people to work with. You do not have to commit yourself to any group or combination of individuals at this point, as this is mainly an exploratory exercise. I only ask that you begin to give some serious thought to the *types* of people that will most likely help you to discover some ideas for future research.

II). Once you have created a tentative list of potential interview subjects, create another list of at least five words related to the subject of ‘happiness’ to work with, such as those that we have discussed in class.<sup>1</sup>

III). With your two lists above at hand, please craft five hypothetical ‘template’ questions to accompany your tentative list of interview subjects. For example, here are some of mine:

- Considering your recent experiences as a freshman at UML, what has given you the greatest sense of **delight** here thus far? Does this come as a surprise to you?
- As a student councilor, what do you think is the most common misconception about achieving lasting **happiness** at UML? What is the primary cause of this misconception?
- As a successful resource librarian of ten years, what do you think is the greatest guarantor of employee **contentment** here at UML?
- As a current professor at UML, what gives you the greatest amount of **joy** in the classroom every day? Do your students know this about you?
- As a student athlete at UML, which academic activities provide you with the greatest sense of **well-being** apart from your chosen sport? Why do you believe that this so?

IV). Please bring your *typed* work to class this coming Monday, September 29th, and be prepared to share your thoughts about what you have written with your classmates.

V). In addition to the work above, please revise your *Vers Nancy* essays, taking into account the helpful feedback that you have received from your peers.

---

<sup>1</sup> For example: ‘joy,’ ‘bliss,’ ‘contentment,’ ‘satisfaction,’ ‘enjoyment,’ ‘well-being,’ ‘delight’