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Humanities Scholars First Week Reflection

My first week at Ohio State was overwhelming but surprisingly easy to adjust to. I was surprised that I was so prepared for my classes despite their difficulty. I took a lot of advanced classes in high school but towards the later years of high school found myself doing the bare minimum to get an A. Even though my school was one that was top ranking in the country, my classes were easy for me and I often ended up doing homework the period before class or even during the first five minutes of class because I somehow found it impossible to do 20 minutes of homework for that class per night. Even after one week of college, however, I cannot understand how I ever spent entire class periods or even school days on my phone, not taking notes, chatting with friends, etc. during class time. In my college classes so far I have been paying constant attention, taking constant notes, and doing all the homework (required or no) right away. It just seems to come naturally and I do not understand how I made the switch so completely so fast. But then again, maybe I’ll run out of steam soon.

I was hoping that when I started college I would immediately make friends but that was kind of an unrealistic expectation; it will probably take a little bit of time before I find my niche. People have been really nice though and I have found a few people that I’ve clicked with. I see people trying to make friends with everyone they meet and I would prefer to just go about it more naturally, I’m not going to force a friendship. Since I’ve gotten here I have also been really busy, both with planned activities and with classwork. I think as the year progresses it should calm down a little so I can find the people I actually want to hang out with and talk to.

I think the main difference for me around being here is the culture shock that I experienced when transferring from high school. My high school was from Columbus City Schools, a public school. In my school there was a high volume of diversity; racially, socioeconomically, religiously, and in terms of a general worldview. Here, there seems to be a high volume of (to be blunt) suburban white kids. It’s a lot to adjust to because the diversity was one of the things I admired and took for granted in high school, I think it is important for everyone to have the perspective that a diverse background brings, which most of my classmates no longer share with me. I say this not to appear as if I think myself better than my peers, only because it is a value of mine.

To summarize, I am doing well in the adjustment to college life, but I may yield a different answer in a couple of week.