

Essay 3: Identity & Perspective

Growing up, I often found myself balancing different expectations, those of my family, my culture, and my own ambitions. At times, it felt like I had to choose between them. Over time, however, I realized that these influences weren't competing forces; they were shaping a more complete version of who I am.

This realization became clear when I worked on a school project about identity. Instead of presenting a single narrative, I chose to explore contradictions, tradition and modernity, structure and creativity. What I discovered was that these contrasts weren't weaknesses; they were strengths that allowed me to approach problems from multiple perspectives.

This mindset has influenced how I learn and interact with others. I've become more open to unfamiliar ideas and more comfortable questioning assumptions, both my own and those around me.

At NYU, I see an environment where this perspective can thrive. Surrounded by students with diverse experiences, I hope to continue exploring identity not as something fixed, but as something constantly evolving.

I don't want to fit into a single definition, I want to grow beyond it. And I believe NYU is the place where I can do exactly that.



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