

## Module 1 Activity #2

Due Sept 4, on Canvas

### The Photographed Life

(Stage 1 of the “Student Apology” Signature Assignment)



#### Explanation

*During our last in-class exercise, we were trying to pin down (for our class’s purposes, anyway) what it means to say that a practice or approach is a “way of life” rather than a (mere) “style” or “lifestyle.” In class, we toyed around with some popular practices and commitments that we see in our communities, and/or that we ourselves do (The “Tiny House” life, the “Paleo” life, the “Hipster” life, etc.) in order to build a set of working-definitions of those above concepts.*

#### **For this At-Home Activity,**

**your task is to turn that reflection inward about your own practices and commitments.**

- 1) First, **summarize/recap the working-definitions** our class came up with for “Style,” “Lifestyle,” and “Way of Life.”
- 2) **Go through the most recent, say, 20 pictures on your phone and pick 1 of them on which to focus.** (include the picture in our submission). (It doesn’t have to be a perfect picture or the most representative picture of who you are and what you love. Indeed, it can be kinda fun to pick a slightly quirky picture. Since this is just an exercise, and we are creatively-engaging, rather than judging our photos or experiences, you can pick whichever photo that seems interesting/fun for you to reflect on. (...Though, at the end, you may indeed have better insights about your preferred way of life and what that might look like, which is one of the ultimate goals of this exercise.))
- 3) How would you **categorize the practice/behavior that’s represented in the photo** you’re exploring: A Style, A Lifestyle, or a Way of Life? Explain why. (couple sentences here is all that’s needed)
- 4) **Imagine this picture were to represent your “Way of Life.”** What would that way of life be about? You might consider these kinds of questions: What values would it be reflecting? How would it exemplify your views on the Good Life, and on what matters in life? How might it speak to your views on Truth and Learning? What kind of relationship to others, and to nature, might be reflected in the picture? (this should be a pretty decent and substantive paragraph or two).
- 5) **Evaluate** the way of life that might be reflected in that picture. Do the answers to those above questions sit well with you? Do they match an intuition you might have about how you’d \*like\* to answer the questions, for real? What would different answers to those questions “look like” in a different picture: one that reflected the way of life that you might like to see reflected in pictures in your phone? (this should be at least one substantive paragraph as well)

In all, this submission should be about 1-2 full pages of writing.