

I am Daniel Edwards. I am a student aspiring to be someone that others look up to as an example. Through my actions during the past few years of college I have undertaken specific practices and hobbies in order to benefit my intellect, my body, my social standing, and my faith. These practices all take time, however, and have yet to be completed to my desired level.

During High School, I never tried extremely hard in academics or in extracurriculars. I was in the marching band, and even played in the jazz band one year, but never made it to anything higher than our Symphonic tier band, which is the middle skill level at my school. In my classes, I was in a slightly above average math, and even took some AP courses, but didn't pass any of the AP exams. Once I took the ACT for the first time I realized it was time to start taking control of my life, because no one else was able to do it for me.

In order to increase my intellect, I came to the University of Alabama and followed my brother's path with electrical engineering as my major. I didn't realize this would end up being one of the most difficult courseloads at Alabama, and its likely that if I did, I would've swapped majors much earlier on. Sophomore year, I decided to tack on a Math and Computer Science minor. This specific courseload allowed me to take progressively harder and harder courses and slowly increase potential as an academic in the fields I was most interested in. Now being in my third semester of Senior year, I have realized I am much more capable than I could've believed, and I'm only getting better. I even think I might go into Graduate Level Studies, after I pass the FE exam and pay off student loans of course.

To increase my body, I have become practically addicted to lifting weights at the gym. For the past 2 years, I have been going to the gym six to seven days a week. I first started going at the end of high school but have only taken it seriously recently. I have gained and lost approximately 30 pounds, on two separate occasions. I have had a plethora of gym partners come and go and have outlasted them all. My progress continues to increase in all aspects of my strength, and all of this has only bolstered my mental fortitude and mindset about the other aspects of my life. I'm not sure if I would define my area of expertise by "Fitness" as there are unhealthy aspects to it as well. I have a nasty caffeine addiction and I have earned plenty of negative comments by declining meals because they didn't fit my diet. I have even injured myself a multitude of times. Despite this, lifting weights from the very beginning has been one of the most beneficial and influential aspects of my life, and I will likely continue it until the day I die.

To increase my Social Standing, I have participated in a Co-op position at Revere Control Systems. I did this in order to get as close as possible to guarantee getting a job right out of college, and I succeeded. I define my social standing by my occupational and financial position. While I was a little disappointed in the starting salary, I know I am lucky to be able to immediately begin building my professional experience right out of the gate and aspire to climb the ladder at Revere as fast as possible.

Lastly, I spoke of increasing my faith. I saved this for last because this is likely the aspect of my life that needs the most work. I wouldn't say I'm unfaithful by any means, but I feel like school, the gym, and my social/work life have taken more and more of a toll on my relationship with God. My attempt at remedying this was to always have my Bible with me,

but what good is a Bible that's rarely opened. There isn't any class, or program I can follow to help me with this aspect and will likely need to come from within.

I am Daniel Edwards, and I am approaching the man I aspire to be. It has taken me years to build up my confidence and believe in my own potential, but as I make more and more progress in all aspects of my life, I can see I am getting closer to the end of the grind. I will reach my goals and set an example for others.