

Part 1: Refining purpose and content (WHAT and WHY?)

- My memoir will be about my first 2 months at Georgia Tech and my varying feelings of belongingness during my time here. The episodes will consist of my recollections and reflections on different pivotal moments during my time on campus. For instance, I could begin with an episode about initially landing in the US and adjusting to the cultural differences as well as seeing the campus for the first time; this could be followed by episodes about my Week of Welcome events, my first classes, etc., and gradually move towards where I am now. The primary narrative function of these episodes will be to document my varying feelings of belongingness during this time.
- The common theme that holds my episodes together is the idea that I face unique challenges in assimilating at Tech due to the fact that I am an international student in an unfamiliar environment. My episodes will focus on how I have addressed these challenges, how they have shaped my experience here so far, and how I have aimed to overcome them.
- I will arrange the episodes chronologically, as I feel that this is the best way for me to describe the progression in my feelings of belongingness at Georgia Tech. Any other order would not have the same effect as it would not clearly describe the day-to-day development in my feelings of inclusion here.
- I want my audience to become more aware of the unique challenges that members of Georgia Tech's sizable yet proportionally small international student community face.

International students are a relatively small but significant portion of Georgia Tech's undergraduate student body, making up around 10% of the undergraduate population. As a first-year international student at Tech, I have largely enjoyed my time here so far and met some amazing people, but I have also simultaneously faced some unique challenges that come with being visibly different in an unfamiliar environment; this combination of successes and challenges has caused both the intensity and complexity of my feelings of belongingness here to vary over time. By documenting the main significant events and time periods through the chronologically ordered episodes of my memoir, I hope to convey these shifting feelings to my audience, thereby raising awareness and potentially challenging stereotypes about undergraduate international students.

Part 2: Medium and modality experiment (HOW?)

Medium	Modalities	Synergy	Purpose
Podcast	Oral: A podcast would primarily consist of me verbally discussing the subject matter. I could vary my tone and speed to convey varying emotions throughout the memoir. Visual/Nonverbal: Depending on time and workload, I could accompany the podcast with a video. This would allow me to	The tone and expressions could complement each other to effectively convey my emotions while discussing specific incidents.	Example: Episode about my first football game. In this episode, I would like to convey the idea that my first football game with my roommate served as a turning point of sorts in my feelings of

	<p>adjust my facial expressions as well as add flashback clips.</p> <p>Electronic: Podcasts are generally distributed electronically. I will acknowledge this fact by making sure to include a relevant title and icon in my submission.</p>		<p>belongingness on campus. To do this, I could talk more confidently, look directly at the camera more, etc. This would convey the idea that I had started to feel more comfortable as a student at Georgia Tech.</p>
Comic	<p>Written: The images would be accompanied by captions that would provide explanations and context about the events being portrayed. Characters' speech could also be portrayed via speech bubbles.</p> <p>Visual: Through the comic medium, I would primarily recount my experiences via hand-drawn images. The varying facial expressions, backgrounds and foregrounds in these images would help convey and strengthen my point.</p>	<p>The text will clarify details and provide context about the images so as to not make the memoir too abstract for readers to understand.</p>	<p>Example: Episode about my first day on campus. In this episode, I would want to convey my initial apprehension during my first day in the US and on campus. The image could reveal my confusion and anxiety when I first felt overwhelmed by the size of the campus or when I first met my roommates, while the captions would clarify which events I am talking about. Speech bubbles could be used to reveal my conversations with my roommates and especially my parents (who were with me in the US) that day.</p>
Photo essay	<p>Written: There would be a large textual component to my memoir, as I would rely on prose to convey the bulk of my ideas and experiences.</p> <p>Visual: I would add photos of me and things around me at Tech between various paragraphs.</p>	<p>The photos would more clearly convey certain thoughts as well as enhance the emotional responses that I'd be hoping to evoke.</p>	<p>Example: Episode about the international student welcome party. A photo of the event would reveal how many international students from different countries around the world were there, as well as how many different organizations</p>

			<p>on campus seemed to be catering to the international student community. This would reinforce the idea, initially stated through prose, that I felt welcome at Tech for the first time that day and realized that I was not alone. I could also include pictures of myself with other people there: my brighter facial expressions as compared to previous pictures would further convey this idea.</p>
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Conclusion: I feel like the comic medium will allow me to express myself and my complex feelings of belongingness most freely and effectively. It would provide me with more freedom to formulate visual representations, as well as less reliance on prose, in comparison to the photo essay. As for the podcast medium, I feel that it may not be the best medium for this task since I would be the only one speaking, and so the discussion aspect of podcasts would be missing (and I may sound monotonous as well).