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Honors Thesis Proposal Layperson Summary
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In my time at UNC Charlotte, I have come to realize that almost all things are designed in some way. The design process is easy to observe when you look at objects or inventions; based on the function or operation of something, you can easily see that a specific design was used for its creation. I now understand that this design process can also be applied to individuals. I must ask myself—what has my design process been, and what has it looked like? I am in college in order to achieve some goal I have set for myself so that I can become a better, more complete person. This process of goal-setting and subsequent achievement can be seen as a design process.

The design process is scientific in nature, but is used frequently in all disciplines. Typically, you start with an idea of something that could be done or changed. Next, you research the design by learning about its operating principles, studying similar designs, and weighing the design’s benefits against its costs. Once your idea has been formed, you begin to enact the design. At this point, you begin creating the design, and based on observations made throughout the creative process, the design is changed and revised until the result is complete, functional, and useful.

I have found six artifacts which demonstrate how the design process has shaped me. These artifacts show how I am working towards my goal of becoming a complete individual, and many of the decisions or issues I have faced along the way. These artifacts show not only how my design process has unfolded, but also how it has changed or been altered from its conception. I hope to use these artifacts along with many other experiences to understand myself better as a person and the process I have gone through. I believe this will give me a deeper knowledge of myself and the person I am becoming.