

# I am only human.

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At the beginning of the semester, we're greeted by a scary syllabus and even scarier icebreakers. The uneasy feeling begins to set in as everyone goes one by one, and to your unfortunate luck, you're going to be next. What am I going to say? What will impress them? Will I be judged for my selected major or will I get judged for my weird fun fact? At last, those treacherous five seconds are over, and you move on like nothing. You repeat this for your other courses and finally move on as a

they can confide in to advocate for their medical needs. On campus, I am a student worker who many may recognize as their fellow barista at the Cyber Café, or the cashier over by the market. Once upon a time, I was the school's baker for the cafeteria and once made your favorite cheesecake. Outside and way beyond the classroom, I am a worker at Costco and spend my weekends working at their bakery as a cake decorator. Many call me crazy but I am a full-time student who works 3 different jobs. I am the partner of someone so kind and sweet. I can proudly add dog-mom as one of my titles. I can go on and share who I am outside and way beyond the classroom, but in short, I'm simply human, and I am me.

lyze all your responsibilities and roles in life. Outside of the classroom, you are far more than the students who submitted their formal response that was due at midnight. You're far more valuable than your transcript may reflect. No matter how many hats you wear beyond the classroom or even beyond the parameters of this campus, you are human.

We are all trying to plan our future, and we resort back to our classrooms as a place for resources, but more importantly, we are all learning and balancing a hectic life. The silent agreement of separating home and personal life away from school and work can be misinterpreted, often discouraging. Everyone's progress in school is unique, but we all must consider that there is so much more on our minds than simply a biology lecture or a unit on Roman history. Go easy on yourself and be proud of the progress you make. Beyond the classroom, you hold much greater value, and beyond the classroom, you handle so much more than a formal response or exam. Be kind to yourself and others. You never know what may be going on past these four walls.