THE INDIVIDUAL: MASTER OF FATE OR VICTIM OF CIRCUMSTANCE?

The readings, writing assignments, discussion, and videos were chosen to develop the theme of the course (The Individual: Master of Fate or Victim of Circumstance?), as well as to stimulate and to provide data for your thinking. The following questions are intended to further this process.

I hope you will give serious thought to some of them; however, I do not expect you to arrive at definitive answers.

**Control**

How much control does the individual have over her/his life or the lives of others?

How much control do I have over my life or the lives of others?

Is the belief that we can control our lives, aspects of our lives, or others an illusion?

Is the individual controlled or directed by external forces?

Am I controlled or directed by external forces?

**Influence**

How much influence does the individual have over others?

How much influence do I have over others?

Is the individual influenced by external forces?

Am I influenced by external forces?

How do the beliefs and expectations—learned from family, classmates, secular and religious teachers, reading, the media, and society—influence me as an individual?