

Science Writing and New Media  
**Perspectives on Medicine and Public Health**

Introductory assignment: **Why MIT?** —due Session 2:

This assignment offers you an opportunity to tell me—and the rest of the class—something about yourself. Do your best to explain why you ended up at MIT. In the course of exploring this question, you might tell us a relevant story. Perhaps there was an event or a relationship that played a key role in your decision to apply and then to enroll. Perhaps you were guided by preconceptions or misconceptions. Probe beneath the surface of your experience. Do not give us the explanation that you might have offered to your high school guidance counselor. Do not try to explain why MIT accepted you, and **do not focus on the details of the application process** (SATs, application forms, due dates, Pre-Frosh weekend.) Ideally, your readers should come away from your exercise feeling that they have gained some distinctive insight into your experience.

While this is not a formal essay, you should make every effort to express your thoughts accurately. Be sure to proofread your response before bringing it to class.

The finished piece should be two to three pages long.  
Like all assignments handed in this semester, it should be double-spaced.

**Bring one copy to class.**

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<https://ocw.mit.edu>

21W.034 Science Writing and New Media: Perspectives on Medicine and Public Health  
Fall 2016

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <https://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.