**Significant Events Life Map Instructions**

Goal: To identify significant or marker events that have had a positive or negative impact on your life. Examine these events and think about how your social identities (race, class, gender, religion, military status, sexuality, age, etc.) may have influenced the outcome of these events.

Directions: Think about significant events that have occurred in your life. This could be events that changed your perspective, something that you accomplished, or events that you consider to be big milestones or game changers for yourself, whether they are positive or negative. They could be anything: joining a sports team, changing schools, experiencing a family disaster, getting your first job…

Map each of these events on your life map template, as your teacher explained in class. Once you have mapped these marker events on your life map, choose five of them to describe in detail in a separate essay. While you are describing them, think about how each event might have been affected by your gender, sexuality, religion or beliefs, disability (mental or physical), race, age, ethnicity, or class. Did any of these social identities change the progression of one of these events or affect the outcome? Or did any of these events happen because of these social identities?

Next week in class you will choose a partner to discuss how your social identities may have affected the marker events shown on your map. How might those events have turned out differently if you had had a different social identity? What kinds of realizations did you make about yourself and the events you chose to write about on your map?