**George Washington University encourages students to extend learning beyond the traditional classroom by taking advantage of hands-on learning through service, research, internships, and studying abroad. Describe an experience that transformed the way you view the world and how this perspective prepares you for GW.**

 **Please respond to the following essay question in 250 words or fewer.**

I always followed certain principles that I made for myself. These principles are the pillars that I built my foundation on, one of the most important principles I follow is: to change the way I view myself in order to change the way I view the world around me. Being born a dark skinned girl, I always suffered a lack of self-confidence and low self-esteem. I always thought hiding my face from the world would keep me away from the insults thrown at me, but for how long could I hide? It was in 8th grade when I walked the corridors of a new school, with my head down and ignored whispers I made my way to the classroom. “Maybe this is a new start” I thought to myself as I stepped into the classroom. My thoughts inside me and the people around had gotten out the better of me. For others to accept me, I knew I had to accept myself. My classroom was no different from the world outside. I accepted myself, I built confidence. And it was on that day that I learned my strength came from the weaknesses that I embraced. I no longer saw the world as my enemy, I accepted their flaws and they accepted mine.

Taking up the Business Management program offered by GW allows me to not only learn the subject but also explore it and link it with the dynamic world around me. To enjoy studying among over 26,000 students and to be a part of the few of the 450 students organisations means that I have let my bubble burst. And this couldn’t be done if I still saw the world as my enemy.