MOBILE JOURNAL
FINDING FORRESTER

Do not summarize the movie! Analyze it and provide descriptions of scenes that effectively address the thought items below. These items should guide your viewing of the movie and preparation of the journal. Write no more than one page for the first and second items. The third and fourth items require only brief responses; these should be no more than a half page each in length. For clarity, the paper should be organized to correspond to the ordering of the journal items below. The overall journal should not exceed three pages. Do not include an introduction or summary. Just begin your paper by addressing the first thought item. Be sure to clearly demonstrate knowledge of concepts. Do not assume that I know what they mean (or what you mean).

- In the second half of the movie, Jamal decides to confront Robert Crawford in class; describe events leading up to and behaviors during this confrontation in terms of emotions and moods (pp. 57-59); identify all relevant concepts
- In terms of influence factors, discuss how Jamal is perceived by Mr. Massie (the delivery man), William Forrester, Professor Crawford, and Dr. Spence; we all have biases – discuss Professor Crawford’s bias toward Jamal (note: think carefully about this and provide evidence from the movie)
- Briefly discuss Equity Theory as it relates to the relationship between Jamal and Professor Crawford, specifically at the point in the movie where Professor Crawford implies that Jamal is plagiarizing his work and asks him to write his next assignment in the office (note: it might help to recall that Jamal later says to Forrester, “You think if one of his two-comma kids was writing these papers, he would be doing this ‘considering your background?’”)
- Briefly identify/illustrate (one or two sentences) the uses of the following bases of power: reward, coercive, legitimate, expert, and referent; you can use more than one character from the movie

Consult the general formatting guidelines on the Projects web page. Failure to do so (at best) will put me in a negative mood when I am reading/evaluating your work and (at worst) could lead to a request for re-formatting/revision that will probably result in a late penalty. Be sure to carefully proofread your work for spelling and grammar correctness. Do risk having your journal red-flagged.

Movie Background. Jamal Wallace is an enigma. He lives in Harlem. He is an outstanding basketball player. His standardized test scores are “off the charts,” attracting the interest of the administrators of a local prep school. However, his performance in the classroom is mediocre at best. He pretends not to know the answers to questions posed by teachers. He is more concerned about what his close friends think than his teachers. Yet secretly he reads (everything) and he journals. He aspires to be a writer. Jamal and his friends are obsessed with the reclusive William Forrester, an older, white man living in their neighborhood. Forrester is equally obsessed with the boys, Jamal in particular, and watches them through his window. The boys wonder what is going on in that apartment. Thus begins a fascinating and improbable relationship between two people that live in the same neighborhood and yet are miles apart.