Narcissism is positively related to meaning in life (Womick, Foltz, & King, 2019) and is unique among the Dark Tetrad personality traits in its positive association with psychological well-being. This research asked two questions: First, does meaning in life explain the association between narcissism and subjective well-being (SWB)? Second, is significance (believing that one's life matters) more crucial than purpose (being directed by the pursuit of valued goals) or coherence (feeling the works makes sense) to the link between narcissism and global meaning in life?

Studies 1a and 1b were cross sectional studies. In Study 1a (N=415) and Study 1b (N=300) participants on Amazon Mechanical Turk completed measures of global meaning in life, life satisfaction, and narcissism. Study 1a included a measure of self-deceptive enhancement, and 1b included a measure of the facets of meaning (significance, purpose, and coherence). In Study 2, undergraduate students (N=295) completed the same measures from Study 1, in addition to a measure of self-esteem.

In Study 1a, narcissism was positively correlated with SWB, and meaning in life (MIL). Controlling for MIL fully mediated the relationship between narcissism and SWB. In Study 1b, narcissism was positively related to significance, and coherence. Controlling for the significance facet of meaning wiped out the positive associations of narcissism with coherence. Study 2 replicated Study 1a mediation, but did not replicate 1b results for significance. Additionally, Study 2 showed that self-esteem does not explain the link between narcissism and MIL.

The studies show that narcissism contributes to subjective well-being through the experience of meaning in life. Data did not support the facet of significance as being crucial to the link between narcissism and meaning in life. Instead, we found that all three facets of

meaning in life were important to understanding the relationship between narcissism and the experience of meaning.