

Hannah Bradt

ISM 3A

Mr. Speice

October 31, 2016

Writer's Block

Weekly Report 10/24 - 10/30

This week in Independent Study and Mentorship, the main focus remained on completing the two major grade assessments that were to be due on Friday night. These assessments included both our sixth Research Assessment, as well as our third Interview Assessments; however, this proved to be a challenge for me, as I had not conducted a third interview yet. Because of this, I opted to submit my seventh research assessment along with my sixth, as a replacement for the interview assessment that I was unable to complete. Continuing my research in the field of elementary music education, I decided to base Research Assessment number six on the idea and impact of shame in the classroom, as well as praise. For my seventh Research Assessment, I seemed to have a case of writer's block, and could not decide what to write about. Finally, I reached the decision to draft my assessment on the effectiveness of teachers. Both topics were extremely helpful to my overall knowledge of what it means to be an elementary educator as a whole.

Aside from the stress which resulted from having to create and submit two research assessments, we also began to create a plan and outline for the upcoming creation of our presentation boards. We were able to learn that the Research Showcase was able to be scheduled

for January in The Star. While this was exciting news, it also added an even greater amount of stress for me personally, because I have been currently struggling with balancing school, homework, and outside activities. However, once the Addams Family has been completed following this week, I hope that these stress levels will decrease, as I will have a greater abundance of time to focus on and complete my school work in a much more timely manner.

In the following weeks, I have made it my personal goal to schedule and conduct my final three interviews very quickly, as well as to ask Mrs. Dahl, the current music teacher at Smith Elementary, if she would be willing to act as my mentor for the remainder of my time in ISM this year. I plan to carry out and complete this goal in approximately three weeks, possibly four, depending on the amount of school work and outside activities that could potentially inhibit the rapid completion of my goal in this set time.

So far during this second six weeks, I have been able to maintain very high grades in all of my classes, which has been genuinely surprising, due to the great amount of activities and school work that I have had outside of ISM. Rehearsals for the Addams Family production have made it increasingly difficult to remember all assignments due throughout the weeks, mainly because all cast and crew members have spent the majority of their time at school, rehearsing from 4:15 to roughly 8:30, leaving only small amounts of time for homework before we must go to bed and prepare for our next day at school. Because of the lack of time to focus on outside schoolwork, I am surprised and very proud that my grades have remained as high as they are currently.

In the following six weeks, and throughout next semester, I hope to maintain my high grade averages, but attempt to keep my stress levels at a much lower level than they are currently.