

Some may think film study would be an easy class, for a senior at least, but not for me. I can remember what I would call the most painful time in class I had with Ms. Watson. The class in question was right off the heels of two essays that up until then, I thought would be graded. For some context about my film study class, it was 90-minutes long with lunch sandwiched between it. I personally think the time of this class in relation to lunch made my experience much worse. Now to get back to the class in question, what we did that day was analyze a short film. I think the film was less than 10 minutes long, so we watched it many times. I think we watched it at least 6 times. At times I felt as though I was going insane. Hearing the same lines time after time after time. Re-watching the same “deep” and “meaningful” shots Ms. Watson had decided were so important for the whole class to time after time. While we watched this, we had to take note of and describe scenes and shots that we felt had good representations of stuff like themes and good uses of color.

When I signed up to take this class in February of the previous school year, I had thought it would be the stereotypical easy senior class where I would watch a few old movies every week. I had contemplated dropping this class many times (almost every day I had this class for the first two months) and adding poetry class in its place. I also think it’s quite funny how I was clearly not the only person who felt the same. This class literally did not have enough desks for all of the students at the start of the semester, but as one after another dropped the class, the class settled at slightly above half-capacity. This teacher just expected too much from me. If I happened to have homework in all my classes at once, doing my film study homework would be done last if at all. I just felt as though a half-credit English elective had no reason taking away study time from any of my real classes like my computer engineering or my two math classes. The class did not get easier as the quarter went on, I just got accustomed to the excessive workload. Though I would give her credit, some of the movies we watched as a class were quite good like *Crash* and *The Graduate*.