

Surveying the Terrain  
*Weekly Report 8/28/17 to 9/5/17*

Now, at the second week of the Independent Study and Mentorship program, half of the class (including me) has already performed their “All About Me” presentations. Simultaneously, I am starting to fall into place in all of my other AP classes. The work has not yet begun to drown me, but I can start to sense how my workload will develop throughout the course of the year.

After the performance of my presentation, I feel more confident already for the speeches to come this year. It is more clear to me where I stand in comparison with the rest of the class, but I still acknowledge that the course is not a competition; Its goal is to instill significant *personal* development in each student.

On the other hand, I have started to begin researching possible mentors in my area. I have yet to find enough detailed information regarding any of them because it is difficult to find someone who seems like a trustworthy professional by simply Google Searching. Once I start to refine my search techniques, I will be able to scope out the more promising potential mentors in my field.

After completing the week’s work, a question that still lingers is whether or not I will end up having to adjust or broaden my topic in order to find an ideal mentor. This idea scares me because I have put so much thought into selecting my topic, but I presume that it will not change.

In the coming week, I will have to use self discipline more than I have yet this year (though it has only been three weeks), but I look forward to the challenges that await me.