

senioritis

[,sēnyə' rīdəs] 

NOUN US Humorous

a supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.

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Ah, senior year. College applications, prom, graduation. The end of an era. Since the invention of a senior class, one ailment has plagued many a student. Senioritis, an affliction teens across the world battle each and every school day. If you are unaware of 'senioritis,' symptoms may include: loss of motivation, drop in academic performance, and crippling attendance rates.

Some dismiss this and just call it laziness while others have a different way of looking at it. Social Studies teacher Christian Davison has become an expert in senior behaviors as each year he watches the 12th-grade class come and go.

"Yes, I do believe in Senioritis. I think all people when they are approaching the end of an important part of their life experience the emotions and behaviors we associate with Senioritis," Davison said.

Senior Kayla Louge is anxiously waiting for the end of the year to arrive.

Although she has always been aware of senioritis, she is experiencing it for the very first time.

"I think I am feeling it a little, especially first semester. It's definitely a new thing. I am realizing how close I am to being done with high school," Louge said.

Even she couldn't escape the consequences.

"First semester my grades weren't as good as I wanted them to be and my attendance fell as well. But this second semester, I'm going to work to keep it all up," Louge said.

On top of senior year stress, Louge is also a student-athlete on the swim team. This meant that at no point could her grades or attendance fall below the benchmark to participate in meets and practices.

Friends may be the main cause of the spread of senioritis. This was the case for senior Barry Adoobe.

"Some people in my friend group are just used to doing it, and it's more and more their actions affecting me," Adoobe said.

He escaped pretty scar-free with only a slight decline in

grade point average. Similarly, to Louge, it seems the first semester is when it has the strongest hold on you. This lack of motivation demonstrated by students is most likely due to their anxiousness to move on to the next chapter of their lives, college. Everybody knows college is no piece of cake and teachers worry that students who don't finish out high school strong may struggle with taking on the workload of college. But some seniors have already devised a plan.

"Having a timetable and just pushing myself to go to class or having someone or something encourage me into going to class in college, being in class every day in college

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can help my grades and I have to remember that. Just following my mind and staying true to myself will help me through," Adoobe said.

Whether it be a fictional ailment concocted by youths as an excuse for laziness or a real emotional shift found within the senior class, the last two

semesters of high school are bound to be bursting at the seams with emotions. You might be a student who is hyper punctual to every class without fail or you may be someone who is proud of yourself for going to one full day of school each week. Wherever you fall on that spectrum, we all have a draw within us to see what that next step will look like, where we'll be in five years, who will we hang out with once we are no longer a Hoover student, and what kind of person we will become.



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