

# 7 Things You Learn as a First Semester Senior in College

By Melanie Carlson

1. Going out is fun! And exhausting.

You probably turned 21 within a year of starting senior year, and you probably took advantage of all of your newfound freedom. This was really exciting and fun at first, but after a while you just want a nap (and also to never see a vodka redbull again. Seriously, who thought those were a good idea?).

2. Everyone you meet is going to ask you what you're going to do in the spring.

Your family, your advisor, the grocery store clerk, and that random girl you ran into from your kindergarten class all have one thing in common: they all really care about what your future plans are. This can be great if you know what you're doing and could talk about it all day long because you're so excited! But the rest of us just get lots of practice awkwardly changing the subject.

3. Your last two semesters are going to be the busiest yet.

For lots of students, the easiest classes come last but, sadly, that doesn't usually mean you get extra time for naps. At first, you get really excited about your lax schedule, and then everything else starts to pile up. Between jobs, internships, grad school applications, working on your thesis, and attempting to have a social life, you're still going to need to continue honing your ability to survive on little to no sleep.

4. It's okay to slack off a little bit sometimes.

The thought of this makes us overachievers cringe, because all we want is to do the best we can. But by this point in college, we've realized that if we are on the verge of getting sick or having a mental breakdown, skipping one class isn't going to kill us or make us fail and drop out. In the long run, resting now means less issues later.

5. Vegetables are good for you?

You might still be a bit skeptical of this one, but let's be real here. At this point you've come to understand that a steady diet of ramen and McDonald's makes you feel terrible. And broccoli actually tastes kinda good!

6. You don't have to be friends with everyone.

No one goes out of their way to make enemies, but that doesn't mean you're going to get along with every person you meet. By now, you know that not everyone is going to like you, and you're not going to like everyone, and that's okay! Focus on the people you love, and those who love you. The rest is not important.

7. You've actually learned stuff in college!

Sometimes it can feel like you haven't made much progress from where you were when you stepped onto campus for your first day, but when you take a moment to think about who you were then and who you are now, you've definitely learned a lot. Whether the knowledge you've gained is about your major, yourself, or about life in general, you've definitely gained something important.