Cover Letter

Dear Professor Belli,

         This Project was one I enjoyed putting together and doing the work for. I felt a little more confident with my work after our meeting about the first project. After realizing where I messed up with project one I knew how to structure my paper better and how to analyze what I was presenting. When we were first told about Project two I wanted to do a paper on what I thought the second Blade Runner should be about, I was basically going to write my own script. However you helped me realize that there was not much research entitled in that idea, you told me then to maybe write about something that has to do with my major. I then decided to my project on lighting and the effect it has in Science Fiction films. At first I was going to write about the original Star Wars trilogy, Alien and 2001: A Space Odyssey. I then began researching these films and the lighting involved in them, I was also looking themes and symbolism that tied in to the lighting in these films. I then wrote my proposal and you told me I should include some of the sources I had found. When I added my sources, I also researched a little more as well so I could add some more sources. After the proposal I decided to get a head start and begin writing my paper, while writing I had realized that I was already at about three pages and that was just talking about Star Wars. This worried me a little because on the last project I went two pages over the limit and this was a problem, so I didn't want to make the same mistake twice. Professor Belli then told us that we had to have at least six to eight pages for our paper. I then decided to only write about the lighting in the original Star Wars trilogy because there were pretty good sources on about lighting in that film. I talked to Professor Belli about it and she gave me the Ok to do that. I then began working on my presentation. It was difficult to decide what specific scenes I was going to talk about. I was also having problems deciding if I just wanted to show pictures or show that scene as a clip. I decided to use pictures because I have a ten minute time limit and I didn't want to go over. I chose two scenes from A New Hope, two from Empire Strikes Back and three from Return of the Jedi. At first I had pretty lengthy descriptions about the pictures and scenes I was talking about, I felt like that was wrong so I showed Professor Belli and he said to take out what I was saying and put in the main bullet points and whatever I had written there I could just say in my presentation. This helps my Presentation because now there is not a lot on the slides to distract people from what I am saying which lets people hear and see what I am presenting to them. Also with fewer words I was able to enlarge the images I am showing in the presentation which helps me point out and show what I am talking about. After doing that I added quotes from my paper into the power point to talk about some of the research I found. After that I was basically done with my power point. I then returned to finish writing my paper, I split the three films into three paragraphs and talked about specific scenes that had Science Fiction type lighting like the Blue Lighting effect and I also talked about how certain lighting effects affected the tone of the story and certain themes as well. I also wrote about how these effects connect to multiple themes of the story through the lighting. After analyzing the scenes and adding in the quotes from the minimum five sources I had to then write my conclusion. Writing the conclusion was kind of difficult because I wanted to have the right amount of information/summary without it sounding repetitive. Luckily I was able to write it and all I had left to do was reread my paper. I reread my paper at least five or six times to make sure things sounded right and that the information I used fit with my thesis. After my edit I practiced my presentation a couple of times to get familiar with how I was going to present it. Overall I must say I did enjoy this project and did not feel as stressed as the last one and I think this is because I worked on something that interested me and it was something I knew information about already.