

BOYS' LATIN SCHOOL OF MARYLAND

FRESHMAN SEMINAR

Timely. Topical. Together.



BL Freshman Seminar

Boys' Latin: building relationships, authenticity

- going deeper by being more intentional
- creating another layer to building relationships and raising self and peer awareness
 - Time... when there's no time
 - Ready when the need arises
 - One, consistent point of view
- Learning together
- Enabling wellness
- Preparing global citizens



BL FRESHMAN SEMINAR

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
F 8:00-8:55	E 8:00-8:55	C 8:00-8:55	B 8:00-8:55	D 8:00-8:55	A 8:00-8:55	G 8:00-8:55
B 9:00-9:55	D 9:00-9:55	A 9:00-9:55	F 9:00-9:55	C 9:00-9:55	B 9:00-9:55	G 9:00-9:55
Morning Break						
C 10:10-11:05	G 10:10-11:05	D 10:10-11:05	A 10:10-11:05	B 10:10-11:05	E 10:10-11:05	A 10:10-11:05
D 11:10-12:05	F 11:10-12:05	G 11:10-12:05	E 11:10-12:05	F 11:10-12:05	G 11:10-12:05	E 11:10-12:05
Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00	Lunch 12:10 - 1:00
A 1:10-2:20	B 1:10-2:20	E 1:10-2:20	C 1:10-2:20	G 1:10-2:20	D 1:10-2:20	F 1:10-2:20
Study Hall 2:25-3:00	Test Prep 9-11 College Counseling 12 2:25-3:00	Advisory 2:25-3:00	Senior Speeches/ Class Meeting 2:25-3:00	Clubs 2:25-3:00	Study Hall 2:25-3:00	Clubs 2:25-3:00

3

Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL FRESHMAN SEMINAR

Can we do this?

- Who: is available to teach?
- What: should the "curriculum" look like?
- When: can this happen?
- Where: will they meet?
- How: in the world can this work?

4

Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

What kinds of
topics do **WE**
cover?

5 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

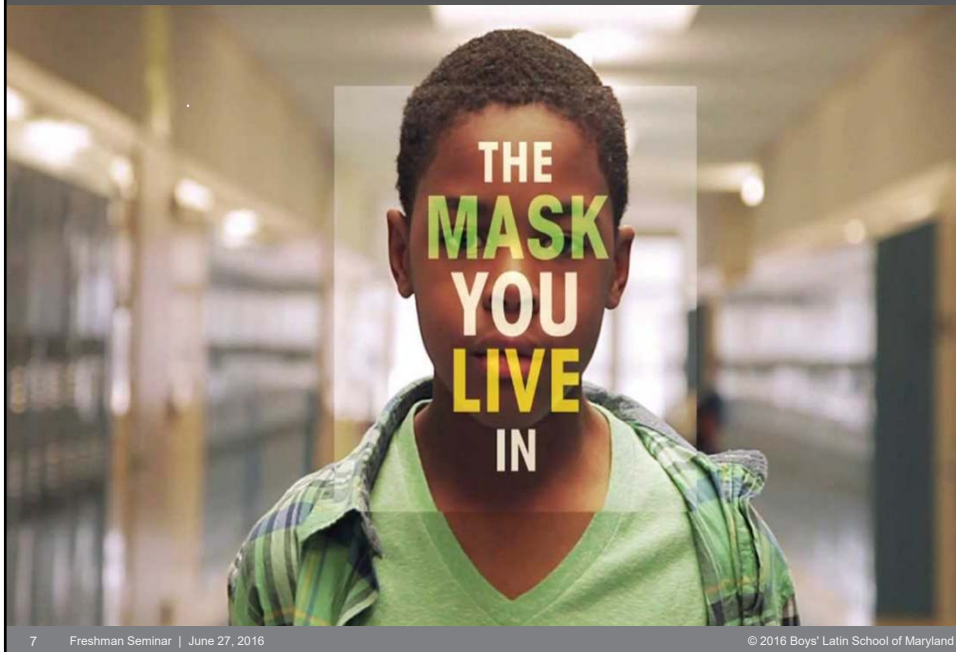
Here are just a few examples:

- the phrase: "Man-Up"
- why so moody?
- stigmas - mental health/learning differences
- feeling worried?
- what's college have to do with me?

6 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics



7 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

Man Up:

- *The Mask You Live In*, ["Man Up"](#)
- discussion based seminar around the damaging phrase and how it is used today
- the where, the when, and the impact
- journalling and discussion

8 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

**Believe It
or Not!**

9 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

Truths and Myths:

- what really happens in high school
- social norms approach
- delaying behaviors and unhealthy decision making
- addressing misperceptions
- student panels

10 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics



11 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

Why so moody?

- teenage anxiety and depression
- signs and symptoms
- where to go for help
- when to be concerned
- how to help a friend

12 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics



13 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

Let's talk about:

- roller coaster of emotions
- let's talk about it
- the good, the bad, and the messy
- roll up your sleeves.....

14 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar - Topics

What topics
would YOU want
to cover?

BL Freshman Seminar – Year One

What did Year One look like?

1st Semester

1. Intro to Freshman Seminar
2. Organization
3. Outlines for Success
4. "Git R Done"
5. The Brain, Part 1
6. The Brain, Part 2
7. Study skills
8. Exam prep

2nd Semester

1. Wrap up of study skills
2. Mental health awareness/stigma
3. College "stuff" - academics/transcripts
4. What does college have to do with me?
5. Wheel of support
6. Company lines/peer pressure
7. Identifying differences in our community
8. Finding your voice
9. Email etiquette
10. Putting ourselves in a box
11. Blazing a trail – What's next?
12. Self-reflection activity
13. Study skills/exam prep



BL Freshman Seminar – Year Two

What *should* Year Two look like?

- student feedback
- teacher feedback
- clarifying goals

17 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Freshman Seminar – Year Two

What *did* Year Two look like?

- fewer study skills units
- more student suggested topics
- consistent meeting place
- student journals
- **added Sophomore Seminar**

18 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Seminar – Year Three

What *will* **Year Three** look like?

- longer classes
- on printed schedules
- better use of personnel
- introducing ZeeMee



BL Seminar – The Future

What *does* **the future** of
Freshman Seminar /
Sophomore Seminar look like?

- adding junior and senior seminars?
- more structure to curriculum?
- structure with flexibility?



BL Seminar – What Can We Learn?

Where have we **struggled**?

- student buy in
- teachers who can lead – their time
- time to teach student leaders who take some cycles
- making it a viable entry on their calendar/schedule
- physical space
- reflection (writing)

21 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Seminar – What Can We Learn?

What we've learned **has to happen** for a seminar program to be successful

- team willing to work on topics and organization
- time to teach student leaders who take some cycles
- commitment to space
- student buy in
- protected time (no making up quizzes during this time!)

22 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL Seminar – What Can We Learn?

How might you be
able **carve out time** at
your schools?

1, 2, 3... **GO!**

23 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland

BL FRESHMAN SEMINAR

OUR CONCLUSION?

IT'S IMPORTANT!

We're teaching our students the fundamental lessons they need to be successful in whatever lies ahead for each of them, especially as they enter a much more diverse, globally connected world. Our program is fluid which allows us for evolving ideas, schedules and curriculum. It is nimble which allows us to react in a timely fashion to events in our school, our city, our country...the world. This is non-negotiable; this tuff has to be taught. We check the box on academics and it is imperative that we check the box of this as well. It is our responsibility to our students. That's the JUSTIFICATION.

24 Freshman Seminar | June 27, 2016

© 2016 Boys' Latin School of Maryland