

MISSION:

The mission of the Freshman Year Institute (FYI) is to provide a positive, supportive and structured environment in which students are able to reach their academic, civic, and social potential.

PURPOSE:

The Freshman Year Institute at Doherty High School is a groundbreaking “school within a school” program that focuses on putting students in a school setting where they can be successful. It is based on the premise that every student, when given the right combination of instruction and support, will learn, will grow, and will be successful. This high school transition program is designed for at-risk students who have struggled in the past. The Freshman Year Institute offers the same courses offered to all incoming freshmen; in addition, students enrolled in Freshman Year Institute have the advantage of participating in the Freshman Seminar elective. By emphasizing rigor, relevance, relationships, and respect/responsibility, students will come away with an increased perception of education, higher self- esteem, and the skills needed to continue in their success.



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Doherty High School

Freshman Year Institute



Guiding students toward
a successful future

WHAT IS THE FRESHMAN YEAR INSTITUTE?

Our program includes:

- *Individualized instruction and interaction between students and teachers with a student/ teacher ratio of 25:1 or less*
- *Interdisciplinary teaming approach*
- *Common practices throughout all core classes*
- *Flexible scheduling*
- *Freshman Seminar elective*
- *Academic Enhancement (after school tutoring)*
- *High expectations for all students*
- *Strict attendance policy*

Q&A about the program

1. *How are students selected for the program?* The team of teachers within the Freshman Year Institute will research past performances of the students using the district at-risk report to assess whether this program is the best possible placement for them at DHS. Also, 8th grade counselor and teacher recommendations are considered.

2. *Where is the program located within DHS?* The core classes are located in close proximity for consistency, convenience to the students and teachers of the program, and to give the students the most time on task as possible while they are at school.

3. *What is different about the Freshman Year Institute than the rest of DHS?* FYI is specifically for freshmen who need more support in being successful during their high school experience. They will be in a more supportive environment that allows them a fair opportunity to acquire the skills necessary to help them be successful in life.

4. *What is Freshman Seminar?* This is a comprehensive program including, but not limited to, strategies for success, life skills, organizational skills, tutorial time, service learning projects, guest speakers and field trips.

Goals of the Freshman Year Institute

- Increased school engagement
- Increased motivation
- Increased self-esteem and emotional well-being
- Increased academic achievement
- Increased graduation rate
- Increased attendance

