

BMCC LEARNING ACADEMY GRADUATE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM (GAP) Spring 2021

SEMINAR INSTRUCTOR: Sara Crosby
BLA VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS: MON - FRI: 9AM TO 5PM
INSTRUCTOR EMAIL ADDRESS:
SEMINAR DAY/TIME: Thursdays, 4:00 - 4:50pm
MEETING PLATFORM AND LINK:

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

The Graduate Advantage Program (GAP) is designed for students who have at least 45 credits by the start of the semester and will graduate from BMCC by the end of the semester. Students will prepare to thrive after graduation and transfer by defining and practicing transfer survival strategies, like active research, self-advocacy, help-seeking, and connecting to campus. **Students who fully participate and attend at least eleven of the twelve virtual seminars will receive Co-Curricular Transcript Credit and a BLA tuition micro-grant. Micro-grant amounts will be based on end-of-semester funding sources, and eligible students will be notified distribution details in May.**

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

1. Deliberately and strategically prepare to be a transfer student by practicing at BMCC and at four-year campuses
 2. Practice being an active student who asks questions and researches and fact-checks answers
 3. Understand and practice the elements of self-advocacy in context of being a transfer student
 4. Explore the importance of help-seeking and the consequences of isolating on campus
 5. Understand importance of finding and connecting to positive influences at the transfer campus
-

CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

- Please come to the virtual sessions on-time as the class only meets for 50 minutes
 - Weekly attendance in this seminar is mandatory
 - Make sure to put your name in correct name in for the Zoom meetings so that you can be counted for attendance
 - Students are expected to use their cameras when possible
 - Students are expected to mute themselves when others are talking
 - Students should use the “raise your hand” feature or place your questions in the chat unless otherwise instructed to show respect to the speaker
 - Classroom discussions and the opinions of others should be respected and be kept within the classroom
-

IMPORTANT DATES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

February 1 - CUNY Transfer Application Priority Deadline
 February 4 - Last day to add/change a class
 February 12 - COLLEGE CLOSED-NO CLASSES
 February 15 - COLLEGE CLOSED-NO CLASSES
 February 18 - Spring 2021 Change of major deadline
 February 19 - WN grades are assigned
 February 25 - Spring 2021 Graduation application deadline
 March 15 - Fall 2020/Winter 2021 INC grade completion deadline
 March 27-April 4 - SPRING RECESS-NO CLASSES
 May 17 - W grade deadline
 May 17- Last Day of classes
 May 19-25 - Final Examinations

GRADUATE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM (GAP) – SPRING 2021		
WEEK	Topic Covered	Learning Objectives
Week 1: 2/4	- Introduction to GAP - Peer introductions - CUNY Transfer Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar overview / weekly seminar structure • Pre-seminar survey: • Icebreaker and introductions • Review questions about the CUNY Transfer Application process <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apply for graduation</i>
Week 2: 2/11	- Warm Up - Transfer Survival Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Breakout room discussion • What are a transfer student’s survival strategies, pandemic or no pandemic? • Research, Advocacy, Help-seeking, and Connecting to Campus <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apply for graduation</i>
Week 3: 2/18	- Warm Up - What to Expect as a Transfer Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • Perceptions and facts about transfer students <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apply for graduation</i>

<p>Week 4: 2/25</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Foundation for Active Transfer Research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • RESEARCH: The passive vs. active student • RESEARCH: Transfer basics from the four-year experts • RESEARCH: The fact-check habit <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apply for graduation</i>
<p>Week 5: 3/4</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Practicing Active Research</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Research challenge • RESEARCH: Scenario – Is Brooklyn College right for Alex?
<p>Week 6: 3/11</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Researching <i>Your</i> Transfer Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Research challenge • RESEARCH: Brainstorm what you know and DON'T know about your prospective transfer schools
<p>Week 7: 3/18</p>	<p>- Warm Up - What is Self-Advocacy?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • ADVOCACY: What are the main elements of self-advocacy? • ADVOCACY and RESEARCH: Explore and experiment with DegreeWorks' TWIF option
<p>Week 8: 3/25</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Preparing for Self-Advocacy Related to Transfer Credit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • ADVOCACY: Prepare for self-advocacy by understanding how your credits will transfer
<p>Week 9: 4/8</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Defining Help-Seeking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • HELP-SEEKING: Defining help-seeking by doing a Midterm Self-report
<p>Week 10: 4/15</p>	<p>- Warm Up - Help-Seeking at Your Transfer Campus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • HELP-SEEKING: Identifying the problem and the right resources on your transfer campus

Week 11: 4/22	- Warm Up - Guest Speaker(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • GUEST SPEAKER: Students from four-year campuses share their perspective and advice about being a transfer student
Week 12: 4/29	- Warm Up - Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WARM-UP: Freewrite • CONNECTING TO CAMPUS: Planning your virtual campus visit • Post-seminar survey:

*Note – this syllabus is subject to change – any adjustments will be communicated to students as far in advance as possible.