

What Students Are Saying

at Carpinteria High School in Southern California

“Throughout Freshman Seminar I learned how to raise a family of four and how challenging it can be. As the class started I learned who I really am. I’m not just a freshman going to Carpinteria High School. I’m a real human being who will someday be recognized for what I do later in life. Later in the semester, I was taught what I’d like to own and be as I became older. Owning a house or buying a car is a big challenge without any help, and I learned exactly what to and what to look for. Picking a career was fairly easy because I came to high school knowing what I’d like to major in. Becoming a nurse and working in the medical field is the direction I’m heading in. As the semester came to an end, I learned what it takes to get what I want in life. Graduating high school and going to college is what will lead me to my future. **Freshman Seminar took me a step closer toward my future and I’m thankful I was a part of that class.**”

{Carly}

Freshman Seminar was a really important class to me. I learned not only who I am but also how I can use my personality to help me achieve my ideal future. I always thought my talkative and curious personality is just annoying and will never come to good use. However, through Freshmen Seminar I learned that this was the personality that would be helpful in many careers including forensic technologies.

Through Freshmen Seminar I learned exactly the type of future I want. **When I saw my ideal future I realized what I would need to make some compromises.** Even after I realized those compromises, I found I would still need to work hard. Freshmen Seminar made me realize the reality of what I want.

The most important part of freshmen seminar was the “how do I get it” section. School always stresses that we need to go to college and how we get there but never prepares us for after college. I always thought working hard in school was just to get us to college. Freshmen Seminar

not only taught me that that wasn't true, but went over how we accomplish a successful lifestyle.

In conclusion **Freshmen Seminar helped me see who I really am, what I want, and how I get it in a really interesting way.**

{Sierra}

After completing the Freshman Seminar course, I feel that I have been adequately informed on the steps that I must take to lead a successful life. Although some may feel that a program such as this is more suited as a senior class, I believe that I greatly benefited from the course by having a general outline and idea towards what I will pursue my education in.

As an individual, I believe that I am a more prepared, confident student, knowing that I have numerous opportunities to follow any dream of mine I am now filled with knowledge of potential career possibilities, which has allowed me to better plan which courses I must take to direct myself appropriately.

I am aware that the path to success will not be an easy journey, but because of the Freshman Seminar course, I have gained techniques that will help me along the way. Along with high school, college, and internships, I know that hard work and dedication are two very vital components to reaching any goal that I set. I strongly believe in the benefits of Freshman Seminar and it's plan towards a more successful generation.

{Aviva}

Freshman Seminar was very helpful for me. It provided many ideas that I hadn't thought of. I discovered more about my personality and myself. In order to shape my future, I needed to know who I really am. I realized that I could describe myself. The class opened my eyes to the many opportunities that I have for my future. It taught me how to buy a house and a car, things I didn't know much about. **I didn't know how much money it costs to live a normal life. Now I know that life is**

expensive! It put me in my parents' position, and showed me what it would be like when I raise my own family and have a job.

The last thing I learned from Freshman Seminar was how to get ready for life after high school. College is very important to me, especially since I'll be the first in my family to go. I took advantage of all the information they gave us about universities and careers. My dream is to be an elementary school teacher, and now I know how to make that dream come true. Freshman Seminar is an awesome class because it helps freshmen think about themselves and what they want for their future. Then, it helps them realize how to get there. It makes us believe that dreams can come true!

{Carina}

Last semester, I learned kind of a lot from Freshman Seminar. First of all, I learned who I really am. Who I really am is not much different from who I thought I was, but there are still differences. **I learned that I am someone who cares most about their family, someone who likes adventure, and someone who can't just stay in one place.** My values and personality are both positive and I'm always ready to take on challenges.

While in Freshman Seminar, I also got to realize what I want. I decided, when I get older, I want to be a social worker. I decided this because I enjoy helping people in tough situations, and making it a lifestyle seems perfect. I want to have kids after having a steady job and be married living in a house in carp!

Now, to get all of this, I had to figure out what I have to do. My plan is to go to UCSB College and get my Masters there. So overall, I have 11 more years of school until I'm ready to take on my adult life! Freshman Seminar has really helped a lot, and without it I don't think I'd have a clue of what I want.

{Alyssa}

For the short time we've been in Freshman Seminar, Mrs. Hansen has taught a lot of stuff to us already. We've learned about personal strengths, values, our talents, and how to compliment ourselves as well

as others. We've watched videos and learned the differences and similarities of American students vs. students from places like China or India. As students from America, we're more laid back, and choose careers we like, while students from China spend far more time in school and choose more serious, high-level jobs. **I've learned that there's a difference between a job and a career, and that your 1st job doesn't have to be what you do for the rest of your life.** Most people take years to find out what they've went to do, while others never do at all. A job must be compatible with you and who you are. No one should stick with a job they don't like.

{Ben}

Freshman Seminar isn't like other classes. It doesn't teach us fancy equations, grammar, or any scientific formulas... it teaches us about LIFE. Before I came to this class, I can truthfully say that I had no idea what I was going to do with my life. I knew I was going to graduate high school and get a four-year degree at a UC college. But after that ... NOTHING. I knew I wanted a family and a stable job that I loved going to, but I really had no idea about the steps it would take to get there. Even though I've only been a part of this program for about three weeks, I'm already taking steps and learning about my PERFECT career, and the preparations I have to make in order to get there. Now, **I'm no longer going to be looking for a "job" when I'm older, I'm going to be searching inside myself for what career is best for me.** This class has already taught me so much about myself, and I'm learning more everyday. **I don't know what I would've done if it wasn't for this class, so thank you.**

{Kristina}

I am currently a 9th grade student at Carpinteria High School who has had the great opportunity of taking Freshman Seminar. Freshman Seminar was a great class, which gave me the right aptitudes for the future of my life so that I may achieve success. I already know that I would like to go to The University of Oregon and go into the field of Architectural Design. I have to work amazingly hard in order to achieve my goals. I also get college credit for a class in which was fun but at the same time, I got the information I need to plan an over view of what it is that I want to do in my life. Thank you for your time and **I hope that**

Carpinteria High School's future freshman will also have the same opportunity to plan out their life and so that they can also one day achieve success.

{Connor}

What is Freshman Seminar? Well Freshman Seminar is a class that every freshman has to take and it counts as college credit. This class is different from all the other classes, because it's not your typical English or History class. Freshman Seminar helps you figure out who you truly are and what you want to make out of your life. It shows you the life out of high school.

Who do you want to be when you're out of high school? What do you want to study in college? Well Freshman Seminar will help you figure that out. All your questions that you have will get answered throughout the time period you're in the classroom. **It doesn't just tell you what to do. It shows you how and the steps to get there.**

I personally think it's a good class. One, because I'm getting college credit. Second, because after I'm done I will know who I personally am. I will know how to buy a house a car and what I need to do so. It's a very helpful class. I know I will take this class seriously, because it will help me in my life. Such as a job interview I know how I can be above and beyond other people who are also applying to the job.

{Brandon}

Reflecting upon Freshmen Seminar makes me think about everything I have learned in my first semester of high school. I am Molly Miller, a driven, energetic and family-oriented student. Throughout my lifetime I want to be able to become a pharmacist, a mother and a homeowner. Living my dream would change my life. In Freshmen Seminar, I already understood what I wanted, but I didn't understand how to get it. Freshmen Seminar, for only one semester, taught me that I should anticipate difficulty and I should prepare myself to go to college now. Following simple instructions can draw a picture for me; in this picture I see myself living MY dream.

{Molly}

In Freshman Seminar, I learned that I am a dependable, reliable, and family oriented person. I found that I want an expensive lifestyle with a large house, nice cars, and a lot of clothes. I also want a happy family and to become a veterinarian. I wish to continue playing volleyball through college and life.

I plan on achieving these goals by staying in school and continue getting straight A's. I want to go to SBCC to take MP pre-requisites and then transfer to UC Davis veterinary college. I hope to graduate college with a doctorate degree in veterinary science, and move back to Santa Barbara and start a family and start my career.

{Crystal}

I learned last semester that I am a strong character. My class learned more about themselves, as did I for who I am. I am someone that would put my family and friends first before anything. My family is my treasure and I got more in touch with that last semester. I learned how to set goals for myself and to push myself to reach it no matter what.

I want to raise a family and be able to support them without missing their childhood. I will work hard for them so I am going to try for a University to get the best education for me to excel. My educational goals are to earn my master's degree in history and become a Historian. History is my passion and to learn of people facing hardships and how they lived in those times interest me a lot. One goal also would to make history a bigger part of U.S. society and schools.

I am only one person but I believe it takes only one to make a difference. This world we live in seen many achievements – and disaster but, we do these things to make life easier for next – generation's and be proud of their elders. We learn from parents that all right experienced it, to not let the same mistakes happen twice. So lastly, I was able to create this belief of mine from the teachings of Mrs. Hansen and thank you for this valuable experience.

{Anthony}

So far I have learned many things about myself. I have learned that I am nurturing, compassionate, tenacious, and self-sufficient. I have learned that these strengths that I possess will help me in life. There are so many decisions that I will need to make in life and the things I learn in Freshmen Seminar will help me realize my dreams and narrow down my options. I am glad to be in this class seeing as it is beneficial to my future. I know that I will be better prepared for life out of school.

{Slevva}

So far in Freshman Seminar I have learned about who I am and what type of activities I enjoy. It's different than a normal class, because it focuses more on the student and his/her future. We get to learn more about our physical traits, values, and desires instead of things like equations and grammar. **I look forward to completely unlocking my full potential.** I want to visualize the path to success and get a head start in my career.

{Andrew}

So far freshmen seminar has taught me a lot about myself. I am now able to talk a little bit more about what my strengths are and what my weaknesses are. I enjoy the class a lot. It allows me to think deeper which I love! Understanding myself and why other people are the way they are is so interesting me. I really find the video clips we watch engaging. **I find this class to be very useful and inspiring.** It opens my eyes and really makes me think about my future.

{Cierra}

I have learned a few things in the three weeks I've been in this class, such as why people work, the difference between a job and a career, 8 secrets to success, and who I really am. I look forward to learning a lot more about college and looking into more careers I can possibly have in the future. I think this class is going to help me to become more prepared in the future so I can have a better idea of what kind of career I want. This class is a class about getting ready for your future when your parents aren't going to be giving you everything you want you're going to have to work for everything you get.

{Valerie}

Who am I? What do I want? How can I get it? When faced with these questions, one may feel quite lost or confused. You may not know where to even begin. As students, we begin with Freshmen Seminar. **This class is unlike any I've ever taken because of the personal nature of the assignments and activities.** Although I have only been in this class for three weeks, I now know myself and my strengths better than ever before. These skills help me in presenting, communicating, and interviews. By establishing self-worth, goals (both short and long term), and providing realistic knowledge and insight on life, the future is looking bright.

{Erin}

Since I stepped into this classroom 3 weeks ago I learned a few valuable things. **I learned more about myself in 3 days than I have in 14 years.** I learned how to make small changes for a big cause. And I've come to know my passion, values, strengths, and weakness'. Freshman Seminar has already gotten me one step closer to making it in this world.

{Ashley}

What I have gained so far about Freshman Seminar is that I've found and figured things out about myself that I never knew. I found strengths passions, skills, and aptitudes. I also found major roles that I play in other peoples lives that I never expected and I don't think any other classes have done that for me so kind of in a way **this class motivates me not only in being a better person but by trying hard in school and everything that I do.**

{Christian}

At the begging of Fresh Seminar Ms Hanson told us to ask ourselves "Who am I?" I didn't know who I was I thought I did. Through homework and class work I found who I was. I thought you had to go to India on a adventure to find who you are. From this class I have gained knowledge about who I am. And I'm proud to say I love helping people.

{Madelyn}

In Freshman Seminar this semester I have learned about career choices. Before this class I never knew what I was going to do after high school and never really thought about it. This class has made me realize that having a good high school education can help me a lot for my future.

{Alondra}

In Freshman Seminar we went through many obstacles. I learned how to become wiser and an adult. I learned what I want in life. I also learned who I want to become.

To start off, if I had to retake Freshman Seminar again, I would. I learned about my goals in life and how to become more mature. We learned how to buy a house and a car and actually think about what life would be like after high school and college. We sat down and mapped out what we wanted in the next 10 years. **I realized that I needed a good job to afford my lifestyle.** We figured out about how many kids we want.

{Alyssa}

In freshmen Seminar I learned that there is a lot of stuff that you have to go through when you're older. I learned that buying a house can be harder when you don't know about mortgages or anything like that.

I learned a lot about who I am and what I want. Who I am, is a simple question, and my answer would have been simple before I did freshmen seminar, but now that I have gone through I know now that I'm not at all the same person. **I was single-minded and only wanted one thing: money. Now I am no longer single-minded, I have more goals and I am ready to take them on to the fullest and not give up.**

I want simple things; not too grand, not too flashy, not boring, and not lame. I want a life that I can succeed at and fail. When I fail, I feel proud of myself because I know I can learn from it. I'm proud that I succeed, but it's not the same as knowing that I did it right and can't grow from a mistake.

I know how to get what I want by trying hard and never ever giving up. **For as long as I live I will never give up on my goals.** You have to work hard and I plan on doing that.

{Alleea}

I learned a little how life works in Freshman Seminar. And the struggles of life and what will I be going through. Freshman Seminar teaches you how your adult life would kind of be interesting. Over the semester Mrs. Hansen taught us the basics to get through a good life.

Mrs. Hansen taught me how to dress and talk at an interview. She taught me to speak like a gentleman in front of a boss.

I know my experience through Freshman Seminar has taught me to be a man in front of other people and how to handle a good lifestyle and support a family.

{Mike}

What I'm going to do in high school is get a diploma to go to a great college. **When I got to high school I was thinking that after high school I would stop there and not continue to college, but when I took the class Freshman Seminar I learned if you go to college you have a better life,** and if you don't...well, you won't and then maybe you would change your mind later and then it would be too late.

I want a good future and Freshman Seminar thought me how I could have a good future and that's doing your best, asking questions when you don't understand something, and it also showed me how hard I have to work to pay bills, clothes, car, food, vacations, gas... I learned you need a good job to pay for all that, Freshman Seminar is really helpful to me and maybe other students, This class helped me think about the jobs that I wanted like science teacher for high school freshmen or a game designer. If I do one of those I would get enough money for my family. Freshman Seminar helped me to archive my goal to go to college and great job.

{Angel}

Freshman Seminar was a great help for me. It helped me learn who I am as a person, what I want in life, and how I'm going to get it. First of all it taught me who I am. It made me see the good qualities I have that I

didn't know. Also, realize I have a voice in any decision taken anywhere I'm at. To not be shy but be more cooperative.

This class also opened my eyes to the real world. We had a lesson where we got to think about our life 10 years from now, and buy a house and everything. I was so amazed at how much money I was going to spend every year, and from that **I learned the troubles my parents go through to put a roof over my head.**

In order to get what I want, I learned that I need to set goals and strive for them. I was able to learn that it can be hard and I can go through obstacles, but I need to build up my self-esteem and go through life.

{Stacey}

As a freshman, I always thought the class was pointless and it was a waste of time. But as time passed, I realized how important it was in many ways. **It has been one of the biggest wake up calls for me.** Before Freshman Seminar, I always thought life would be easy after I graduated; unfortunately, I learned the hard way it wouldn't. Freshmen Seminar taught me how to spend money, manage time, and invest money.

{George}

I am Jacob Saenz and I'm 15 years old. Through Freshmen Seminar I have learnt that I'm a leader and can achieve anything I want. In my case, Mrs. Hansen showed me that even I could go to a good college, get through Medical School, and become a surgeon. She has showed me that I can have a large house, cars, a boat, family and other wonderful things. All I have to do is try and try, and when I fail try, try again. This life is in all of our grasp, and with the right attitude, anyone can mold their life to how they want it. Life's too short to waste, so go get the career you want and the lifestyle will come with it.

{Jacob}