

FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

EDUCATION AT QUEENS COLLEGE

February 8th, 2023



INTRODUCTIONS

WRITE YOUR NAME, PRONOUNS, +
ONE THING YOU WISH YOU COULD
CHANGE ABOUT HIGHER EDUCATION



TODAY'S DISCUSSION

KEY POINTS

Introductions

CUNY Academic Commons

CUNY History

What is Public Education?

Wrap-Up + Next Steps

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

Peer Mentorship Program
Workshop Series
Office Hours

follow for more!
website: qc.cuny.edu/fye
instagram: @qcfye
tiktok: @qcfye

BEST + WORST TEACHER

USING STICKY NOTES

Write the qualities of 'best teacher' and 'worst teacher' to keep in mind as you continue

History of CUNY

- 1847
"Free Academy"
- 1870
NY opens Hunter college for women
- 1930S
Great Depression and Expanding Options

1960S -
1970S

CUNY expanded throughout the 1960s to accomodate a growing university system



In the 1960s, CUNY Chancellor Albert Bowker also implemented reforms at CUNY, such as remedial education in the four-year colleges, in response to the demands of the Civil Rights movement that placed an emphasis on desegregation and the fight for racial justice. The College Discovery program and the SEEK program were both started.

Bowker also intended for CUNY to switch to an open admissions policy, which would allow any NYC resident with a high school diploma or GED to enroll in the university. This plan, which was supposed to start in 1975, was intended to address the racial injustices that were sustained by unfair admissions standards.

Students respond to Bowker's reforms:



Black and Puerto Rican students at City College began to notice in 1969 that these adjustments and reforms were insufficient. Black and Puerto Rican students made up 40% of the high school population in 1969, but they only made up 9% of the student body at CUNY.

Dissatisfaction with a predominantly white board of trustees and higher education led to protests

1964: the police killing of James Powell, a 15-year-old black boy, in Harlem sparked widespread demonstrations.

1968: the same year that Martin Luther King was assassinated, there was a conflict between the school board and the community in Oceanville-Brownsville that resulted in a significant teachers strike.

1969 PROTESTS

- Black and Puerto Rican students and their allies took over City College in April 1969, occupying it for two weeks and essentially closing down the campuses. The students created the 5 Demands, which we will discuss.
 - At the beginning of May, Brooklyn College students organized strikes. These students collaborated with the Puerto Rican Alliance, Black League of African American Collegians, and Students for a Democratic Society.
- On May 12, twelve Brooklyn College students were violently detained and held for four days on Riker's Island with a \$15,000 bail each.
- Brooklyn College students came together to pick up their bail.

The Five Demands



- **One**
A separate school of Black and Puerto Rican studies.
- **Two**
A separate orientation program for Black and Puerto Rican freshmen.
- **Three**
A voice for SEEK students in the setting of all guidelines for the SEEK Program, including the hiring and firing of all personnel.
- **Four**
The racial composition of all entering classes should reflect the Black and Puerto Rican population of New York City high schools.
- **Five**
That Black and Puerto Rican history and Spanish language be a requirement for all education majors.



OPEN ADMISSIONS

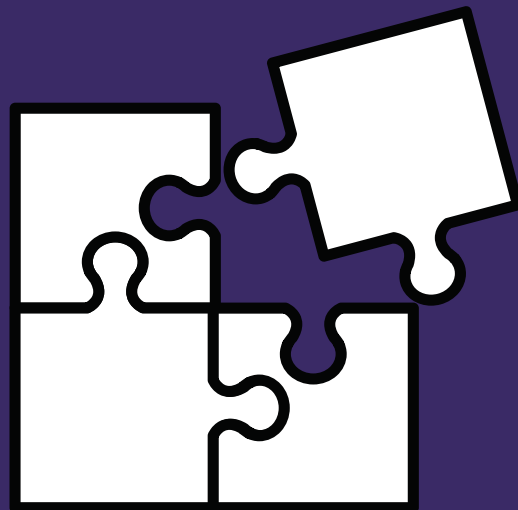
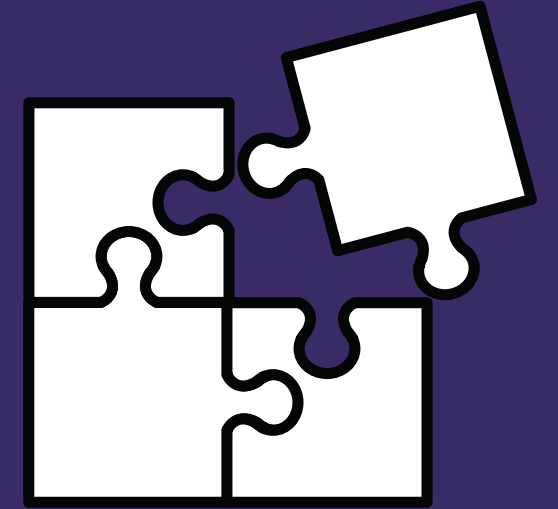
In response to the protests, the board decided to start open admissions five years earlier than planned, in the fall of 1970.

TODAY

**DUE TO POLICY CHANGES, CUNY
LOOKS DIFFERENT TODAY**

FIND YOUR MATCH

Find someone in the room who wrote down a similar demand for higher education. Discuss steps to achieve those. Is it a policy issue? Is it a financial issue?

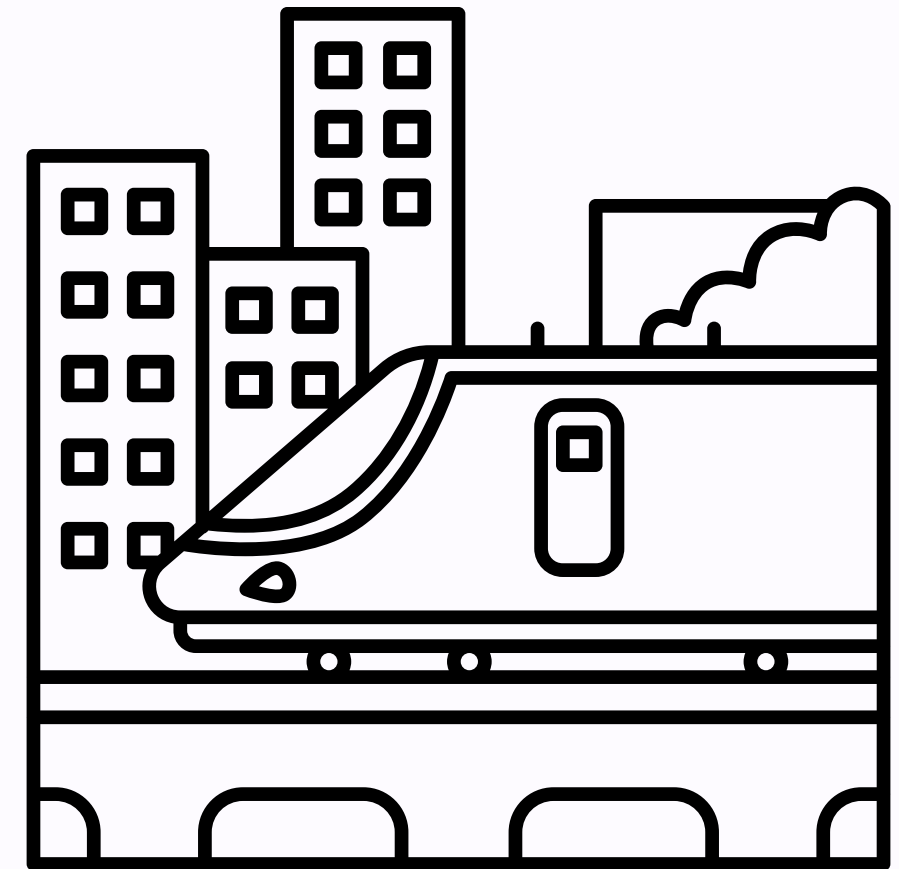


WHAT IS PUBLIC?

IN GROUPS

Come up with three to five words that you associate with "public"

Within your group, assign responsibilities. One person takes notes, one person will speak, one person keeps time





NEXT STEPSH

Presentations are communication tools that can be used as demonstrations, lectures, speeches, reports, and more. It is mostly presented before an audience.

EXIT TICKET

What is one question you have about the history of Open Admissions that you would like to learn more about? OR What is a topic or issue regarding our education system that you would like to explore further?

Write your answer on the back of your name card,