Congratulations and welcome to the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill! We are pleased that you have chosen to spend the next two years with us pursuing professional social work education. We are especially looking forward to our face-to-face welcome and orientation activities with you in August, which we are planning now. This online information will help you get ready for the upcoming academic year and will help us prepare for you.

**JumpStart! Orientation begins on Friday, August 15, 2014** and continues August 18-20, 2014. We will begin at 8:15 am with registration and a continental breakfast in the lobby of the School of Social Work. We have a full day of orientation activities planned including a welcome assembly to meet the faculty and staff, an ethics presentation and meetings with your faculty advisors. You will receive more information in late June that will include a more detailed orientation schedule with activities that continue through the end of September. This required program is intended to prepare you for social work graduate education, ground you in knowledge and understanding of the profession and introduce you to skills needed to successfully complete the MSW program. Your first day of class will be Friday, August 23, 2013.

The School of Social Work will be hosting the annual Students Achieving Graduate Education (S.A.G.E.) pre-orientation program for entering students of color and international students on **Saturday, August 9, 2014**. All incoming students are welcome to attend, however it is an optional event. More information regarding S.A.G.E will be provided in late June.

The optional UNC Graduate School orientation is scheduled for Thursday, August 14. For more information, please visit [http://gradschool.unc.edu/events/orientation/](http://gradschool.unc.edu/events/orientation/); the website will be updated this summer.

**WRITING ASSESSMENT** – All incoming MSW students must complete an online writing assessment. Before your anxiety gets too high, let me explain. This is an assessment, not a test. For this assessment, you’ll read the first of a five-part series from *The New York Times* (“Invisible Child,” 2013, December 9) and then choose 1 of 3 prompts to respond to in a two-page essay. You will receive individual feedback on your writing sample that we believe can help you with written assignments throughout the MSW program. The writing assessment is *not graded*, and your performance will not affect your class standing in any way. Our goal is to capture a “snapshot” of your writing process to help you identify areas of strength and weakness in your writing, as well as to ensure all students are aware of the writing support available through the School of Social Work. Past students have said they found the feedback valuable because their reviewers offered practical suggestions specific to social work writing. The MSW program is writing intensive, so developing strong writing skills will be important to your success in the program and your career. Detailed instructions and a link to the “Invisible Child” article are included in the “Writing Assessment Instructions” on the JumpStart webpage. **You must complete the writing assessment by Friday, June 27, 2014. You will not be able to register for fall classes until you have completed the writing assessment.**

Don’t wait until the last minute because you’ll first need to obtain your UNC ONYEN (see “Computer Tips”) and UNC e-mail address before you can complete the writing assessment on the Sakai online site. **Send your ONYEN and UNC e-mail address to Tiffany Carver as soon as possible** (tscarver@email.unc.edu) so she can enroll you in SOWO.Writing.Assessment.S14 on the Sakai site ([www.unc.edu/sakai/](http://www.unc.edu/sakai/)).

**Online Course: A Brief History of Oppression and Resistance** Another activity you will need to complete is an online training, A Brief History of Oppression and Resistance. This is a prerequisite that you must complete prior to registering for the Spring 2015 semester. It provides an overview of some of the key historical events that have shaped the legacy of oppression and resistance in the United States. This knowledge will be crucial to your study of social work practice and
policy, and will provide a foundation for you to begin thinking about social workers’ roles as advocates. We will begin to discuss the course material at JumpStart on August 15th with faculty-led small groups, so please be sure to begin exploring the first few modules by this date. The entire course (6 modules in all) must be completed no later than October 31, 2014, but we strongly recommend that you complete it before the start of the semester, or by mid-September at the latest, so that you don’t experience time conflicts with your other course assignments.

We will provide more information and detailed instructions on how to complete this online training in late June. We plan to launch the course by July 3rd so you may begin completing the modules at that time.

**NC Child Welfare Education Collaborative** If you have a strong commitment to pursue a career in child welfare, we invite you to submit an application to the North Carolina Child Welfare Education Collaborative. The Collaborative seeks to strengthen public child welfare services in the State by increasing the number and diversity of well-trained and highly-committed BSWs and MSWs in local departments of social services. Offering special educational opportunities emphasizing public child welfare practice, the Collaborative provides financial support for selected social work students who will commit to employment in child welfare in a North Carolina county department of social services.

The application deadline for the Collaborative is May 19, 2014. (See the “NC Child Welfare Education Collaborative” section on the orientation page for more information.)

**Field Placement Planning** Field education is an important part of your graduate experience. You will begin your Foundation field placement during the Fall semester for the entire academic year. Prior to beginning the placement process, we need to learn more about you, your experiences, and your interests. In the “Field Placement Letter” you will find information about how to complete your Foundation Practicum Planning Guide. Complete the Foundation Practicum Planning Guide as soon as possible, but no later than Saturday, May 17, 2014.

**Transcripts** Official transcripts must be received by the UNC Graduate School in order for students to register for fall classes. Please be sure to send an official copy of your transcript(s) with your degree conferred from each post-secondary school attended (as soon as possible) to:

The Graduate School  
ATTN: Graduate Admissions Office  
200 Bynum Hall, CB# 4010  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-4010

If you prefer, you can request that your school(s) or its authorized agent email an authenticated electronic transcript to: gradadmissions@unc.edu. Check first that your school is capable of sending authenticated electronic transcripts. We cannot accept electronic transcripts in any other form from you or your school.

If you are graduating this spring, please do not send your official transcript until your final grades and degree are posted on your transcript.

**Registration and Tuition** You must register for your courses, and pay tuition and fees, before you arrive on campus. You may begin to register for courses July 3 as long as your writing assessment has been submitted and your official transcripts have been received. Registration should be completed by July 16, 2014. Tuition and fees must be paid by August 12, 2014. Foundation classes begin on Friday, August 22, 2014, immediately following JumpStart!

You may register by using the internet or by contacting the School of Social Work Registrar Beth Sauer at bhsauer@email.unc.edu. For more details review the information in the Registration memo from Registrar Beth Sauer.

The estimated cost of tuition and fees per semester is $6,024 for in-state students and $14,505 for out-of-state students; there is also a $300 field fee for each semester you are registered for field education. Please note this is an estimate. The cost of books and supplies for any semester can range from $400-$600. Hidden costs such as travel costs to field practica are sometimes overlooked in planning. For the most up-to-date tuition rates check the Cashier’s website at: http://finance.unc.edu/student-accounts-and-university-receivables/student-account-services/tuition-and-fees.html.

Fall 2014 tuition invoices will be issued in July and will only be available online at http://my.unc.edu/dt. Students will be notified by email to their UNC email account when their bill is ready to be viewed.
Students expecting to receive a Tuition Remission, Merit award, Weiss Fellowship, Dean’s Research Award, SSW Scholarship or a loan from the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid may defer tuition and fee payments to the Fall semester.

**Health Insurance** The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, along with all the other UNC system campuses, require full-time, on-campus students (undergraduate and graduate/professional) to have health insurance coverage. Eligible students are required to show evidence of an existing “creditable” health insurance policy or they will be automatically enrolled in and billed for the UNC system student health insurance plan, which is administered by Pearce and Pearce, Inc. Please visit [http://campushealth.unc.edu/general-info/feature-stories/mandatory-health-insurance.html](http://campushealth.unc.edu/general-info/feature-stories/mandatory-health-insurance.html) for more details.

**Residency** The Graduate School handles concerns related to North Carolina residency for tuition purposes. If you have residency questions, please visit their website ([http://gradschool.unc.edu/studentlife/resources/residency/](http://gradschool.unc.edu/studentlife/resources/residency/)) or email them at grad_residency@unc.edu.

You should complete a residency application if you have an undetermined or nonresident status and wish to be considered for in-state residency status for tuition purposes. The fall residency application opens June 6th, but the Graduate School will not allow you to submit the application until you are registered for classes in July. If you would like to complete the residency application in June prior to registration, please contact Sharon Thomas: sharon_thomas@unc.edu.

Applications with all supporting documentation must be filed online by **5 p.m., September 2, 2014**. The application is located on the Graduate School’s website at: [http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/residency/](http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/residency/)

**Financial Aid** Students awarded Merit awards, Tuition Remissions, Weiss fellowships, Dean’s Research Awards and scholarships from the School of Social Work have been notified. If additional scholarship resources become available, students will be notified this summer. Students should contact the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid to discuss loans to cover tuition and fees. For questions about scholarship funds from the School of Social Work, contact Sharon Thomas at sharon_thomas@unc.edu. Available research assistant positions will be posted by late August; students will be notified by email once the positions are available for review.

**Accessibility Resources and Services** It is helpful for us to know if you have needs that require special accommodations to attend classes and field practice. Not all UNC-Chapel Hill classrooms are handicapped accessible, and some field sites may not provide accessibility. The Field Planning Guide will have a place for you to note special field-learning needs. Also, if you need to obtain accommodations for your classroom instruction you must speak with the Office of Accessibility Resources & Services first. Their website is [http://accessibility.unc.edu/](http://accessibility.unc.edu/). You may also contact them at 919-962-8300, 711 (NC RELAY) or accessibility@unc.edu.

**Purchasing Books** Textbooks can be purchased by logging into the Course Materials portal, [http://my.unc.edu](http://my.unc.edu) at UNC Student Stores (919-962-5066). Another option is to get the title of the textbooks from the course syllabus and place an order online or at a local bookstore.

**Change of Address and UNC Email Address** Please notify Student Services Assistant Tiffany Carver at tscarver@email.unc.edu with updated address and telephone numbers you may have over the summer. We will need a current mailing address, phone, and email, as we may mail additional information to you throughout the summer. Address changes should also be made at [http://my.unc.edu/dt](http://my.unc.edu/dt). Ms. Carver will also need to know your UNC email address as soon as you set up your ONYEN. (See the “Computer Tips” document for instructions on how to set up your email address.)

**Other** On this website, you will find answers to many of your questions about advising, the curriculum, registration, field placement, housing, financial aid and parking. Please look at each section carefully; each section lists a contact person who you can contact if you have questions, concerns, or need additional assistance.
Please contact me at 919-962-6444 or email me at smnaylor@email.unc.edu if you have questions concerning the program. We look forward to spending the next two years with you as you prepare for professional social work practice. We are working to bring you the best opportunities to expand your knowledge and develop your skills. We welcome you to our learning community. Expect to work hard, question assumptions and meet life-long friends.