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 three 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 us and will help us prepare for you.

**JumpStart! Preparation for Social Work Practice:** We have two **required** JumpStart! orientation sessions for distance education students. On **August 9, 2013**, your first session will be held at the UNC School of Social Work in Room 300. Plan to arrive no later than 8:45am. We will begin promptly at 9:00am and conclude by 4:00pm. Your second session is scheduled for **August 16, 2013**, at School of Social Work from 8:15am to 4:00pm.

These required programs are 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. More detailed agendas for both fall orientation sessions will be available on-line in late June. At the orientations, you will learn more details about the curriculum and the field education program, hear advice for success from students and recent graduates, have an opportunity to buy books and SSW merchandise on the UNC campus, and meet your new colleagues.

The School of Social Work will host the annual Students Achieving Graduate Education (S.A.G.E.) pre-orientation program for entering students of color and international students on Saturday, **August 10, 2013**. All incoming students are welcome to attend.

**Writing Assessment:** Before registering for your fall courses, you will need to complete an **online writing assessment**. Now, before your anxiety gets too high, let me explain. This is a writing **assessment**, not a writing **test**. You will not receive a grade for it. The purpose of this assessment is to help each student identify his/her areas of writing strength and weakness. This MSW program is very writing intensive, so having good writing skills is important. By helping you identify areas to build upon in your writing skills and connecting you with the resources to help you do so (including writing workshops and in-house writing support), we hope to provide you with the tools you need to be successful in our program. You must complete this assessment by **June 28, 2013**.

Once you obtain your ONYEN (see “Computer Tips”), notify Tiffany Carver by **May 24** at tscarver@email.unc.edu and she will make sure you’re registered for the online Sakai testing site so you can complete your required writing sample (see “Writing Assessment Instructions”).

**Online History of Oppression Course:**
Another online activity you will need to complete is an online training, Brief History of Oppression and Resistance. This is a pre-course that you must complete prior to enrolling in SOWO 501, Confronting Oppression and Institutional Discrimination, Spring 2014. We will discuss Modules 1 and 2 (“Exploitation” and “Marginalization”) at JumpStart on August 16th with faculty-led small groups, so please be sure to complete these sections by this date. The entire course (6 modules in all) must be completed no later than **October 31, 2013**, 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.

The URL for this course is included in the "[Accessing On-Line Courses via Sakai](#)" document, and there are instructions for logging on to the web site, so that you can begin exploring this course. Please read this information carefully. Faculty member Laurie Selz Campbell will be your contact person for the course. She will be posting her contact information on the course site.

**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 20, 2013**. (See the “NC Child Welfare Education Collaborative” section on the orientation page for more information.)

**Advising:** Travis J. Albritton will serve as your faculty advisor during the first two years of the program and will assist with coordinating your enrollment, registration, and educational activities. Individual advising appointments will be scheduled with each new student during the Fall semester. During this appointment you will discuss your leadership assessment and begin to explore your specific learning goals. Travis can be reached at 919-962-6432 or via email at travis_albritton@unc.edu.

**Plan of Study:** The Foundation Curriculum consists of 32 credit hours completed over the first two years. The final 30 credit hours (Advanced Curriculum) are completed as a full-time student during the third year of the program.

Courses during the first two years of the distance education program are offered according to a set schedule. This ensures that each student will complete the required Foundation curriculum during the first two years. Students in the distance education program may not elect to take alternate sections of required foundation courses. All foundation courses must be taken through the Triangle Distance Education MSW Program on Fridays.

You will find a link to the Acknowledgement of Policies form at the student orientation website. **You will need to sign, date, and return this form by June 14, 2013** to Dr. Sarah Naylor at the address designated at the top of the form. It is very important that you understand these policies and procedures and that we have confirmation of your understanding.

**Registration:** The School of Social Work Registrar, Beth Sauer (919-962-6443 or bhsauer@email.unc.edu) will register you for all of your courses in July after you have completed your writing assessment. The tentative fall and spring schedules for 2013-2014 are listed below:

**Fall 2013**
- SOWO 500 Human Development in Context I: Infancy to Adolescence  
  Fridays, 9:00am – 11:50pm  
  Instructor: Travis J. Albritton, MSW, M.Div

- SOWO 530 Social Welfare Policy  
  Fridays, 2:00pm – 4:50pm  
  Instructor: Dr. Iris Carlton-LaNey

**Spring 2014**
- SOWO 505 Human Development in Context II: Adulthood to Older Adulthood  
  Fridays, 9:00am – 11:50 am  
  Instructor: Dr. Lisa Zerden

- SOWO 505 Confronting Oppression & Institutional Discrimination  
  Fridays, 2:00pm – 4:50 pm  
  Instructor: Dr. Iris Carlton-LaNey

**Tuition and Fees:** The 2013-2014 estimated cost of tuition and fees per credit hour for in-state residents in the Distance Education Program is ~ $600 per credit hour. Fall 2013 tuition invoices will be issued in July and will only be available online at [http://my.unc.edu/dt](http://my.unc.edu/dt). Students will be notified by email to their UNC email account when their bill is ready to be viewed. Tuition and fees must be paid by **August 6, 2013**. You can pay your tuition online at this link: [http://finance.unc.edu/student-accounts-and-university-receivables/student-account-services/](http://finance.unc.edu/student-accounts-and-university-receivables/student-account-services/)

**UNC Library Services, Health Insurance and On-campus UNC Recreational Resources:** Prior to your first class you will be given a library card so you can use the libraries on campus during the first two years of the Triangle DE MSW program. Please note, in your final year of the Triangle DE MSW program, you will need to obtain a UNC ONE card which will allow you to access many other services on campus including the use of recreational facilities.

**Residency:** The Graduate School handles North Carolina residency concerns. 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](mailto: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. Applications with all supporting documentation must be filed online by 5 p.m., September 3, 2013. The application is on the Graduate School’s website at: http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/residency/

**Field Education:** All Triangle Distance Education MSW Program students are required to complete two separate field placements. The foundation field placement (which will take place during your 2nd year) requires a 16 hours per week internship in addition to your Friday classes on the UNC campus. Your final year concentration field placement requires a 24 hours per week internship in addition to classes on the UNC campus Mondays and Tuesdays. We will spend time at orientation discussing options for field placements and the criteria for completing a field placement at your place of employment.

**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. For classroom needs, please inform us in a return letter. 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 & Service first. Their website is http://accessibility.unc.edu/; you may also contact them at 919-962-8300 or accessibility@unc.edu.

**Purchasing Books:** Textbooks can be purchased by logging into the Course Materials portal, [http://my.unc.edu/dt](http://my.unc.edu/dt) 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 any local bookstore. There is usually a NC Tax-free Weekend the first weekend of August; during that time, you can purchase books and school supplies tax-free. The UNC School of Social Work Student Organization (SoWoSO) will host a used book sale the first week of the fall semester.

**Email and Computer Literacy:** Please take note of the Computer Tips section of this webpage which explains how to set up a UNC email address. It is very important that you inform Student Services Assistant Tiffany Carver of the ONYEN and email you set up. Please send your ONYEN to Tiffany at tscarver@email.unc.edu by May 24, 2013. Your UNC email address is the only address we will use to communicate important messages from faculty, staff and students.

**Change of Address** – Please notify Student Services Assistant Tiffany Carver at 919-843-8452, or tscarver@email.unc.edu of any name, address, phone, and email changes you may have over the summer. You will also need to make these changes at [http://my.unc.edu/dt](http://my.unc.edu/dt).

**Parking** – Parking is at a premium on campus. You will need to give yourself ample time to find parking on your first day of orientation and class. For campus and commuter options, please visit [www.chtransit.org](http://www.chtransit.org) and [http://www.dps.unc.edu/Transit/transitnav.cfm](http://www.dps.unc.edu/Transit/transitnav.cfm). The Chapel Hill and on-campus buses run frequently and are free. We have included directions to the Rams Head parking deck. Keep in mind that it does cost $1.50/hour to park at Rams Head parking deck.

We are looking forward to spending the next three years with you as you prepare for professional social work practice. The UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work faculty and staff are involved in a variety of research, program planning, evaluation and training projects on local, state, national, and international levels. 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 some life-long friends. Please review all documents posted at this orientation website. These documents provide further information concerning the organization and structure of the distance education courses and some recommended activities to help you prepare for classes in the fall.

Please contact me at 919-843-2435 or email me at rjmacy@email.unc.edu if you have questions concerning the program. We are pleased you have selected our program for your MSW education and look forward to working with you over the next three years.