



DATE: April 2, 2009
TO: New Distance Education Advanced Standing Students in Winston-Salem
FROM: Anna Scheyett, MSW, PhD, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
RE: Welcome and Important Information

Greetings, and congratulations on your admission to the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work. We are pleased that you have chosen to enter our 20-month, Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW program in Winston-Salem, and are looking forward to working with you as you continue to pursue your professional social work education.

Orientations

There will be two mandatory orientations. The first is scheduled for **May 1, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Forsyth County Department of Social Services**, 741 North Highland Ave., Winston-Salem NC. On this day, you will meet your director and others in your cohort, review the Distance Education Advanced Standing curriculum and field education requirements, obtain your DSS name badges and meet current students in the program. You will receive an article in the mail to read in mid-April for the May 1st orientation and there will be a special activity related to the article following orientation. Please review the tentative agenda for the May 1 orientation online.

The second half of your orientation is scheduled for **Friday, May 8, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 300 at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Social Work** (Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building, CB 3550, 325 Pittsboro St., Chapel Hill, NC). At this event, we will take photos of the group and of each student. You may wish to review the tentative agenda for the May 8 orientation session in Chapel Hill on-line. Also, 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 15, 2009. All incoming students are welcome to attend.

First Day of Class

Classes begin at Forsyth County Department of Social Services on Friday, May 15, 2009. The last day of class for the summer is July 31, 2009. Classes begin at 8:30am and conclude by 5pm each Friday.

Advising

Your program director, Tina Souders, will serve as your faculty advisor. Her role is to guide your professional development and help you to identify appropriate field education opportunities. Tina's office is at Forsyth County DSS and her contact information is as follows:

Tina Souders, MSW, JD
Director of Winston-Salem Distance Education Advanced Standing Program
Phone: 336-703-3398
Email: tsouders@email.unc.edu

Sarah Naylor, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, will oversee your plan of study and ensure that you meet all the requirements for the degree. Dr. Naylor is located in the Student Services Suite on the third floor of the School of Social Work in Chapel Hill. You can reach her at 919-962-6444 or smnaylor@email.unc.edu.

Registration

Courses are offered according to a set schedule; a sample course sequence is available online. This ensures that each student will complete the required curriculum.

The School of Social Work Registrar, Beth Sauer (962-6443, bhsauer@email.unc.edu) will register you for the summer bridge course SoWo 715 which is six credit hours. During the summer, class will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. In the fall semester, you will register for SoWo 874, Administration

and Management: Theory and Practice (3 credit hours) and SoWo 510, Evidenced Based Practice and Program Evaluation (3 credit hours) and SoWo 720 Individualized Field Practicum (4 or 6 credit hours). Class will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 4 p.m. during the fall semester.

Field Placement: You should plan on your field placement beginning during the week of August 24, 2009. Over the summer, the Director of the Distance Education Advanced Standing program, Tina Souders, will work with you to develop your individualized field placement plan. Should you have questions about this process, please contact Tina Souders.

Tuition and Fees - For the Summer 2009, we estimate that tuition and fees for in-state, distance education students will be \$1,692 for six credit hours. For out-of-state distance education students, we estimate the rate to be \$3,252. The exact cost for fall will remain uncertain until the final state budget is approved by the North Carolina state legislature and signed by the Governor. Once tuition and fees are determined, you will receive an invoice from the University Cashier. For additional information and the most current tuition rates, visit the Cashier's website at <http://finance.unc.edu/asst.-vc--controller/student-account-services/student-billing.html> .

Residency – The Graduate School handles residency concerns. If you have a question, please contact Shalonda Arnold at sgarnold@email.unc.edu . ****Please note that even though you may have lived in North Carolina all of your life, you still will need to complete an online residency form if you are claiming North Carolina residency for tuition purposes.** The form should be completed after March 15 and is on the Graduate School's website at: <http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/residency/>.

Financial Aid - Distance education students are eligible for some types of university and school-based financial aid. For loans you will need to complete the FAFSA online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. When completing the FAFSA online remember to indicate that you're registered for six credit hours in the summer. **Student Services Manager Linda Wilson will inform the UNC Office of Scholarships and Student Aid that you will need financial aid extended through the second summer session.** For information about eligibility for loans contact the UNC-CH Office of Scholarships and Student Aid at 919/962-8396 or visit their website at <http://studentaid.unc.edu/> . School of Social Work awards are available for the final academic year. In March, 2010 students will be notified when the application process begins. More information about the School of Social Work financial aid can be found at <http://ssw.unc.edu/index.php?q=students/financial> .

Distance Education Format - Students in the Winston-Salem Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW Program are enrolled in a distance education program. Courses in this program enhance regular classroom instruction with web-based instructional components, video-conferencing, and other technologies. The UNC-Chapel Hill Library offers specialized services for all distance education students. If you do not have a computer or access to the internet, I strongly recommend that you visit the Carolina Computing Initiative website, <http://www.unc.edu/cqi> for information about purchasing a computer. Students report that their computer and internet access are essential tools for success in the program.

Insurance - As a student in a distance education program, you are not eligible for student health insurance or access to recreational facilities on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

Purchasing Books - Textbooks can be purchased by logging into the Course Materials portal, <http://my.unc.edu> at Health Affairs Book Stores. Another option is to get the title of the textbooks from the course syllabus and place an order online or at a local bookstore.

Parking - For orientation on May 1, you will need to park in the Carl Russell parking lot near the Forsyth County Department of Social Services. When you arrive in Chapel Hill for orientation on May 8, please park in the Rams Head parking deck on Ridge Road.

Special Needs - It is helpful for us to know if you have a particular condition that will require special arrangements in order for you to attend classes and do field practice. Not all UNC-Chapel Hill buildings are handicapped accessible and certain field sites also may not be accessible. You can notify us about special classroom or field placement needs by letter. If applicable, you may also access information about disability services at <http://disabilityservices.unc.edu/eligibility/document-guidelines.html> .

We are looking forward to spending the next 20 months with you as you continue to prepare for professional practice. The 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.

Welcome to our learning community. Expect to work hard, question assumptions and meet some life-long friends. Feel free to contact me if you have questions. We are pleased you have selected our program for your MSW education and look forward to working with you.

c: Jack Richman, Ph.D., Dean and Professor
Sharon H. Thomas, MSW, Director of Recruitment, Admissions & Financial Aid
Linda T. Wilson, Student Services Manager
Tina Souders, MSW, Director, Distance Education Advanced Standing MSW Program in Winston-Salem
Rebecca Brigham, MSW, Field Education Director

Available on the UNC and School of Social Work websites:

Tentative Orientation Schedule for May 1
Tentative Orientation Schedule for May 8
Checklist for Distance Education Advanced Standing Students
Advising and Registration Information
Computer Literacy Information
Student Organization (SoWoSO) greetings
Disability Services information
Parking Directions to Ramshead Parking Deck and Map
“Encyclopedia of Social Work” information
Nearby Places to Eat