Welcome New Exchange Students!
Ice Breaker
Answer based on location of right thumb

- **Blue**
  - Typical food in your country

- **Purple**
  - Fun fact about you

- **Green**
  - Something interesting about your trip to the U.S.

- **Red**
  - One thing you want to experience in the U.S.
Stress is part of the cross cultural experience

Asking for help

YOU are a problems solver!

Ideas:
- Seeking support from friends
- Coming to walk-in advising (Amy)
- Joining a club
- Other ideas?
Universities Represented

Shout out the name of your school and country!

Who is here from…

• Europe?
• Asia?
• Central or South America?
• Oceania?
• Middle East?
• Africa?
U.S. Academic Culture
What to expect...

• Attend class, all of them
  – It is part of your grade

• Complete your assignments
  – Group projects
  – Regular/weekly assignments
  – Big projects/exams

• Read the syllabus
  – Each professor outlines his/her expectation on the syllabus, provided 1st day of class
Class Participation

Expectations:
• Speak-up in class
• Contribute your own ideas:
  – group discussions/projects
  – written work, etc.
• Class participation usually counts towards grade
• Talk to professors during ‘office hours’
  – shows strong interest & enthusiasm!
Tips for Course Selection

• Find the right ‘balance’
  – Heavy vs. light courses (read syllabus)
  – Recommended maximum:
  – 15 credit hours (undergraduate) - 9 credit hours (graduate)
  – Opportunity to learn something new!
  – May drop & add other classes or sections.
  – **Deadline: Wednesday, January 16th at 11:59PM**

• Reasons you may be unable to register:
  – Course is restricted to students of a different major or minor
  – Specific section of a course is full (Closed)
  – Class has pre-requisites (qualifications)
## US Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Grade (Percentage)</th>
<th>Grade Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 – 100 %</td>
<td>Great!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 90%</td>
<td>Not bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 – 80 %</td>
<td>Ooh, you need to work harder, you are barely passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 – 70 %</td>
<td>Are you sleeping in class?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 65 %</td>
<td>This is looked upon as failing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
<td>Failing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing

Living with a roommate!

Role of a Resident Advisor (RA)

Required ‘floor meeting’ to cover rules, learn about process for room changes

Get involved in activities so you can meet people and teach them about your country!
Housing

• Contract length
  – 1 semester students - Full semester

• Check-Out
  – Last day you may stay in your dorm
    • Friday, May 10th at noon

• Room changes
  – See your email for the room change dates
  – Usually 2nd week of classes
Meal Plans

• If you live on campus…
  - A meal plan is required
  - Exception for students living in ‘apartment’ style housing (with a full kitchen)

• Changing meal plans:
  - After January 5th - $25 processing charge
  - Last day to change - Friday, January 25 @ 12 noon

• Enroll at any time

• Submit requests
  - In person: Auxiliary Services, Mon 8am-Fri Noon
  - Online: www.aux.uncc.edu
Transcript of Grades

• ISSO mails 1 transcript directly to home institution if…
  – You have signed the transcript request form
  – You’ve paid ALL outstanding bills (housing, library, etc.)

• When:
  – Transcripts mailed 6 weeks after end of semester

• Any additional transcripts:
  – You order all additional transcripts yourself through ‘My UNC Charlotte’/Banner Self-service
Immunization & Health Insurance

• Both are required by North Carolina state law

• Deadlines are NOT flexible!

• Missing immunizations must be completed within 30 days of the beginning of class (Thur, Feb 7)

• Health insurance
  – Purchase UNC Charlotte plan - $1294/semester
  – Submit proof of your own insurance and waive the UNC Charlotte plan
  – http://studentbluenc.com/#/uncc/welcome
• Regular reporting of address: Update Banner Self-Service

• On Campus Employment
  – On-campus employment must be reported to ISSO and
  – I-9 paperwork completed *prior* to first date of employment
  – Limited to 20 hrs/week while classes are in session

• Off-campus employment*
  – must be *authorized in advance* by ISSO or sponsor.
  – 20 hours/week maximum during Fall and Spring semester
Off-Campus Employment (after completing exchange program)

Academic Training

• When can I begin?
  – After completing exchange program

• How long can I work?
  – Up to the length of your academic program (either 4.5 or 9 months).

• What is the authorization process?
  – Contact the ISSO to discuss details
Get Involved!

Lots of opportunities – chance of a lifetime!

- Gold Rush – welcome activities
- Jan 9 – Student Org Showcase
- Sports/Music/Dance/Theater
- Student organizations
- International Club trips
- Cultural Ambassador
- Outdoor adventures (Venture)
- Friendship & Culture Exchange
- International Coffee Hour
- International Festival (lfest)
- Host Family Program (hospitality)
Differences in U.S. Culture
Legal age to consume alcohol

• 21 years old
• Consequences of underage drinking:
  • On campus
    – drinking citation, fine, educational classes
  • Off-campus
    – arrest, court appearance, large fine, immigration consequences
Emergency Contact

**EMERGENCY CARD**

**EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**
Campus Police ........ 704-687-2200 or 911 (police.uncc.edu)
Fire/Other Emergency .. 704-687-2200 or 911
Campus Switchboard ... 704-687-UNCC (8622)
Weather Hotline .......... 704-687-1900
Student Health Center .. 704-687-7400
Environmental Health
and Safety Office ........ 704-687-1111 (safety.uncc.edu)
Office of Disability Services .. 704-687-0040

**Go to emergency.uncc.edu to:**
- Sign up for text alerts
- Learn more about the University’s emergency alert systems
- View emergency plans and other important safety information
Making Changes to Your Schedule

(adding or dropping classes)
Tips for Adding /Changing Class Registration

• Check OFTEN for open seats!
• Seats can open at any time
  – Students change their schedules, drop classes, etc.
• Remember:
  – Last day to add/drop classes, Wednesday, January 16 at 11:59PM
Course Selection

• ‘Permit’ only starts the process
  – still must ‘register’ in my.uncc.edu after permit is added by instructor

• Graduate-level courses
  – (5000 and higher)
  – not available to undergraduate-level students
Wishing you Success

Be flexible,
be politely proactive,
and good luck!!