National Hispanic Heritage Month

Starting September 15th through October 15th

History

National Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968, starting as a week, but was changed to the month in 1988 by the Ronald Reagan administration.

During this time, Americans will celebrate the cultures, histories, and contributions and influence from Hispanic Americans. The US Department of Education promotes and celebrates the contributions of Hispanic students. By observing this day, we are able to show support for Hispanic Americans and what they are doing to help this country grow.

Ways to Celebrate

• Enjoy a classic Latin American dish.
• Support a Hispanic or Latino-owned business.
• Take a Latin dance class.
• Visit a museum highlighting Hispanic and Latino culture.
• Read books by Hispanic and Latinx authors.

Continue reading here.

Sources: https://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/about/ and https://nhcoa.org/why-do-we-celebrate-hispanic-heritage-month/
Happy 4th week of class, I wish each of your well and hope you’ve had a great start to the term! We continue to adapt and grow in this time of tremendous change. I hope that you are acclimating to the ways we can use technology to keep our classroom open during this phase of the pandemic while also staying safe. I encourage you to remain active in your classes, diligent in your course work, and look for the strengths in each challenge or opportunity.

There are so many great opportunities to engage with the School of Social Work. As you review this week’s newsletter, I hope that you find something that not only stirs your interest but also helps you grow on your professional journey as a developing social worker.

In the words of Woodrow Wilson, “You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand.”

Make it a great week!

~ Dr. Tomlinson
Director of Undergraduate Programs

The Archer Fellowship Program at The University of Texas at Arlington

The Archer Fellowship Program provides University of Texas System students the opportunity to live, learn, and intern in Washington, D.C., for a semester (summer for graduate students, fall or spring for undergraduate students). Are you interested in how policy impacts your area of study or future profession? Do you have a passion for policy and/or public service? Learn more about this unparalleled educational and professional opportunity by attending an information session.

Application deadlines: November 3, 2021 (Graduate students only) and February 15, 2022 (Undergraduate students only).

Fall 2021 Virtual Information Sessions for Undergraduate Students
Thursday, September 16 • 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Wednesday, October 6 • 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Tuesday, November 9 • 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

RSVP to receive a Zoom link: archercesnter.org
Questions? Contact Campus Coordinator Perri Turner at pturner@uta.edu

UTA Tier 1 Announcement
UTA has earned the Texas Tier One designation from the state of Texas!

Hi Everyone!

I hope the semester is going well for you all. For me, being in academia is like a second home. I love learning and sharing new ideas with my peers. Even so, starting my dissertation is making my imposter syndrome rise to all-time highs. Sometimes I feel like I'm not smart or talented enough to be in a doctoral program. I'm familiar with this feeling. It's come and gone throughout my BSW and my MSW degrees. However, this semester for whatever reason, the imposter syndrome monster decided to move into a beautiful bed and breakfast in my brain with no plans of leaving any time soon. This prolonged self-doubt led me to slow down and take a moment to see things from another perspective.

Imposter syndrome usually shows up when we try out something new or something that doesn’t come easily. For me, I’ve realized writing is what is getting me down. I’m not the strongest writer, and I continue to struggle with academic writing even after all these years in school. Social work is where science connects with art and creativity. Unfortunately, postsecondary education often emphasizes just science, even when developing verbal communication skills needed in social work. Essays and exams are still the primary measurements of academic success in our society, which sometimes overshadows other individual strengths that instructors can’t find in an APA formatted essay. It is difficult for every student to communicate their knowledge, compassion, empathy, and other skills in just this one way.

Systemic changes in education are always at the forefront of my mind, but I know they happen slowly. As we continue to focus on decolonization efforts, I hope that our department can lead the way in finding new ways to measure student success. Focusing on the present, I was able to reframe my thoughts this morning. I realized that I forgot to focus on my strengths as well. Writing academic papers can prove my knowledge in some things, but it doesn't show off all the other ways I communicate with ease. I can have amazing conversations with my friends for hours. I can hold someone’s hand and cry with them in their time of need. I have a fantastic sense of humor, and I can throw a dang good party. Improving my writing occupied so much of my time that I forgot to make time to incorporate time made time for the strengths that already exist within me. I’ve decided to focus some time on finding other ways of sharing social work knowledge in ways that suit my strengths. I hope to have a podcast by the end of the semester because I am much better at public speaking! Of course, I will continue to keep working on my Ph.D., but in the future, I’ll try to remember it’s not the only thing that will define my success.

Keep focusing on new challenges, but also remember that who you are is already enough! You don’t have to be the best at everything, and you certainly don’t have to feel that you aren’t capable if you struggle with academic assignments like me. What are you going to do this week to focus on your strengths? Maybe you appreciate art and beauty, so you'll analyze a painting in a museum or find the symbolism in your favorite movie. Or perhaps your sense of humor hasn’t been on display lately, so you can spend time making your friends and family laugh. Whatever it is, I hope you will share your strengths with the world!

Sarah Herrera
LCSW | Doctoral Student | MSW
**ADVISING**

- Need to meet with your advisor but there's no upcoming appointment available? Drop-in either in person or virtually on Wednesdays. To schedule your 30-minute drop-in time, click [here](https://inplace.uta.edu). Be sure to select in-person or virtual and your advisor. Remember, drop-in sessions are on a first come basis.

- If your advisor's appointment schedule is full, please consider emailing them for email-advising, or attend their weekly Power Hour. Please check advising appointments every Monday when new availability opens up for the coming weeks.

  **BSW Academic Advisors:**
  - Last names A-C: Valerie Adame – adamev@uta.edu
  - Last names D- Me: Mark Frazier – mark.frazier@uta.edu
  - Last names Mi-Z: Patrice Green – patrice.green@uta.edu

Keiana Crain is no longer with UTA. Until her position is filled, please contact Patrice Green.

**FIELD PLACEMENTS**

**General**

- All students, agencies, and Field Instructors should use this URL for InPlace: [https://inplace.uta.edu/](https://inplace.uta.edu/)
- The InPlace fee is $67 per year or $130 for a lifetime. Each student will need to plan to pay the InPlace fee on the first day of class for that semester they are starting field.
- InPlace Training and Logbook Training can be found here!
- If you are having technical difficulties with InPlace please email sswfield@uta.edu and include a screenshot of the issue.
- **Field forms are available here!**
- **Field FAQ**
- **Contact Sharon Martin**, LMSW, Field Advisor, with any questions! You can also connect with her during her Field Power Hours every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month from 3:00-3:30. [Click here to join the meeting](https://inplace.uta.edu/). Did you know that if you pursue your MSW at UTA within 6 years of graduating with your BSW, you can finish your Masters in as fast as 1 year? We accept MSW admissions on a rolling basis. The admissions calendar can be found [here](https://inplace.uta.edu/). If you have any questions about the process of applying to the MSW, please contact leslie.reyna@uta.edu

**LICENSING**

- If you're in your final semester and want to get started on applying to ASWB to take the LBSW licensing exam, [click here](https://inplace.uta.edu/) to request the Dean's Letter for Licensure, which UTA will send to ASWB. More info can be found on the ASWB site and our [SSW licensure page](https://inplace.uta.edu/).
- [Click here for a recording of our Social Work Licensing Information Session, held in April 2021.](https://inplace.uta.edu/)
- Interested in the LCDC? Scroll to the end of this [Licensure](https://inplace.uta.edu/) webpage and click on the Texas LCDC Licensing 2021 PDF for a chart that shows how different education levels can prepare you for the LCDC.

**MSW Admissions**

- The Fall 2021 Field Application closed June 4th. No late applications will be accepted.
- All students have been placed. Students should contact their field advisor if they are still awaiting placement.
- See the Fall 2021 Field Education Calendar [here](https://inplace.uta.edu/). InPlace fee is due on the first day of class

**Spring 2022**

- The Spring 2022 Field Application will be open Oct. 01 – Nov. 26, 2021. These dates are subject to change. See the full Spring 2022 Field Education Calendar [here](https://inplace.uta.edu/).
- Read the Summer 2021 – Spring 2022 Field Accommodations [here](https://inplace.uta.edu/).
EVENTS

FALL 2021

- Nov. 5 Last Day to Drop Classes
- Nov. 8 Registration begins for Spring
- Nov 25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

You are invited to the “Healing the Healer After A Personal Loss” Lunch & Learn on Wednesday, September 29th at 12:00 P.M. CST (1:00 PM EST), sponsored by the National LOSS Team Conference Planning Committee. This session will offer invaluable insight as to how to help LOSS team members continue to heal after personal loss. A personal loss can be a suicide, unexpected death, etc.

As LOSS team members, our psychological vulnerability may be greater as we move forward in our everyday lives as we do our “work”. A critical message you may hear in the session is that self-compassion precedes self-care. Experienced LOSS team members will be sharing their thoughts as to provide care for our fellow LOSS team members. The session will be recorded and may be accessed. The ZOOM address is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85708457629.

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Constitution Day Program

Covering the 25th Amendment and Presidential Disabilities
September 17th, 12:00PM        UH 108
Pizza and Refreshments Available

Job Opportunities

Constitution Day Program

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The Bachelor of Science in Substance Use & Treatment (BSSUT) “The degree will use a multidisciplinary approach to understand the biological, psychological and social aspects of substance misuse,” said Scott Ryan, dean of the School of Social Work. “Its curriculum for assessment and treatment methods for substance misuse are based on evidence-informed and research-supported practices that will enable students and future professionals to understand and treat individuals, families, groups and communities while preparing graduates for careers in this field.”

For more info and FAQ’s Click Here

Degree Progress Worksheet

BSSUT SPOTLIGHT

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Continue reading here

David Waters

For more info and FAQ’s Click Here

david.waters@uta.edu

Dr. Allison Tomlinson, PhD, LCSW

Allison.tomlinson@uta.edu

Click Here
Financial Assistance for new School of Social Work Distance Education Fee

The University announced recently that students charged Distance Education (DE) fees for Fall 2021 online courses may be eligible for financial aid if they are facing extraordinary educational and economic challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional information, including a University online application form, will be available after September 13 for regular session courses.

The University announcement mentioned only the $25 per credit hour DE Fee. For students taking online School of Social Work classes, you are charged an additional $65 per credit hour DE Fee. If you are determined eligible by the University to receive financial aid for the $25 per credit hour of the DE fee and you are a School of Social Work student, then the remaining balance of $65 per credit hour will also be covered. This is in effect for as long as the University continues this waiver program or thru the Spring 2022 semester, whichever comes first. To coordinate with the University, further details regarding this process will be forwarded on or about September 13th.

If you are having challenges paying tuition and fees before fall classes start, it is suggested that you submit a request to the University to be on a payment plan. If you have questions about your bill please contact Student Accounts.

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

The project will pair UTA students with elderly dementia patients to encourage them to engage in a therapeutic dialogue about their childhood and other memories. The students will then create digital projects that reimagine or otherwise document these memories in one of many storytelling modes.

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Covid-19 Vaccine

The next free, walk-in-only, on-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinic is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, in the exercise rooms of the Maverick Activities Center. If you can’t make it, find another vaccine opportunity.

Upload proof of vaccination to the COVID-19 Self Report portal in MyMav by Monday, Oct. 4, to be eligible for prizes in the Maverick Motivator Program.

Listen to UTA public health experts explain why getting a COVID-19 vaccine is beneficial for you and your community.

Required COVID-19 testing and new protective measures for Fall 2021 (English and Español) (uta.edu)

Classroom density, updated info from university on testing and return to campus

Dean Ryan’s Statement on COVID-19 Health Disparities

COVID-19 Testing

REQUIRED COVID-19 TESTING

Beginning Monday, Sept. 13, students, faculty and staff coming to any UTA campus in any capacity will be selected at random for mandatory COVID-19 testing.

Until further notice, 20% of our campus population, regardless of vaccination status, will be selected each week for testing. Notifications will come from covidtesting@uta.edu, and you will have seven days to get tested after being selected. If you have any questions, contact covidtesting@uta.edu.

UTA has a number of on-campus testing options that meet the required criteria and are free. Results received from an on-campus testing option will automatically be reported to the University with no further action required on your part.

Results from off-campus testing sites will be accepted, though you will not be reimbursed for costs. Test results from an off-campus testing site will be uploaded to the COVID-19 Self Report portal in MyMav.

Remember, if you test positive, please follow the CDC’s isolation protocols and submit the Personal Diagnosis Form.

UTA’s COVID-19 testing resources are always available to you should you need or want a test; you do not need to wait until you are selected for random testing.

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Rental Assistance Program

The Tarrant County Rental Assistance Program assists residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more details, email renthelp@tarrantcounty.com or call 817-850-7940.

Emergency Assistance Fund

UTA students with a temporary financial hardship resulting from a sudden emergency may apply for financial help.

Get Microsoft 365, The Wall Street Journal and Other Apps FREE with your student email!

How to gain access to SSW writing resources: Advising & Student Success Canvas

UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distributions

Currently distributing groceries on Thursdays only, from 9-11:45 a.m. and 2-4:45 p.m. To receive these grocery bags you must send an email to utafoodpantry@gmail.com to request a pickup time. Include student name, last four digits of UTA ID, requested grocery pickup time, choice of vegetarian, chicken, or any meat groceries.

If you have any questions or content suggestion for the newsletter, please contact Tuesday Darling: tbd2290@mavs.uta.edu