

# “Shiny Happy People” Advising Our Incoming Students

Master Advisor Workshops

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# First Steps First

- Preview/Interest
- College Fairs at high schools
- Junior Day – during Literary Rally
- Interest Cards from events

# Admission Requirements

- TOPS Core Curriculum in High School
- Overall HS GPA of 2.0 or ACT of 20 or higher
- No more than one developmental
- High School transcripts- sent from state of LA
- If over age of 25 – COMPASS placement test

# Admissions

- Application – Fee
- FAFSA and other financial aid requirements
- Not immediately Accepted – have to meet requirements
- Acceptance – letter
- Orientation
- Advising
- Start Classes

# Orientation

- Confirm with Admissions – 7 or 8 dates offered starting in March/April and going through summer.
- Mandatory attendance
- Student representatives are group leaders

# Orientation Topics

- Student Life/Organizations
- Financial Aid
- Housing/Meal Plans
- Technology (e-mail, ICAN, and Blackboard)
- Registration/Scheduling
- Advising Meeting
- Colonel Card and Parking

# After Orientation

- Advising Seminars – offered by Advising Center
- Covers academic issues more thoroughly than orientation
- Presented by Certified Master Advisors
- Topics include bulletin, tips for success in college, university structure, UNIV101, payment/activation, advising, syllabus, textbooks, general education, to-do before the first day of class.

# What do advisors focus on before the first semester?

- Placement and other academic issues.
- Choice of major and curriculum information.
- Schedule changes and drop/add.
- Adjustment issues.
- Parents
- Readiness

# What is important?

- For most students:
  - Financial Aid and PAYING for NSU!!!
  - Majors and schedules
  - What to do before classes start
    - Textbooks
    - Where are my classes? (Can I walk that far in 10 minutes?)
    - Housing

# What can you do?

- Make note of FAFSA deadlines, requirements, and other financial aid information.  
(taxes=FAFSA)
- Remind students to confirm for orientation.
- Refer to Advising Center for academic issues.
- Make contacts in departments to help incoming freshmen.
- Keep materials handy for students.

# The First Semester

- UNIV 101 focuses on many important topics:
  - Bulletin, curriculum planning, academic policies, library, campus resources
  - Department Liaisons
  - Time Management
  - Study Skills, Note Taking, and Test Taking
  - Career Research/planning
  - Advising
  - Adjustment
  - Campus Involvement

# Why is the first semester important?

- Students will decide in the first few weeks if they will stay here.
- A welcoming and helpful atmosphere will make the transition to college easier.
- Information for first-time students should address their specific concerns, but still be “easy to swallow.”

# Our “To-Do” List:

- Financial Aid – ICAN
- Housing and meal plans
- Drop/add – schedule changes
- Seek help for questions about major
- Parking Decal and Colonel Card
- Decoding Schedule – “walk-through”
- Pay/Activate

# Contact University College

- University College/Academic Advising Center
- 234 Elkins Hall
- [advising@nicholls.edu](mailto:advising@nicholls.edu)
- 985-448-4117
- Walk-in advising available all summer during normal university business hours.
- Advising Seminars as scheduled – call to register.