Central Check-in – Orientation – Convocation
(Mandatory Attendance for all first year students)
M.S.W. Students

Central Check-In
Friday, May 29, 2015

9:00 – 12:00
Central Check-In for all first summer MSW and Ph.D. students
(and non-cleared 2nd and 3rd year MSW students)
Seelye Hall

11:45 – 1:00
Lunch for on-campus students
King/Scales Dining Room

Orientation Part I:
Building Community – In Service to Others
An Orientation to the Smith College School for Social Work
Friday, May 29, 2015
Weinstein Auditorium – Wright Hall

1:15 – 1:25
Welcome
Marianne Yoshioka, Ph.D., Dean

1:25 – 1:40
Taking a Biopsychosocial Stance with Those Most at Risk
Joan Berzoff, Ph.D.

1:40 – 1:50
Transition to Small Groups – students will be grouped by field geography

1:50 – 3:00
Small Group Discussions (8 – 10 students; facilitated discussion)
(Locations listed on Small Group Discussion Sheets at entrance)
Facilitated by Faculty Members

3:00 – 3:10
Transition

3:10 – 4:10
Library Orientation
(Last Names beginning ‘A – L’)
Neilson Browsing Room

Orientation to Smith Technology
(Last Names beginning with ‘M – Z’)
Seelye 201

4:10 – 4:20
Transition
4:20 – 5:20  Orientation to Smith Technology
(Last Names beginning with ‘A – L’)
Seelye 201

Library Orientation
(Last Names beginning with ‘M – Z’)
Neilson Browsing Room

5:30  Writing Center Resources
Last Names beginning with ‘A – L’
Seelye 106

Last Names beginning with ‘M – Z’
Seelye 201

6:00  Dinner
King – Scales Dining Room (open to those with meal plans)
(Note: Drop-In hours are available at the Office of Disability Services, College Hall, Rm 104, all day Friday. Laura Rauscher, Director of Disability Services is available to meet with any student needing accommodation.)

Student Community Day
Saturday, May 30, 2015
Get to know your student colleagues and organization; details available at Central Check-In.

Orientation Part II:
Building Community – In Service to Others
An Orientation to the Smith College School for Social Work
Sunday, May 31, 2015
Weinstein Auditorium/Wright Hall

2:00 – 2:10  A Review of Friday’s Highlights – Shout Out
Peggy O’Neill, Ph.D.; Associate Dean

2:10 – 2:25  Introduction to the Smith College School for Social Work’s Anti-Racism Commitment
Fred Newdom, M.S.W.; Policy Chair

2:25 – 2:40  Clinical Social Work: A Clinical Case Illustration
Carolyn du Bois, M.S.W.; Director Field Work

2:40 – 2:50  Transition to Small Group Spaces – students grouped by program or field geography

2:50 – 4:00  Small Group Discussions
(same facilitators/same location)

4:00 – 4:15  Break and transition to convocation
Convocation
Sunday, May 31, 2015
Weinstein Auditorium/Wright Hall

4:15 – 5:15
Convocation
Welcome and Introductions
Marianne Yoshioka, Ph.D.; Dean

Disability Services – Laura Rauscher
Writing Support Services – Debra Carney and Peter Sapira

Student Government Leadership
Council for Students of Color Leadership
Doctoral Students Leadership

5:30
All Campus BBQ, King/Scales Dining Hall
Smith College School for Social Work Mission Statement:

The mission of the Smith College School for Social Work is to advance the aims of the profession through education for excellence in clinical social work practice and through the development and dissemination of knowledge.

Clinical social work practice is concerned with the interdependence between individuals and their environments and the use of theoretically grounded, relationship based, culturally informed interventions to promote healing, growth and empowerment. Clinical social work recognizes and responds to the complexities of the human condition: its strengths, possibilities, systems of meaning, resilience, vulnerabilities and tragedies. As a collaborative process, clinical social work expresses the core values of the profession, including recognition of client self-determination, growth and change in the client system and pursuit of social justice. It rests upon a liberal arts base and integrates evolving theories about individuals, families, groups, communities, and the larger social systems in which they are embedded.

In its educational practices, the school promotes critical thinking and self-reflection to help students expand their knowledge in the substantive areas of human behavior and the social environment, social work practice, research, social policy, field, values and ethics, diversity, populations-at-risk and social and economic justice. The school educates students in the application of professional values and ethics, collaboration with other disciplines and the evaluation and dissemination of evolving theories and practice models.

The school shares with the social work profession its historic commitment to serve oppressed, disadvantaged and at risk members of our society. It is committed to implementing a curriculum that addresses the concerns, issues and interests of these populations. The school joins with the profession to struggle against inequality and oppression based on such variables as: race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age and disability. The school and Smith College are committed to promote social justice, service to society and appreciation of individual and cultural diversity in a multicultural community. The school recognizes the pernicious consequences of racism and works to identify and diminish the overt and covert aspects of racism. Smith College School for Social Work is committed to work toward becoming an anti-racism institution.

The school implements its educational mission through its masters and doctoral degree programs, as well as through its Program of Continuing Education. Through its scholarship, publications and research and program initiatives, the school contributes to the development and dissemination of knowledge relevant to social work. In its affiliation with a liberal arts college, the school places a priority on the process of teaching and learning and community service. The school maintains relationships of mutual respect and influence with its affiliated agencies, major professional organizations and other representatives of the social work practice community to aid in curriculum renewal and to contribute to the development of the profession as a whole.

Smith College School for Social Work - Definition of Racism:

Racism is a system of privilege, inequality, and oppression based on perceived categorical differences, value assigned to those differences, and a system of oppression that rewards and punishes people based on the assigned differences. It is manifested politically, socially, economically, culturally, interpersonally, and intrapersonally in the history of the United States.

Smith College School for Social Work promotes knowledge, values and skills that help students to identify, critically analyze and intervene against the injurious effects of racism. The School for Social Work community fosters respect for diverse worldviews and for each other’s equal place in the world. Self-reflection and deepening conversations about race influence practice, research and scholarship at the School.

*Updated October 2011*