

University of North Carolina School of the Arts
High School Academic Program

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June 2011

Dear Incoming Students and Parents:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you in advance to the High School at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. The energy and creativity of the students, staff, and faculty make UNCSA a wonderful place to work, learn, and live. I am currently serving my sixth year as the Dean of the High School Academic Program, but I have worked as a member of the high school mathematics faculty for seventeen years. I serve as the leader of the High School Academic Program, representing the program both on and off campus. I will also be teaching two sections of AP Calculus AB.

I'd like to introduce you to the other high school academic program staff members, as you may need to contact them with questions or concerns over the summer.

Mr. Jeff Morgan, Assistant Dean of the High School Academic Program (morganj@uncsa.edu / 336-770-3245) At UNCSA since 1997 when he joined the academic faculty as an English teacher, Mr. Morgan now manages the day-to-day work of the High School Academic Program. Although we encourage parents to communicate directly with teachers, Mr. Morgan is the point-person for students and parents with general academic questions or concerns. Next year, he will also continue to teach college Composition courses for the Undergraduate Academic Program and AP English Language and Composition for the High School Academic Program.

Mr. Brock Snyder, Guidance Counselor (snyderb@uncsa.edu / 336-770-1320)

Mr. Snyder is beginning his third year at UNCSA. Mr. Snyder will assist students with course selection and scheduling, college and career planning, including college and scholarship applications, and registrations for the PSAT, SAT, and AP exams. Mr. Snyder will also develop support plans for students with special needs.

Mr. Todd Hoover, Student Information Manager (hoovert@uncsa.edu / 336-770-3245)

Mr. Hoover is responsible for a variety of student support tasks including recording and monitoring student attendance. He works with parents and students in approving pre-arranged absences.

It's now time to begin your **academic course planning** for the 2011-12 school year. Enclosed you will find instructions for accessing course planning information, including directions for accessing an academic course schedule that we have selected for you. Your arts course registration will be handled for you by your arts school. Please review the academic course listing and contact Mr. Snyder (snyderb@uncsa.edu / 336-770-1320) if you have questions or would like to make course changes. If you do not wish to make changes to your schedule, please select "I approve" using the online system. All changes to your academic course selections should be made by **July 20, 2011**. It is important that you approach course selection thoughtfully. Obviously, you want to be mindful of the UNCSA high school graduation requirements, but we also advise students to plan beyond these to meet the minimum admissions requirements of many colleges and universities across the country. As a guide, we use the minimum course requirements of the University of North Carolina system. You may find links to graduation requirements, UNC Minimum Course Requirements, and academic course descriptions, PSAT and SAT registration information, and a list of important academic dates online at

<http://www.uncsa.edu/HScourseplanning> . Note that textbooks for high school courses are provided free of charge.

Now, on to other matters: Enclosed you will also find the following items: The High School Academic Program attendance policy, the **attendance policy acknowledgment form which your parent/guardian must sign and return to us this summer before you enroll**, and information for parents of students with disabilities.

The **High School Parents Support Organization (PSO)** will be greeting you on move-in day. The purpose of the PSO group is to foster a sense of inclusiveness and service for parents near and far. The group also participates in fundraising for the High School Academic Program. Come learn more about the PSO at the hospitality room for new parents in the Connector Building on Friday, Aug. 27th (8:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon)! You will also find membership and directory information from the PSO in this mailing.

Note on the attendance policy: Seniors and parents of seniors should pay particular attention to the procedures on page 3 for being excused for college visits and off-campus auditions. All students and parents should take note of the procedures for being excused for planned absences and the consequences of unexcused absences.

Note on the academic calendar and course credit: With changes in the campus student information system and the change to a semester calendar, credit for High School Academic Program courses will be awarded on a semester basis. In order to receive a full unit of credit for a course, students must pass both semesters of the course. Each semester course grade and the corresponding $\frac{1}{2}$ unit of credit will appear on the student's transcript. We will not average term grades for a year grade.

Final exams are always scheduled during the last three class days of each semester. Please note that students must be present for final exams. Travel and vacation plans are NOT acceptable reasons for excused early departures. Please plan accordingly.

Note on SAT registration: You will not register for the SAT through UNCSA; this is done directly by you through the College Board website (www.collegeboard.com). We will administer the SAT at UNCSA on two dates only: October 1, 2011, and January 28, 2012. Note the registration deadlines and the two code numbers for UNCSA you must submit when you register for these administrations (see material posted online). .

Please contact me or any of the staff if we can be of assistance. We're all anticipating your arrival on August 12th.

Sincerely,

Jill Lane
Dean of the High School Academic Program

P. S.—Don't forget! Submit any course change requests to Mr. Snyder by July 20.