

The Department of
Education Policy Studies

Information for new students : Spring 2008



WELCOME

Classes begin on Monday, January 28, 2008.

The department's **Open House and Orientation** for new students will be held on Thursday, January 24th from 4:00–6:00 pm in the Benjamin Building Room 1107.

Here is some information that you will need as you prepare for the Spring semester.

Things to do before you get to campus

Find accommodation

The University maintains a database of off-campus housing. To search and post your own listing go to <http://www.och.umd.edu/>.

Register

To find out what classes are offered and check which are full, go to <http://www.testudo.umd.edu> and then to the **Schedule of Classes** link. Select the semester, then select "Course Listings," and then the department code.

To register for coursework, select the **Records and Registration** link. You will be asked to enter your student identification number (usually your Student ID number, or social security number) and your PIN number to gain access. If this is the first time you are using TESTUDO, your PIN number will be your birth date in the 6-digit MMDDYY format. After entering it for the first time, you will be prompted to select another PIN number of your choice.

Note: Register on time to avoid being charged a late registration fee of \$20. Take a second to review the Academic Calendar (available from the menu on Testudo: <http://www.testudo.umd.edu>).

Pay bills

To make online payments and check your account balance, go to <http://www.testudo.umd.edu> and select the **Financials** link. If you have billing questions or problems, please call the Bursar's Office (301-405-9041).

Secure a Graduate Assistantship

There are many employment opportunities on campus for graduate students. A full-time assistantship requires that you work 20 hours per week and comes with 10 credit hours of tuition remission (a full-time course load is 9 credit hours). If you have not been able to get an assistantship in EDPS, go to <http://www.personnel.umd.edu/jobposting/cgi-bin/empGRA.idc>, which posts vacancies once a week. Information about assistantships is also circulated regularly on the department's listserv, EDPSCOMM, so hurry and subscribe (see next item).

Join the EDPS listserv



The EDPS listserv is used to announce upcoming events, post assistantship job announcements, scholarship info, important deadlines, promote new courses, etc. All EDPS graduate students should sign up as soon as possible. To join EDPSCOMM all you need is an email account. To subscribe, send the following email message --

Subscribe EDPSCOMM firstname lastname

to this address: Listserv@listserv.umd.edu. You will receive a confirmation message when you successfully subscribe to the list.

Apply for a parking permit

For those who intend to drive to campus on a regular basis, apply for a parking permits online at: <http://www.transportation.umd.edu/parking/studentpermit.html>

**Please note: Free parking is available after 4pm in lots Z, AA, and 1

Things to do as soon as you get to campus

Provide your immunization record

The University of Maryland requires all new students to provide documentation of measles, mumps and rubella and tetanus/diphtheria vaccination. Additionally, all students residing on campus must be vaccinated against bacterial meningitis or sign a waiver. The University Health Center's number is 301-314-8184 if you need more information. You may also call the Orientation Office (301-314-8217) to sign up for an orientation session.



Pick up an ID Card

A UMD student ID card is essential to have and can be obtained at the Public Inquiry Counter in the lobby of the Mitchell Building Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 and 5:00. You may call 301-314-8219 to schedule an appointment for a photo ID card after the usual working hours or on a Saturday.



Open an email account

You can get your University of Maryland EMAIL and PRINTING account at the Office of Information Technology (OIT) in the Computer Science Building. You will need your UM Photo ID card (see above). For information contact the OIT help desk at 301-405-1500 or <http://www.helpdesk.umd.edu/documents/4/4367/>

Things you'll find on campus

Transportation

The Shuttle-UM and Alternative Transportation links on the Department of Transportation Services (<http://www.transportation.umd.edu>) will give you all the information you need on getting around and to and from campus if you don't drive (shuttle schedules, maps, Metro connections et al).

Library Information

Typically, to use the campus libraries you must have a permanent UMCP photo ID card with an activated barcode. To learn more about our wonderful library system go to <http://www.lib.umd.edu/>

University Health Center

Call 301.314.8184 for an appointment or visit <http://www.health.umd.edu/>



Resources in the College of Education

The College of Education's Student Services web site has important information for new and current graduate students and links to campus resources, forms, important dates, and more. Please review this site and visit it frequently: <http://www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/>.

Resources for graduate students

The Graduate School web site is another very useful resource (graduate school forms, publications, financial info, and more): <http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/>. For Campus Resources, Health Insurance, Legal Aid Info and Campus Services (with more links!) go to: <http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/services.html>

Things about being a graduate student



Books, etc.

Order new and used textbooks and more online through the University Book Center at <http://www.ubc.umd.edu>

Maintaining mental health

The Counseling Center (<http://www.counseling.umd.edu/>) offers a range of services and support. If you require accommodations because of a documented learning disability, contact Disability Support Services in the Counseling Center, 0126 Shoemaker Building (Ph: 301-314-7682 and at <http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/>)



Prepare for your next career

We know you just got here but its never to early to start planning your next move with the help of the Career Center - <http://www.careercenter.umd.edu/>

Get to know the diverse UMD community

The University of Maryland, College Park, has one of the most demographically diverse campuses in the United States. On the **Diversity Timeline** (<http://www.ohrp.umd.edu/divtimeline/>) you can track the university's evolution from a segregated institution to a diverse community. The Diversity Initiative works closely with our department. To learn more and get involved go to <http://www.ohrp.umd.edu/campus/divinitiative.html>.

And now for something completely different ...

Make time to play!

Graduate study is demanding. But graduate school is more than books and seminars. Regular rest and recreation are **ESSENTIAL**. To catch a movie at our state-of-the-art Hoff Theater, learn about campus student associations, open a banking account, buy concert tickets, take ballroom dancing, find places to eat and other activities, go to the Stamp Student Union (<http://www.union.umd.edu/>).



The Washington, D.C. metro area offers diversions and activities to suit all tastes (literally and figuratively). Take advantage of free access to the Smithsonian museums. The Ethiopian restaurants in Adams Morgan are said to be exceptional.

There are large and small venues for all kinds of music. The Kennedy Center offers tickets at special rates for students.

Make your voice heard!

Get involved in student organizations. The EDPS/EDHI Graduate Student Association represents you in faculty meetings, the university-wide Graduate Students Association and College of Education assembly.



Still have questions? The faculty and staff in the Department of Education Policy Studies are here to help you. Try any one of the following people:

- Your advisor:** you're assigned an academic advisor when you're accepted into an EDPS Masters or Ph.D. program. Put your query to your advisor in the first instance.

EDPS Office Staff

- Jeanie Yerby:** Coordinator, 2110E Benjamin; (301) 405-3603/ jyerby@umd.edu.
- Lattisha Hall:** Program Management Specialist, 2110 Benjamin; (301) 405-3570 / lhawk@umd.edu.

Department of Education Policy Studies
Room 2110, Benjamin Building
University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742
301-405-3570 (Main Department Number) / 301-405-3573 (Fax)
<http://www.education.umd.edu/EDPS/>