

Dawg Camp! Dawg Camp! The Place to Be!



Rick Gray

Assistant Director

Maggie Szeman

Graduate Assistant

Center for Leadership and Service
The University of Georgia

UGA Context

- The University of Georgia has a total enrollment of nearly 35,000 students
- Approximately 5,000 first-year students enroll in the Fall semester
- No existing first- year programs or common seminar experience
- 2010 Quality Enhancement Plan for SACS is the First Year Experience

What is Dawg Camp?

- Dawg Camp originated as an extended orientation program sponsored by the Center for Leadership and Service at The University of Georgia, open to any incoming first-year student.
- Dawg Camp is not affiliated with the traditional orientation experience through Admissions, and is not a requirement for students to attend prior to their first year.
- There are four different Dawg Camp experiences offered each summer, each focusing on a different theme, while incorporating first-year transition issues.



Outcomes

- Develop meaningful relationships with peers and upperclassmen
- Foster an inclusive environment where everyone is celebrated
- Begin self-awareness and self-discovery to channel involvement and career goals
- Identify a variety of transition issues facing first-year students
- Ignite a passion and love for The University of Georgia



High School Outreach

- Workshop panels for high schools juniors and seniors in surrounding areas and UGA feeder schools
- Preparing students for the college application process and transition issues
- Panel of student leaders fielding questions and sharing early college advice
- Recruitment for Dawg Camps and UGA

Sample High School Workshop

- 1-1.5 hours
- Promote UGA and Dawg Camp information (10 min)
- Work with school to tailor presentation points to the needs of students (20 min)
 - Finances: FAFSA, Grants, Scholarships, Work Study, etc.
 - Major Exploration: Career Centers, Advising, General Education requirements, etc.
 - College Decision Process: Size, Location, cost, requirements, programs, etc.
- Student Leader Panel (30-45 min)
 - Focus on transition issues and collegiate themes

Dawg Camp Discovery

- Discover your own community at UGA before classes ever begin through a three-day leadership retreat and get a head start to your college experience!
- Flagship Dawg Camp program accommodating 250 participants and approximately 50 staff members
- Housed in the Center for Leadership and Service



Signature Aspects:

- UGA History and Traditions
- Captain's Coming
- Stand Up, Sit Down





Dawg Camp Classic City

- Make a difference through volunteering in Athens, known as the Classic City, in this direct hands-on service experience with other incoming first-year students!
- Accommodates 10 campers and 2 counselors per five-day experience; 2 sessions each summer
- Housed in Center for Leadership and Service

Signature Aspects:

- Hands-On service projects
- Servant Leadership



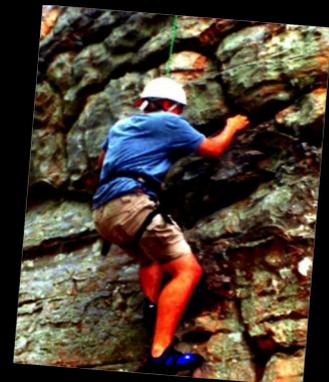
servi

Dawg Camp Adventure

- Head outside for a wilderness adventure with a small group of incoming first-year students while making connections that will last for years!
- Accommodates 16 participants and 4 counselors over a six-day experience; 2 sessions per summer
- Collaboration with Recreation Sports office

Signature Aspects:

- Kayaking & Rafting
- Rock Climbing & Hiking



Leadership Skills

Dawg Camp Fusion

- Fuse yourself into the music scene, culture, and arts of the great city of Athens while creating relationships with fellow incoming first-year students!
- Accommodates 10-12 participants and two counselors per for a five-day experience in June
- Collaboration with Student Activities office

Signature Events:

- Athfest concerts
- Radio Station & Recording Studio



What Will You Get At Dawg Camp?

- Leadership and Personality Inventory
- Diversity Awareness
- Teambuilding
- First-Year Transition Issues
- Campus Involvement and Resources
- Developing relationships prior to the first year



Academic Courses

- ECHD 1537: Peer Leadership in the First Year
- One credit seminar course for Dawg Camp participants; 1-2 credits for Peer Leaders
- Peer Leaders facilitate small group discussions and activities
- Incorporates assignments and discussion threads for reflection and feedback
- Utilized Social Change Model and Relational Leadership Model as theoretical foundation

Sample Activities:

- *A Class Divided* documentary
- Campus Involvement Action Plan

ECHD 3715 Content

COURSE OUTLINE

Date	In-Class Topics	Assignments Due
Aug 18	Team Building & Initial Thoughts on Leadership	
Aug 25	Leadership Models: Social Change & Relational Models of Leadership (Knowing/Being/Doing)	Syllabus Scavenger Hunt; Initial Thoughts on Leadership Reflection Paper
Sept 1	Who am I, and How do I Lead? – Understanding Self & Tendencies	Leadership Inventory Completion; Fall Activities Fair Attendance (9/1 10:30a-3p, Tate Plaza)
Sept 8	What do I care about? How do I want to spend my time at UGA? Passion Exploration & Involvement Plans	Leadership Interview Documentation/Reflection
Sept 15	Inclusive Leadership	G Book Kickoff Attendance (9/9, 5-7p, Brumby Beach); Involvement Action Plan
Sept 22	Cooperation, Collaboration, and Community	Volunteer Fair Attendance (9/21, 11a-1p & 4p-7p; Tate Center Grand Hall);
Sept 29	What do I value? – Leading with Integrity	Current Events Article Reflection
Oct 6	Pulling it all together – Social Change Model & Global Perspectives on Leadership	
Nov 3	Reunion ☺	Leadership Portfolio Due
Dec 15	Final Exam Period, 3:30 – 6:30p	*In class or online

ECHD 1537 Assignments

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment	Weight
Exploration & Involvement Fair Attendance (Fall Activities Fair; G Book Kickoff; Volunteer Fair)	5%
Leadership Inventory	5%
Leadership In Action Reflections (Leadership Interview 70%; Current Events Reflection 30%)	10%
Service Project Participation (Participate in a Day of Service Event sponsored by CLS)	5%
Campus/Community Involvement Action Plan	10%
Learning Activities (Participation 20%; In-class activities at announced/unannounced times 30%; Leadership Reflection Journals 50%)	30%
Leadership Portfolio	30%
Comprehensive and Reflective Final Exam	5%

Dawg Campus

- Series of campus programs and workshops open to ALL first-year students
- Topics chosen from an online survey administered to Dawg Campers
- Include educational and social opportunities

Sample Topics:

- Finances & Life Skills
- Linking Passion to Campus Involvement
- Campus Exploration



Skills
nament



Sample Dawg Campus Program

- 1 hour, held in Student Center
- Facilitated by student staff members
- Include activity related to theme
 - Finances: Budget template, Debt calculator
- Small group breakouts for dialogue, questions, and advice sharing
- Bring in campus entities when appropriate
 - Financial aid to discuss loans and grants
 - Career Center to discuss choosing a major

Dawg Camp Staff Experience

- Student-run program with multi-tiered leadership opportunities
- Executive Board
 - Recruitment
 - Staff Training and Development
 - Logistics and Technology
 - Special Programs coordination
 - Program development and enhancement
- Forty-two student staff members
 - 36 Counselors
 - 6 Crew Members
- Comprehensive Training Program totaling 45+ hours



Staff Development Outcomes

- Identify first-year needs and support students through transition
- Develop effective facilitation skills
- Cultivate mentor relationship with participants
- Enhance communication and active listening
- Explore conflict management and group dynamics
- Increase knowledge of institutional resources



Student Impact

Come to Dawg Camp. Take the leap, and trust that you will be caught

Camp is life changing

It is 48 hours of pushing yourself to new limits and realizing your capabilities.

I knew that I was ready for UGA and that the next four years were going to be the best of my life.

Dawg Camp truly is the foundation of my college career.

individuals and the importance of hearing the stories of others rather than coming to uninformed

It awakens a drive, passion, and love in all students for the University as a whole

Staff Impact

- ◆ Serving as a Counselor gave me the confidence to put myself out there and be outgoing, to be a leader around campus, to efficiently public speak, and to be myself.
- ◆ Being a counselor at Dawg Camp has been the most rewarding opportunity I've had so far at UGA. Not only because I received so much from my experience, but knowing I've had the chance to help others have a similar one.
- ◆ Words cannot describe how incredible my experience as a counselor has been. Out of all the things I'm involved with at UGA, Dawg Camp has been the most exciting, fun and rewarding of them all.
- ◆ This weekend was about making sure freshman know they are never alone, they are highly valued and they are extremely capable.

Pre/Post Assessment

Significant increase in the following statements:

- I am prepared to attend UGA in the Fall
- I am knowledgeable about opportunities on campus at UGA
- I am knowledgeable about academic resources on campus
- I recognize that my actions may affect the larger community
- I believe I can make a difference in my community
- I seek to understand the experiences of others who are different from me
- I have the ability to consider others' points of view
- I have several close friendships with fellow UGA students
- I can articulate how I prefer to interact within a group setting

Questions?

Dawg Camp Website:

www.uga.edu/dawgcamp

Dawg Camp Blog:

www.blawgcamp.tumblr.com

Email: rgray@uga.edu