2015 New Student Orientation Parent Wrap Up Session

School Zone

Rules of the Road Differ

Less hours of class (Going to class is the tip of the iceberg)
Going to class is akin to having a two-day work-week
More unscripted time but more hours of homework, library, research
GPA is a blank slate (only as good as your first semester)

Academics First (tiny.cc/planforsuccess)

Look at your class schedule and syllabi and create a study schedule
• Where and when are you planning to study?
• The earlier in the day and the earlier in the week, the better
• "Later" never comes
• If you fail to plan then plan to fail

RR Crossing (Read and React)

Official emails from university (check your Catamount email)
Syllabi (assignments and deadlines)
Online Catalog (Academic Regulations) (catalog.wcu.edu)
Degree Audit (tiny.cc/degreeaudit)
Academic Calendar (tiny.cc/academiccalendar)

Wrong Way (Steer Clear of Poor Choices)

Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement (dsce.wcu.edu)
Alcohol and Substance Abuse (dsce.wcu.edu)
Sexual Harassment or Violence (tiny.cc/studentawareness)

Roads Diverge

Make Informed Choices

Advising Center & Advising Day (advising.wcu.edu)
Pre-professional Advising
Resident Assistants and Case Managers
Career Services (careers.wcu.edu)
First Year Experience (fye.wcu.edu)
Professors' Office Hours

Pedestrian Crossing (Share the road)

Community Creed (dsce.wcu.edu)
(Be respectful of and concerned for your neighbors)
Professors, Staff, RAs, University Police, Roommates, Classmates, Community

Speed Bumps (Delays to Graduation)

Withdrewals and Incompletes
Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) issues
Low GPA or Low Percentage of Course Completion (67% rule) (tiny.cc/academicprogress)
Tuition Surcharge (surcharge.wcu.edu)
Poor personal choices

Construction Zone (Your future is under construction)

Building Your Transcript
Completing your degree audit (tiny.cc/degreeaudit)
Co-op and Internships (careers.wcu.edu)
Study abroad (studyabroad.wcu.edu)
Campus employment (studentemployment.wcu.edu)
Co-curricular involvement (westerncarolinauniversity.orgsync.com/SO_home)

Recognize Rest Areas and Welcome Centers

Writing and Learning Commons (walc.wcu.edu)
Math Tutoring Center (mathlab.wcu.edu)
Intercultural Affairs (ica.wcu.edu)
Counseling & Psychological Services (counselingcenter.wcu.edu)
Student Support Services (tiny.cc/studentsupport)
Health Services (studenthealth.wcu.edu)
**No Parking** (Get out of your room and get involved)

Good question to ask:
“What new or interesting thing did you do this week?”
- Convocation and Class of 2019 Photo
- Valley Ballyhoo and Week of Welcome
- CAT Fair (student organizations) and Student Employment Fair
- Catamount Athletics (www.catamountsports.com)
- Intramurals and Club Sports (reccenter.wcu.edu)
- Base Camp Cullowhee (basecamp.wcu.edu)

**Bringing a car to campus**
Will having a car drive you to your future or return you to your past?
- Ride Post (WCU.RidePost.com)
- Fines for parking in the wrong places
- Academic Incentive: parking rate decreases based on class standing

Two ways to Think About the Parking Issue
- Test drive the first semester or year without a car
  “Show me the grades, then I’ll show you the car keys.”
- Base bringing a car back spring semester on academic performance
  “Show me good grades or give me your car keys.”

**Steep Grade Ahead**

**Baseball Analogies**
- From the minor leagues to the major leagues
- Pitches you’ve seen before (i.e., writing, math) but the pitches are tougher

**Roughly 1 in 10 of the students last fall went the wrong way on the steep grade**

**Remember the destination of this road trip**
- Graduation with Honors or Distinction (start strong so you can finish strong)
- Open doors to career options (graduate or professional school)

**Stop** (Take care of unfinished business)

Check your Catamount email frequently
Complete the Release of Information (tiny.cc/releaseinfo)
Complete the Health Insurance Waiver (tiny.cc/insurancewaiver)
Submit Final transcripts/records (August 1 deadline to avoid having schedule dropped)
View the Shots Fired Video (tiny.cc/preparednessinfo)
Complete Alcohol Edu and Haven Training (dsce.wcu.edu)
Finalize Financial Aid (tiny.cc/finaidinfo)
Pay bills (Mid July) (August 1 deadline: avoid having schedule dropped)
Contact Roommate (Mid July)
Discuss Medical History
Read and React to move-in day instructions
Freshman Convocation
First-year Reading: *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates*
### School Zone - Academics First
- Destination Graduation
- Grades start over
- Class time is tip of iceberg
- Create study schedule

### RR Crossing - Read & React
- Official emails
- Syllabi & Online Catalog
- Degree Audit
- Academic Calendar
- Dates & Deadlines

### Wrong Way - Poor Choices
- Plagiarism
- Copyright Infringement
- Drinking & Substance Abuse
- Sexual Violence or Assault

### Informed Choices
- Recognize the Welcome Centers

### Pedestrian Crossing - Community Creed
- Share the Road
- Considerate of Others
- Know when to give Right of Way

### Speed Bumps - Delays to Graduation
- Withdraw & Incompletes
- Tuition Surcharge
- Satisfactory Academic Progress Issues
- Low GPA - 67% Rule
- Poor Personal Choices

### Construction Zone - Building your Resume
- Academics
- Experience
- Involvement

### No Parking - Get Involved
- Convocation & Freshman Assembly
- WOW & Valley Ballyhoo
- Athletics, Intramurals, BaseCamp Cullowhee
- Car or No Car

### Steep Grade Ahead
- Welcome to the Big League
- No Weighted GPA
- Academic Program
- Entrance Requirements

### Homework
- Check Catamount Email Often
- Complete Release of Information
- Health Insurance Waiver
- Submit Final Transcripts
- View Shots Fired
- Complete Alcohol Edu and Haven Training
- Finalize Financial Aid
- Pay Bills
- Contact Roommate
- Discuss Student Medical History
- Read & React to Move-In Day Instructions
- Read First-Year Reading
- Attend Freshman Convocation