

The University of Washington
Transfer eNewsletter

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Please visit us online at <http://www.transfernews.washington.edu> for the full version of the Transfer eNewsletter, including many useful links, an interview with a current UW transfer student, past issues of the newsletter, and more!

Welcome from the Editor

By Megan McConnell, Editor, Transfer eNewsletter

The Transfer eNewsletter goes out quarterly during the academic year to prospective transfer students and advisers at the community colleges in the state. I am pleased and honored to see our readership statistics growing and growing—more than 9,400 visits to this website were made in the last year! I hope that the articles included in this and previous issues of the eNewsletter have helped and are helping students with the transfer process to the UW.

In this issue, the wide variety of programs and opportunities available at the UW is very apparent. In our “cover story,” we highlight Exploration Seminars, which take UW students to places all around the globe with a faculty member in the month leading up to Autumn quarter to look at interesting questions and problems. This year, students will be traveling to such far-flung places as Venice, Sierra Leone, Belfast, and Taiwan, as well as places closer to home like Willapa Bay, WA, and Ashland, OR. All without having to be away from campus for the main three quarters of the year! Transfer students can apply, though the application deadline is right around the corner, so take a look and consider earning some credit in an exotic destination!

We also feature the Summer Institute in the Arts and Humanities, an exciting summer opportunity open to students from across all disciplines who are interested in the arts and humanities. This year’s theme, “New Directions in Cultural Research: Community Collaboration Practice,” highlights the interconnectedness between cultural studies and community engagement and offers participants opportunities at some amazing community site partners in media, film, and stage. Transfer applicants for Autumn who are still awaiting their admissions response ARE eligible to apply, please note!

In “Outside the Classroom,” we take a look at one of the perks of being a UW student: the ready availability of great art, most of which is free to view for students, on campus.

Finally, there are some exciting announcements included here—the fact that we’ll be teaching American Sign Language for the first time ever this fall, as well as several great scholarship and research opportunities.

I want to thank you for being one of the thousands who will take the time to read the Transfer eNewsletter this year and hope that you’ll pass the link along to anyone else you may know who has an interest in transferring to the UW. Maybe next year, we’ll hit 10,000 visits!

Exploration Seminars Make Global Study More Accessible to UW Students

By Theron Stevenson, Director of International Programs, UW Comparative History of Ideas

If you have ever thought that study abroad sounds like a great idea, but it's not for you, you may want to think again. The [University of Washington Exploration Seminars](#) are boodesigned to make global study more accessible to a larger group of students than ever before.

Scheduled between the end of summer quarter and the start of autumn quarter, these short (usually four-week) programs allow students to earn five credits abroad and still stay on their academic track without missing sequential classes or graduating late. And while they may be short jumps into the pool of international study, they are most certainly not on the shallow end! Each program has been designed around focused, engaging questions about our world. Thus one program will have students gathering geological data on the volcanoes of the Canary Islands, another has students exploring sustainable business practices in Thailand and Cambodia, while yet another requires students to explore the neighborhoods of Belfast, looking for the ways that Northern Ireland's troubled history remains alive today. In all there are 33 Exploration Seminars in five continents planned for early fall of 2007, each directed by UW faculty covering virtually any academic interest.

Because the goal of Exploration Seminars is to make global study more widely available, very few of them have any prerequisites, none have language requirements, and students from all areas of study at all three University of Washington campuses are eligible to apply. Recruitment started at the beginning of winter quarter, and has now opened up to non-matriculated, graduate, and incoming transfer students. Because participants will earn fall quarter UW credits, students who are eligible for Federal Financial Aid may apply for increased aid to pay for the Seminars. Also, any UW student can apply for the [Office of International Programs and Exchanges](#) study abroad scholarships.

The first Exploration Seminars took place in 2003, organized in partnership with the [College of Arts and Sciences](#), the [Office of International Programs and Exchanges](#), and the [Comparative History of Ideas Program](#), joined more recently by the UW [Office of Global Affairs](#). All parties involved share an appreciation for the ways that study abroad can change the way students see the world and also themselves. As one veteran of a 2006 Exploration Seminar wrote, "this trip made me think critically about my position as a global citizen and what I can contribute to the world to positively affect and change it."

Applications will be accepted until the end of winter quarter, but the selection process has already begun, so it is a good idea to apply sooner than later. The Exploration Seminar website has pages of information, including a description of each Seminar, along with contact information for all of the Program Directors, each of whom welcomes your inquiries about his or her Seminar. General inquiries can be directed to explore@u.washington.edu.

Why Does It Take So Long, Anyway?

By Susan Inman, Admissions Counselor

Notification for autumn transfer admission takes place in June and July. Because we receive thousands of applications every year, the review process is lengthy. The University takes great care in assessing applications and does not rush the selection of future students. While this process requires patience on the part of many applicants, the benefit is that each applicant is reviewed as an individual.

Step 1: The Receipt of Your Application

One to two weeks after your application has arrived in the mail or been downloaded from the on-line application system, the Office of Admissions sends a letter confirming that we have received your application. This acknowledgement letter contains a private access number and instructions, which together allow applicants to set up their own online account on MyUW.

Step 2: Monitoring Your Application Through MyUW

Through the MyUW account, applicants can verify information on file for them, such as transcripts and test scores. Applicants may use this same process to check their application status while it moves through the process.

(Applicants who are admitted to the University will find that MyUW becomes their homepage portal for the UW. This portal provides personalized University information relating to classes, tuition, housing, athletics, etc. MyUW also provides information about current events and campus news.)

The admissions office does not routinely notify applicants that required documents are missing from their files. This is why it is important for each applicant to establish a MyUW account to monitor the application process. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit all required materials as described in the application instructions, which are available on the [admissions website](#) and in print, primarily *Transfer Admissions & Planning*.

Step 3: Creating Your Application File

Applications cannot be considered if any required components are missing after the application deadline. The Admissions office staff creates a paper file for each applicant. As supporting documents arrive – and there are thousands of high school and college transcripts – they are carefully matched to each application file. For this reason, it is critical that your name, date of birth, and Social Security are consistent on all documents, and that you indicate on your application any previous names you have used on official documents.

To determine an applicant's eligibility for admission to the University, high school and college transcripts are checked to verify completion of [core subject requirements](#). An applicant's transfer grade-point average (GPA) is calculated using all previously completed college-level academic course work. A Transfer GPA of at least a 2.50 and completion of the core subjects ensures that the application file moves on to the comprehensive review process.

Step 4: The Review of Your Application File

Members of the admissions staff individually review each application at least twice. The comprehensive review is a holistic assessment of an applicant's academic background and performance as well as personal qualities and achievements. Information provided in the application, transcripts and the personal statement plays an integral role in our understanding the applicant and making a fair assessment.

A handful of UW majors are competitive, and students who have completed major prerequisites must apply for those majors by departmental deadlines that range from January through July. Information about application deadlines for individual departments can be found in a variety of places, including the University [general course catalog](#). After departments review major applications, they notify the Office of Admissions of their decision. The admissions committee is then able to incorporate the department's recommendations into the final admission decision. This is an important step for University admission decisions and may affect the notification timeline. Applicants should be aware that, because of departmental deadlines and review processes, not everyone is notified at the same time.

Step 5: The Application Decision

After months of individual reviews, the assessed applications are ready for the toughest part of admissions: final decisions. Taking into consideration application assessment and enrollment priorities, we try to select those applicants who stood out in the assessment and look like the best fit for the University community.

Admitted students display qualities that predict academic success and will enhance the intellectual and cultural vitality of the university. The Office of Admissions tries to build a class that will create a stimulating educational environment and that will have the greatest chance at success in the professions and communities in which they will serve and lead.

In the selection process, the Office of Admissions dedicates thirty percent of the available spaces each year to students transferring directly from Washington community colleges.

Step 6: Notification

As soon as decisions are made, applicants are notified by mail. Applicants who are admitted first receive a letter and then a *Welcome* booklet with complete instructions on how to confirm their enrollment.

Coming Autumn 2007: American Sign Language

By Megan McConnell, Academic Counselor, Gateway Center

Plans are underway for the University of Washington to begin teaching American Sign Language (ASL) in Autumn 2007. ASL has always satisfied the UW's foreign language requirement, but up until now, UW students wanting to take it have had to take it at one of the region's community colleges, whether prior to transfer or while concurrently enrolled in other classes at the UW.

Whether the UW will teach two years of ASL (introductory and intermediate) or just the first year has not yet been decided.

The Summer Institute in the Arts and Humanities

By Jessica Salvador, Graduate Staff Assistant, Undergraduate Research Program, Center for Experiential Learning

The theme for the 2007 Summer Institute in the Arts and Humanities, which will run from June 18th to August 17th, is: “New Directions in Cultural Research: Community Collaboration Practice.” It will be taught as an intensive, site-based practicum in emerging methods and practices of engaged cultural studies research. These emerging practices combine interpretive, ethnographic, and performance-based methods, and open avenues for scholars to participate as creative producers as well as critical interpreters of culture and cultural artifacts.

Where the academic humanities have traditionally focused on textual and archival researches, new social and technological developments have recently pushed the humanities to new engagements with everything from new media to new community partnerships. Research and teaching agendas in the humanities are consequently adapting to develop collaborative and community-based orientations. These new orientations have on the one-hand led the humanities into productive exchange with the qualitative social sciences (which have deeper and longer histories of practical, community engagement and development) and the arts (which focus on creative production and have become increasingly central to discussions of community development). These engagements in turn have illuminated the strength of community-based arts and culture projects as a site for humanistic research, but also highlighted arts and culture as methods that can renew community-based research within the social sciences.

While the field sites for the faculty and students’ individual and collaborative investigations will focus on particular themes and media (including youth experience, immigrant experience, democracy and social movements, explored through theater performance, TV production and video documentary), the emphasis of the course will be on providing students with the flexible skills needed to frame and engage cultural investigations and collaborations at multiple sites of possible or future research. Possible community site partners under discussion for the 2007 Summer Institute include 911 Media Arts, African Immigrant Television (with SCAN-TV), Reel Girls, and/or Children’s Youth Theatre.

The Institute will be led by the following faculty: Craig Jeffrey (Assistant Professor, Geography and Jackson School of International Studies, UW Seattle); Ron Krabill (Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, UW Bothell); and Kari Lerum (Associate Professor, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, UW Bothell).

Participants in the 2007 Summer Institute will be selected through an open, competitive application process. The application is due by Monday, April 2nd, 2007, and applications from students currently pending UW admission will be considered.

Students who are interested in the Summer Institute are reminded that the Institute theme changes annually. Previous Institute themes include, “Nature Matters: On the Varieties of Environmental Experience,” “Culture and Globalization,” “Trauma, Time, and Memory,” and “Becoming Strangers.” Institute themes and student applications are released at the beginning of every Winter Quarter.

Should you have any questions about the Summer Institute, please do not hesitate to e-mail the Undergraduate Research Program at urp@u.washington.edu.

Environmental Health Undergraduate Program: Slight Change to Admission Requirements

By James Meadows, Academic Counselor

Since 1947, the Environmental Health Undergraduate Program has trained hundreds of undergraduates to protect people in the Puget Sound region and beyond from man-made and naturally occurring human health hazards like arsenic in drinking water or *methylmercury* in certain types of fish. Our major differs from most University of Washington science majors in that we are small (under 60 students) and our classes even smaller. Our students enjoy the opportunity to study a science-based discipline in an intimate and friendly environment. Since all of our undergraduate courses are taught by faculty, our students are known to the faculty. Also, a number of our undergrads are able to collaborate with faculty on research projects. In addition, because the admission prerequisites overlap most suggested courses for medical school preparation, several Environmental Health students choose to prepare for admission to medical school in our major.

The Undergraduate Program admission requirements have changed slightly. We are still a *minimum requirement* major. This means if you complete our prerequisites, you can enter the major. There is no application competition at this time. However, you must now earn a *2.0 or higher in all chemistry and biology prerequisite* courses to be guaranteed admission. If you earn a grade(s) below 2.0 in your chemistry or biology prerequisites, the Program Manager will review your case with the Department Chair who will then make a decision about entry to the major. Please keep in mind that a prerequisite biology or chemistry grade below 2.0 will not automatically disqualify you from admission.

Our prerequisites are as follows:

General Chemistry	1 year: CHEM 142, 152, 162
Organic Chemistry	1 year: CHEM 237, 238, 239 (or CHEM 223, 224)
Introductory Biology	1 year: BIO 180, 200 220
English Composition	1 quarter: ENGL 131 or equivalent
Calculus	1 quarter: MATH 124 or equivalent

If you are interested in more information about the Environmental Health Undergraduate Major at the University of Washington, Seattle, I'd like to hear from you. Please email the Undergraduate Program Manager at ehug@u.washington.edu. You can also visit our [website](#).

Environmental Health Sciences Funded Summer Research Internships

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 22ND

The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (home to the Environmental Health Undergraduate Program) is sponsoring eight exciting Funded Research Internships this summer.

Our internships are for rising junior and senior science students who wish to collaborate on environmental health research projects with faculty in the department. *We are particularly interested in applications from underrepresented science students.* Because environmental health is necessarily an interdisciplinary field, our faculty researchers have doctorates in chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, bioengineering, pharmacology or toxicology. Some of our faculty researchers are medical doctors with backgrounds in public health and/or epidemiology.

For more information about our funded research internships including application procedures please visit the our [website](#) or contact Rory Murphy at rmurphy@u.washington.edu.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 22ND

Bachelor of Arts to be Offered in Biochemistry

By Lani Stone, Academic Counselor

The Chemistry Department is in the process of creating a bachelor of arts in Biochemistry. The Department has been given “permission to develop” status from the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) with final approval of the degree awaiting HECB approval. The proposed BA in Biochemistry is designed for students who are interested in studying biochemistry, but who are seeking a broader educational experience than is practical given the extensive upper-division lecture and laboratory requirements of the existing bachelor of science degree. The BA in Biochemistry requires 180 credits (the BS in Biochemistry requires 196 credits) involving a variety of elective courses in related sciences, history, and public policy. The BA degree program will provide students with a fundamental background in biochemistry, and also gives students the chance to expand their educational focus with courses in related areas of interest. We hope to have the BA in place by autumn quarter 2007.

Please contact advisers@chem.washington.edu if you have any questions regarding the proposed BA in Biochemistry.

Applied and Computational Mathematical Sciences (ACMS)

The Applied & Computational Mathematical Sciences major has changed its admissions requirements. Effective Winter quarter, 2007, it is no longer a competitive major. It is now a minimum requirements major. The admissions requirements to declare the major are as follows:

A GPA of at least 2.50 in the following courses, with a minimum grade of 2.0 in each course: CSE 142; MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126; one from MATH 307, MATH 308, MATH 310, AMATH 351, AMATH 352.

AP scores can be used to satisfy the Math 124, 125 requirements.

Evening Degree Program: A Life Changing Opportunity

By Connie Montgomery, Director, Advising and Recruitment, UW Educational Outreach

"This experience has changed my life" is a common expression heard by those of us who have the privilege of working with Evening Degree Program students. Hailing from board rooms to art studios, the Seattle Times to Metro Transit, Microsoft and Boeing to social service agencies, EDP students range in ages 20-60+ and come from all walks of life to complete their degrees. Personal enrichment, fulfilling a lifelong goal, "beating my kids to college graduation," career advancement and a passion for lifelong learning bring them here. These dedicated individuals often balance school with full-time job and family responsibilities while maintaining very strong GPA's. They come alive at night, finding learning ignites them with energy and passion. Often, fears about success accompany Evening Degree students who may have been absent from college for 1 to 20 years. Those fears quickly dissipate as they engage with the strong community of support that they find in the program. "I was so impressed with the support I got from my fellow students. The openness about their lives and willingness to engage in real discussions wasn't like any other experience I had up to this point," was a comment from a recent graduate. One instructor coined the phrase, 'EDP: Exceptionally Dedicated People,' from his experience teaching such motivated and committed students. Faculty find great fulfillment teaching in Evening Degree. They are often amazed at the vitality and engagement these students bring to the classroom.

While everyone else is ending their academic day, these students arrive on campus to begin exploring a rich, diverse curriculum. They learn about Medicine in America, Pow Wow Tradition and Innovation, Geography of Inequality, News Writing, Studies in Short Fiction, International Environmental Politics, Communication Conflict and Cooperation, Consumption and Consumerism in the Modern United States, the Arts in Japan, and Greek Mythology. They also share stories about their lives and work practices as they relate to the topics presented. "I found myself learning about what happens in other companies and organizations. Then, I bring those ideas back to my work place. I give people suggestions, too. I never expected my work in business and my liberal arts education to overlap in this way," was one student's observation. The synergy of the curriculum, students' life experience and strong community make for a very unique and rewarding learning opportunity.

The Evening Degree Program quarterly application deadlines are separate from the day program's. It is a degree completion program, so all of the students have transferred to the UW from at least one other institution and sometimes five or six! The web address for the Evening Degree program is www.evedegree.washington.edu. The program has five majors: Communication, English, Humanities, Social Science and Health Information Administration. International and domestic students are encouraged to apply. With a separate application process from the day, many students can qualify. We have space and love to talk with prospective students about their goals. The deadline for summer is May 15 and autumn is July 15. If you know of students who might enjoy a strong sense of community, smaller classes and a truly enriching experience, please refer them to the UW Evening Degree Program.

Upcoming UW and Departmental Application Deadlines

Selected upcoming UW and Departmental Admission Deadlines of interest to prospective undergraduate transfer students.

<u>Construction Management</u> (Autumn entrance)	April 1, 2007
<u>Social Welfare</u> (Autumn entrance)	April 2, 2007
<u>Business School</u> (Autumn entrance)	April 5, 2007
<u>Informatics</u> (Autumn entrance)	April 15, 2007
<u>Community, Environment, and Planning</u> (Autumn entrance)	May 7, 2007
<u>Architectural Studies</u> (Autumn entrance)	May 15, 2007

All these programs require separate application to the UW for the appropriate quarter, which means the applicant would have already had to apply to the UW for Autumn quarter, since the UW application deadline was February 15, 2007.

For longer range planning, the following are the next application deadlines for the University of Washington, Seattle.

<u>UW Evening Degree Program</u> , Summer Quarter	May 15, 2007
<u>UW Evening Degree Program</u> , Autumn Quarter	July 15, 2007
<u>UW Admission</u> , Winter Quarter	September 15, 2007
<u>UW Evening Degree Program</u> , Winter Quarter	October 31, 2007
<u>UW Admission</u> , International Students (Autumn '08 entrance)	January 15, 2008

Outside the Classroom: Art on Campus

By Megan McConnell, Academic Counselor, Gateway Center

When classes are taxing their energies and the skies are gray, UW students have several oases of visual art to ease their burdens and help them escape to another place. Whether you're an art major or just an art lover, the variety of art found on campus, open for the viewing, can be a wonderful salve for the worn-out soul.

The [Henry Art Gallery](#) is the northwest's premier gallery for contemporary art. It is located on the western edge of the University of Washington campus at 15th Avenue NE and NE 41st Street. The museum's exhibitions bring important works of art to Seattle from throughout the world and provide a platform for the public to view works of art from the Northwest. These exhibitions and their related programs invite discussion about contemporary culture, politics, aesthetics and the traditions of visual art and design of the last two centuries. The Henry's permanent collection of over 20,500 objects includes late 19th and 20th century paintings, the extensive Monsen Collection of Photography, and a textile and costume collection, along with a rapidly growing collection of cutting-edge works in new media.

Founded in 1927, the Henry was the first public art museum in the state of Washington. The museum's major renovation and expansion, completed in April 1997, quadrupled the museum's size - from 10,000 square feet to over 40,000 square feet. Increased size allowed for the addition of a 154-seat auditorium, a multi-media gallery, café, bookstore and sculpture court.

Admission is free for UW students or any high school or college student with student identification. In addition, children 13 and younger are free. Anyone can visit free on Thursdays, thanks to a grant from the Boeing Company. If none of these "free" options work, general admission is \$10.

The [Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture](#) offers visitors a glimpse into Northwest Coast Indian art; masks, baskets, and other artwork from a variety of cultures around the world; and photo exhibits that generally focus on the plethora of animal and plant wildlife native to the region. As a museum of natural history, visitors might also see collections of insects or sculptures of dinosaurs. But if cultural art is what you're looking for, this is the place to find it.

The Burke is located on the UW campus at the corner of NE 4th St. and 17th Ave. NE. Like at the Henry, admission is free for UW students, but students from other schools pay only \$5 with school identification. General admission is \$8, and everyone is admitted free the first Thursday of every month.

Admission is always free to the [Jacob Lawrence Gallery](#) in the School of Art (Art Building). The gallery, which displays the work of UW art students exclusively, began back in 1989. It's only 2,100 square feet, but it is a dynamic place to view art—exhibits change every 2-3 weeks, which is 2-3 times the pace of most galleries or museums. Students get the opportunity not only to have their artwork exhibited, but they also assist in the running of the gallery itself. The gallery is open noon to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

One needn't visit a museum to see art on campus, though. A walk around campus can also be a worthwhile way to view some wonderful artwork produced by UW's own students. Buildings such as Mary Gates Hall, Gerberding, Communications, Electrical Engineering, Art, the Husky Union Building (HUB) have large collections of student art that can be viewed and that provide insights into and appreciation for the quality of the work produced by students and emerging artists studying in the School of Art.

When you're tired from walking around campus, looking at artwork in its various locations, stop by Parnassus Café in the basement of the School of Art (Art 007). There, you can grab a cup of coffee and a snack and view...more art! Parnassus exhibits the work of student artists and is generally a great place to get away from winter/midterm/finals doldrums!

Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines

Washington NASA Space Grant Community College Scholarship Program

The Washington NASA Space Grant Community College Transfer Scholarships are awarded to promising community college students planning to transfer to the UW to continue their studies in engineering, math or science.

Amount: \$1000-\$5000

Application Deadline: March 24, 2007

For more information, visit the [website](#).

Martin Achievement Scholarship Program

The Martin Family Foundation established the Martin Achievement Scholarship program to fund students who have demonstrated signs of exceptional ability in art, humanities, music, science, and/or leadership early in their academic history at the community colleges. The program selects students as Martin Achievement Scholars while in their first quarters and will fund, encourage and support their study and eventual transfer to the University of Washington-Seattle Campus.

Amount: \$5,000 each academic year for tuition, books and supplies. Funding begins during the second and/or final year at the community college and will continue when the student transfers to UW. Applicants must be currently enrolled students at Bellevue, Cascadia, Edmonds, Everett, Grays Harbor, Green River, Highline, North Seattle, Olympic, Peninsula, Pierce, Seattle Central, Shoreline, South Seattle, or Tacoma Community College pursuing their first baccalaureate degree.

Application Deadline: March 12, 2007

For more information, visit the [website](#).

Martin Family Foundation Honors Scholarship Program

The Martin Family Foundation Honors Scholarship Program was established to enable community college students of exceptional ability and outstanding achievement to complete their baccalaureate degrees at the University of Washington, Seattle campus. Martin Scholars will join the Honors Program at the UW, and, depending on their choice of major, will become eligible to graduate with Departmental and/or University honors.

Amount: Up to \$18,000, a maximum of \$6,000 per year subject to continuing high scholarship at the UW, award may be renewable each year for up to a total of three years of undergraduate support.

Application Deadline: July 9, 2007

For more information, visit the [website](#).

Credits

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