COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE
A Seminar for 8th, 9th, and 10th Graders

Duke Office of Undergraduate Admissions
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Griffith Film Theater
YOUR HOSTS THIS EVENING

▪ Christoph Guttentag
  o Dean of Undergraduate Admissions
  o Parent of a College Sophomore (!)

▪ Sonam Aidasani, T’14
  o Admissions Officer
  o Former High School College Counselor (Person High School in Roxboro, NC & Emily Krzyzewski Center)
WHY NOW?

▪ Decisions made now chart the course through high school and beyond.

▪ So often we hear families say, “We wish we had known…”

▪ Not to overwhelm you, but to provide timely information.

▪ Knowing what we know, this is our advice to you…
OTHER PRESENTERS

- Kathy Phillips, Associate Dean
  Office of Undergraduate Admissions

TONIGHT’S AGENDA

- Grades and Classes
- Standardized Testing
- Thinking about Colleges
- Brief Introduction to Financial Aid
- Duke Children’s Tuition Grant
ADVICE FOR 8TH GRADERS

- **Finish STRONG.** Placement in some 9th grade classes might be based on grades in some 8th grade classes.
- **Finish SMART.** Make it a point to be the most organized student you can be. Take those skills with you to high school. You will NEED them!
- **Finish NICELY.** Maintain your healthy friendships.

If you will be choosing your high school:

- Consider the **distinctive features** of the school. Is it a good **match** for you?
- **Visit and talk** to some students you know to get a student’s view of the school. Parents, talk to parents.

All students:

- **Plot out the classes** you can take for all four years.
EXAMPLES OF CLASSES USUALLY OFFERED BEYOND COLLEGE PREP AND HONORS

**DE**
- Taken at local community colleges or universities in the surrounding area
- Taught by a college professor and weighed the same as AP classes
- May not be an option until all AP classes are exhausted or until later years

**AP**
- Challenging, college-level courses with curricula created by College Board
- Over 2,000 colleges offer credit for Advanced Placement courses
- Exams in May

**IB**
- Challenging, college-level courses that emphasize intercultural understanding and enrichment
- 4,000-word research essay and 150 hours of service
- Exams in May
- Diploma offered or singular classes (or both)
### What Families Usually See: A Report Card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Information</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Instructor Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American History II Honors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology Honors</td>
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<tr>
<td>English IV Honors</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>HONORS BIOLOGY I</td>
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<td>HONORS WORLD HISTORY</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VOCAL MUSIC I</td>
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<td>HONORS CHEMISTRY I</td>
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<td>HONORS CIVICS AND ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>SPANISH I</td>
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<td>SPANISH II</td>
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<td>Specialization: Women's Choir Advance</td>
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<td>Spanish III Honors</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. History Honors / US History (Honors)</td>
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<td>AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Law and Justice</td>
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<td>Pre-Calculus Honors / HNS</td>
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<td>PRECALCULUS</td>
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<td>Vocal Music (Advanced) Honors</td>
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ADVICE FOR 9TH GRADERS

• **Do the best you can!** Most colleges consider your grades from freshman year.

• **Communicate with your teachers.** Let them know if you could use some extra help, or if you want to be more academically challenged.

• Ask when you will select your 10th grade courses, and already have an idea of what you like to take.

• Think about **extracurricular activities** to join next year or how you can continue what you have already started. Do what you care about!
ADVICE FOR 10TH GRADERS

• Do the best you can!

• Beware of the sophomore slump!

• Remain thoughtful about your courses and extracurricular activities.

• Your circle of friends might also be changing.

• This college thing is looming…
TESTS TO EXPECT

**PREACT**
- Grade 10
- Math, Science, English, and Reading
- Scoring Range (1-36)
- Based on ACT

**PSAT**
- Grades 10 and/or 11
- Reading & Writing, Math
- Scoring range (400-1600)
- National Merit Scholarship
- Based on SAT

**ACT**
- Grade 11 (all public & charter school students)
- English, Math, Reading, and Science (1-36)
- Composite (overall) Score: 1-36

**SAT**
- Usually Grade 11 + 12
- Scoring Range: 400-1600
- Two sections: Reading & Writing (200-800) + Math (200-800)
- Optional essay scored separately.
HOW SHOULD I SPEND MY SUMMERS?

- Working?
- Volunteering?
- Traveling?
- Summer Programs at Colleges/Universities?
- Visiting Colleges?
- Studying for the SAT/ACT?
- Doing whatever I want??
ONE SIZE DOESN’T FIT ALL

YOU

4-year College

Gap Year

Job

Military

2-year College then Transfer
TEST OPTIONAL: www.fairtest.org

- 1000+ four-year colleges **exempt students from the SAT or ACT** (half of U.S. News’s “Top 100” Liberal Arts Colleges)

- Usually, applicants must meet **GPA or class rank criteria**.

- Some colleges may require test scores, but only for placement or to conduct research studies.

- Some colleges have “non-conventional” applications, where students submit portfolios or videos (i.e. ZeeMee).
OUR ADVICE WHEN BEGINNING TO LOOK AT COLLEGES

• **Start locally**—there are so many different kinds of colleges in our area (HBCUs, women’s college, two-year, public, private). Get a feel for what visiting a college is like.

• No need for a “formal” visit yet if you’d rather not.

• But if you will be **visiting an area already** (vacations, family gatherings, etc.) we do recommend seeing some of the local colleges.

• **Peel the name off the college** and focus on its attributes:
  - Single-sex or Coed
  - Population Size
  - Academic Programs
  - Residential Life
  - Clubs & Activities
  - Diversity

Then, discuss what you liked and what didn’t appeal to you.
Public Universities in NC
FINANCIAL AID
What types of financial aid are out there?

- Need-based Grants
- Merit Scholarships
- Parent and Student loans
- Work Study (funding for on-campus jobs)

Note: Duke tuition benefit often reduces need-based grant aid dollar for dollar.
Application Checklist:

✓ FAFSA: www.fafsa.gov
✓ CSS Profile: cssprofile.collegeboard.org

✓ Institutional Application
✓ APPLY BY THE PRIORITY DEADLINE!
✓ Contact the financial aid office for priority deadlines. Most priority deadlines are March 1st or earlier.
TRICKS OF THE TRADE

- Meet the priority deadline. This will ensure that your award letter is provided with notification of admission.
- Ask how students are contacted for missing information.
- Complete all questions accurately.
- Don’t wait until you are admitted to file an application. If you do, you may miss scholarship opportunities at some schools, or your award letter will be delayed.
- Keep a copy of all documents for your records.
- Ask your financial aid officer about financing options available, such as payment plans and loan options.
HELPFUL RESOURCES

- The college’s financial aid office website…this is also where you can access the **Net Price Calculator** for an estimate of your financial aid award.

- **College Foundation of North Carolina**: go to [www.CFNC.org](http://www.CFNC.org) for financial aid tips, information about scholarships and grants, loan calculators, etc.

- Talk to a **financial aid officer** at the colleges where you apply.

- Don’t forget your college counselor!
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW: THE DUKE CHILDREN’S TUITION GRANT

Kathy Phillips
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Admissions
DUKE CHILDREN’S TUITION GRANT

- Have at least **five years of consecutive full-time service** as a **regular full-time employee** during your current term of employment.

- The grant is provided for the pursuit of your **child's first undergraduate degree**. Second undergraduate degrees and graduate study are not covered.

- Each eligible employee may receive up to a maximum of 16 semesters of tuition assistance, no more than eight of which may be used by any one child.

- After a deductible, benefits under this program provide **tuition grants of up to 75% of the weighted average of Duke tuition**.

- As an example, the Maximum Tuition Grant Payment for 18-19 Academic Year: $20,160.00 per semester, $40,320.00 per academic year.

- To **register for a seminar or for more information** about the grant: https://hr.duke.edu/benefits/educational/childrens-tuition-grant
Some hints for parents:

- Be prepared to pay the deductible. For example, in the 2018-2019 academic year, the deductible is $3510.00 per semester.
- Can be used for NC private institutions and out-of-state public & private institutions.
- Applicable to tuition only—not room and board or fees.
- Must submit paperwork to child’s college each semester, and have it returned by mail to Duke.
- Some colleges will wait until drop/add to submit paperwork; be prepared to stay in touch with the colleges.
Personal Example #1:

University of Miami (2015-2016):
Out-of-State Private Institution

$ 44,400/year
- $6,650 deductible
$ 37,750.00
- 35,737.50

= $ 2,012.50 amount owed in tuition beyond cost of NC public universities (+ room, board, fees, etc.)
Personal Example #2:

University of Delaware (2018-2019):
Out-of-State Public Institution

$30,130/year (out-of-state)
- $6,650 deductible

$23,480
- 23,480 (Duke pays up to $35,737.50)

= $0 amount owed in tuition beyond cost of NC public universities (+ room, board, fees, etc.)
NOW: Q&A
LATER: COLLEGE ADMISSIONS 101
11TH & 12TH