

EMBARK ORIENTATION

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SCHEDULE | SUMMER 2026



DAY ONE: ARRIVE & CONNECT

9 - 10:30 A.M.

CHECK-IN & GET YOUR KEYS

FOUNDERS
RESIDENCE HALL

Your first stop is Founders Hall, where you'll check in, pick up your room key and orientation materials, and drop off your belongings for your overnight stay. Once you've parked and moved your things in, head over to Highsmith Student Union to kick off the day!

NOTE: Parking will be reserved in lots P20 and P21.

10:30 - 11 A.M.

BULLDOG WELCOME

BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION

Hear opening remarks from campus leaders and prepare for the day ahead. This is your official start as a UNC Asheville Bulldog!

11 - 11:30 A.M.

**FINANCIAL AID & STUDENT
BILL EXPLAINED**

BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION

Representatives from Financial Aid and Student Accounts will walk you through how to read your financial aid award and student bill. They will review specifics about when your bill is due, how to pay it, and what to do if something doesn't look right.

NOTE: Students, parents, families, and supporters will stay together for this important session. It's the best way to make sure everyone understands your student bill and how to pay it before classes start. Financial Aid representatives will be available to answer questions on Day Two.

11:35 A.M. - 12:05 P.M.

MEET YOUR ORIENTATION ASSISTANT

You'll be paired with an Orientation Assistant (OA), a current UNC Asheville student trained to help you navigate orientation, and a small group of fellow incoming students who will be in your Orientation Small Group. Together, you'll review the orientation schedule, connect to campus Wi-Fi, and go over any questions.

Group 1: Karpen 012, **Group 2:** Karpen 016, **Group 3:** Karpen 033, **Group 4:** Karpen 034,
Group 5: Karpen 035, **Group 6:** Karpen 038, **Group 7:** RRO 103, **Group 8:** RRO 106, **Group 9:** RRO 210

EMBARK ORIENTATION: FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SCHEDULE | DAY ONE

12:10 - 12:55 P.M.

LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL

**BROWN
DINING HALL**

Brown is UNC Asheville's main dining hall, and the meal plan is one of the major perks of campus life! Enjoy lunch and keep the conversation going with your small group.

1 - 1:30 P.M.

MEET YOUR ACADEMIC COLLEGE & FACULTY

Separate sessions are offered for each academic college where you can meet faculty, hear about key academic policies, and learn what resources are available to help students succeed. Undecided on your major? No problem! Go to the college that best fits your interests.

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Mullen James Lecture Hall

Art/Art History, Business, Economics, Education, English, History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Languages and Literature, Mass Communication, Music, Political Science, Sociology/Anthropology

College of Natural and Human Sciences

Rhodes Robinson Hall 125

Atmospheric Sciences, Biology, Chemistry/Biochemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Health Sciences, Mathematics, New Media, Physics/Astronomy, Psychology

1:40 - 2:30 P.M.

EXPLORE YOUR MAJOR & DISCOVER NEW ONES

Department representatives are here to help you explore major and minor academic programs. Walk around and ask real questions like: *What do graduates do after college? What is the workload really like?* You don't have to declare your major yet, this is just informed exploration.

Delaney Hall: Psychology, Neuroscience, Business, and Accounting

Karpen Hall Lobby: Economics, English, Honors Program, Mass Communication, Music and Music Technology

Rhodes Robinson Hall Lobby: Atmospheric Sciences, Computer Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Mathematics, Physics, and Astronomy

Whitesides Hall Lobby: History, Languages and Literature

Owen Hall Lobby: Art, Art History, and New Media

Sherill Center Lobby: Health Sciences

Zageir Hall: Education, Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology

Zeis Hall Lobby: Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Global Studies

EMBARK ORIENTATION: FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SCHEDULE | DAY ONE

2 - 2:30 P.M.

HONORS PROGRAM MEET & GREET

ADMITTED HONORS STUDENTS ONLY

Honors students will meet with Dr. Robert Tatum, Director of the Honors Program, to learn about opportunities to connect with fellow Honors students throughout the year.

2:35 - 3:20 P.M.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT & GETTING INVOLVED

Reconnect with your OA and Orientation Small Group to learn about the resources designed to help you succeed beyond the classroom, including the Writing Center, Math Lab, tutoring, student organizations, campus events, and more.

Group 1: Karpen 012, **Group 2:** Karpen 016, **Group 3:** Karpen 033, **Group 4:** Karpen 034, **Group 5:** Karpen 035, **Group 6:** Karpen 038, **Group 7:** RRO 103, **Group 8:** RRO 106, **Group 9:** RRO 210

NOTE: Students who use campus resources early tend to perform better and feel more connected.

3:25 - 3:50 P.M.

INSIDE THE CLASSROOM: SAMPLE CLASS #1

Sit in on a real class taught by a UNC Asheville faculty member. This is your chance to preview college-level coursework before your first official day. Pick any class that interests you!

Sample class options will be shared with you to pick from on Day One.

4 - 4:25 P.M.

INSIDE THE CLASSROOM: SAMPLE CLASS #2

Attend a second sample session. Try something completely outside your comfort zone. You might surprise yourself!

4:30 - 5 P.M.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER EMBARK?

BLUE RIDGE ROOM

HIGHSMITH

Embark is just the beginning. Hear from Residence Life, Campus Life, and First-Year Experience about Move-In, Weeks of Welcome, and IGNITE, which is the programming that bridges orientation to the start of classes and through your first school year. Staff will be available for one-on-one questions after the panel ends.

5 - 6:30 P.M.

BULLDOG BASH: COMMUNITY PICNIC

**HIGHSMITH
STUDENT UNION**

You made it through Day One! Celebrate with food, games, and the people who just did Embark alongside you. This is your first real social event as a Bulldog!

EMBARK ORIENTATION: FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SCHEDULE | DAY ONE

6:30 P.M.

FOUNDERS HALL HANGOUT
OPTIONAL

FOUNDERS
RESIDENCE HALL

Enjoy some low-key activities back at the residence hall. This is the perfect time to relax and decompress with your future classmates and neighbors.

8 - 10 P.M.

EMBARK AFTER DARK
OPTIONAL

STUDENT REC CENTER

Keep the energy going at the SRC with your new friends! Check out the Esports Center, learn about Club and Intramural Sports, play Just Dance, enjoy inflatable games, and grab pizza and mocktails.

More events to attend — all meet in the Student Rec Center Lobby at the start time below.

8 p.m. Sunset Walk

Walk up to Lookout Lot with Orientation Assistants for a sunset view over the Blue Ridge Mountains.

8:30 p.m. Kimmel Behind the Scenes Tour

Step out onto the basketball court in Kimmel Arena for a unique look at the home of UNC Asheville basketball. Learn about game-day operations and discover what it takes to create an exciting experience for Bulldog fans.

9 - 11 p.m. Stargazing at Lookout Observatory

Shuttle up to Lookout Observatory and use one of UNC Asheville's state-of-the-art telescopes.



DAY TWO: COURSE REGISTRATION & CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH

7:30 - 8:45 A.M.

BREAKFAST AT BROWN

OPTIONAL

**BROWN
DINING HALL**

Start the day with breakfast and a cup of coffee to make sure you're ready for a busy Day Two.

9 - 9:30 A.M.

SMALL GROUP CHECK-IN

Regroup with your OA and Orientation Small Group to prepare for the day ahead. Your OA will walk you through your group's morning rotation so you know exactly where to be and when.

Group 1: Karpen 012, **Group 2:** Karpen 016, **Group 3:** Karpen 033, **Group 4:** Karpen 034,
Group 5: Karpen 035, **Group 6:** Karpen 038, **Group 7:** RRO 103, **Group 8:** RRO 106, **Group 9:** RRO 210

9:30 - 10:15 A.M.

MEET YOUR CARE NETWORK

**BLUE RIDGE ROOM
HIGHSMITH STUDENT UNION**

Meet staff from the Dean of Students Office, Health and Counseling Center, and the Office for Institutional Integrity and Access to review resources, support services, and campus policies.

10:20 - 12:45 P.M. THREE ESSENTIAL SESSIONS — ONE PER TIME BLOCK

	GROUPS 1-3	GROUPS 4-6	GROUPS 7-9
10:20 – 11:05 A.M.	Course Registration	Resource Fair	Residence Life 101
11:10 – 11:55 A.M.	Residence Life 101	Course Registration	Resource Fair
12:00 – 12:45 P.M.	Resource Fair	Residence Life 101	Course Registration

Course Registration

Work one-on-one with a Student Success Specialist to register for your first semester classes. Come with a list of courses you're interested in, but if you're unsure, they'll help you build a schedule that makes sense for your goals.

Groups 1 & 4: Owen Hall 301, **Groups 2 & 5:** Owen Hall 305, **Groups 3 & 6:** Whitesides Hall 008,
Groups 7 & 8: Owen Hall 301 / 305, **Group 9:** Rhodes Robinson Hall (RRO) 203

Discover UNC Asheville Resource Fair

Ramsey Library

Connect with campus offices including the Career Center, Study Abroad, and the Writing Center.

Residence Life 101

Reed Plaza

Tour the residence halls with the Housing and Residence Life team. Learn about Move-In Day logistics, community standards, and how to get support from your community all year long.

EMBARK ORIENTATION: FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SCHEDULE | DAY TWO

1 - 3:30 P.M. CHOOSE YOUR PATH: EXPLORE, CONNECT & ENGAGE

Use this time however is most useful to you! Multiple sessions run simultaneously.

Engineering (Joint Program with NCSU) Meeting

Rhodes Robinson Hall 203

**required for Engineering Students. Arrive at 1 P.M.*

Meet with Engineering faculty to discuss the joint program with NC State and complete necessary paperwork before classes begin.

Student Athlete Meeting

Highsmith Student Union 114

**required for Student Athletes. Arrive at 1 P.M.*

Review key dates, expectations, and important processes with Athletics staff. Family members are welcome to attend.

Accessibility & Accommodations

Highsmith Student Union 225/226

Meet staff from the Office of Accessibility to learn about available accommodations and the application process. If you have a disability or are wondering whether accommodations might help you, start here.

Academic Advising Drop-In *1:30 - 3:30 P.M.

Ramsey Library 011

Have questions about your schedule, your academic plan, or course adjustments? Advisors in the Academic Success Center are available to assist you.

Financial Aid & Scholarship Drop-In

Highsmith Union 228/229

Receive one-on-one assistance with understanding your fall bill and applying for university scholarships.

Residence Life Open House

Mills Plaza

Explore residence hall options, ask questions about different communities, and figure out where you'd most like to live.

Campus Tours

Reed Plaza

Take a guided tour with an Orientation Assistant and find the buildings, shortcuts, and hangout spots you'll use every day.

2 - 4 P.M. CHECK-OUT

FOUNDERS
RESIDENCE HALL

Collect your things from your room and check-out in the lobby of Founders Hall. You will return your key and temporary card here.