The University of Texas at Dallas’
premier open house for prospective students and families

SAMPLE AGENDA
SESSION 1 — 10-10:45 a.m.

PARENT/ FAMILY TRACK:
Money Matters: Scholarships and Financial Aid at UT Dallas
“Everything You Wanted to Know About Merit and Need-Based Aid but Were Afraid to Ask”
Presenters: Sarah Stuart, assistant director, Academic Excellence Scholarship Program
Sarah Dorsey, deputy director of financial aid

STUDENT TRACK: ACADEMIC MAJORS AT UT DALLAS

School of Arts and Humanities
“Introduction to the School of Arts and Humanities”
Presenters: Michele Hanlon, associate dean and Megan Gray-Hering, academic advisor

School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
“Introduction to the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication”
Presenters: Lauren McClain and Tessa Tett, academic advisors

School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences
“Introduction to BBS: Advising Success Is No Accident”
Presenter: Bonnie Dougherty, academic advisor

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
“Introduction to the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences”
Presenter: Dr. Carol Cirulli Lanham, assistant dean

Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science
“Introduction to the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science”
Presenter: Dr. Simeon Ntafos, associate dean

School of Interdisciplinary Studies
“Academic Programs in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies”
Presenters: Dr. Tonja Wissinger, assoc. dean; Laurie Pollock, Dr. Kathleen Byrnes, and Lynn Winstead

Naveen Jindal School of Management
“Make Business Your Future”
Presenter: Dr. Marilyn Kaplan, associate dean

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
“Overview of Natural Science and Mathematics Undergraduate Programs”
Presenter: Dr. Dennis Miller, associate dean

Office of Undergraduate Education
“Decisive Move: Being an Undeclared Major”
Presenter: Eric Welgehausen, assistant director
SESSION 2 — 11-11:45 a.m.

PARENT/ FAMILY TRACK:

UT Dallas Career Center- ATC Lecture Hall
“Return on Your Investment at UT Dallas”
Presenter: Seth Tracy, career consultant

Aprende Más de UT Dallas: Taller para Alumnos y Padres
Sesión de información en español para padres y alumnos interesados en UT Dallas
Presentadores: Raul Hinojosa Jr. and Cynthia Sorto

School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
Motion Capture Lab demonstration
Presenter: Dr. Midori Kitagawa

Naveen Jindal School of Management
Interactive tour of the Jindal School of Management

STUDENT TRACK: FACULTY LECTURES

School of Arts and Humanities
“Studying Health and Culture Abroad in Mexico”
Presenter: Toni Loftin, research assistant and doctoral student

School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
“From Minecraft to No Man’s Sky: Community Building in Virtual Worlds”
Presenter: Dr. Monica Evans, associate dean

School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences
“Generating the Next Generation of Non-Opioid Pain Medicines”
Presenter: Dr. Theodore (Ted) Price

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
“Working in the Public Sector: Rewarding Careers”
Presenter: Dr. Doug Goodman

Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science
“Automating Common Sense Reasoning”
Presenter: Dr. Gopal Gupta

School of Interdisciplinary Studies
“Preparation for Healthcare: The Bachelor of Science Degree in Healthcare Studies”
Presenter: Dr. Kathleen Byrnes, program head

Naveen Jindal School of Management
“STEM in Business”
Presenter: Beth Kent, program manager

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
“Plasma Science: From Creating (Maybe?) and Sustaining Life (Definitely) to the Future of Our Technology”
Presenter: Dr. Matthew Goeckner

Office of Undergraduate Education
“Decisive Move: Being an Undeclared Major”
Presenter: Eric Welgehausen, assistant director
SESSION 3 — Noon-12:45 p.m.  
JOINT INTEREST SESSIONS

School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication  
Motion Capture Lab demonstration  
Presenter: Dr. Midori Kitagawa, associate professor

Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science  
“Internships: Your Path to Career Success”  
Presenter: Jerry Alexander, assistant dean

Naveen Jindal School of Management: Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship  
“Harnessing the Power of Ideas through Innovation and Entrepreneurship”  
Presenter: Madison Pedigo, director, innovation and entrepreneurship program

Division of Student Affairs  
“Getting Involved: Student Life at UT Dallas”  
Presenter: Kim Winkler, associate dean of students

Pre-Law Advising and Resource Center  
“ATEC to Zoology: Anyone Can Be Pre-Law”  
Presenter: Anne Dutia, director, Pre-Law Advising and Resource Center

Health Professions Advising Center  
“Pre-Health: Your Future at UT Dallas”  
Presenter: Dr. Karen de Olivares, director

Informational Fair  
Browse tables hosted by University departments and student organizations  
Location: Visitor Center Atrium (VCB)

Application Assistance Lab  
Submit your application and official documents, and get your application fee waived

Walking Campus Tour  
Learn more about the University’s campus, traditions and amenities during this 30-minute walking tour  
(does not include housing)

Residence Hall Tours  
Learn more about the University’s housing

Lunch  
Locations: Student Union Food Court and Dining Hall West  
(The UT Dallas Jazz Band will be performing in the Student Union Food Court from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)
SESSION 4 — 1-1:45 p.m.
JOINT INTEREST SESSIONS

Transfer Student Services/Terry Foundation Transfer Scholarships/Office of Admission and Enrollment
“Transfer 101: Admission, Student Life and Scholarships”
Presenters: Cassie Cure, Kellie Hanford and Ryan Slack

The Honors College at UT Dallas
Learn about the various cultural and mentoring programs available to qualified students through the Honors College, including the Collegium V Honors Program and National Merit Scholars Program
Presenters: Michael Seeligson, assistant provost, and Valerie Brunell, assistant dean

Informational Fair
Browse tables hosted by University departments and student organizations.

Walking Campus Tour
Learn more about the University’s campus, traditions and amenities during this 30-minute walking tour (does not include housing)

Residence Hall Tours
Learn more about the University’s housing

Lunch
Locations: Student Union Food Court and Dining Hall West
(The UT Dallas Jazz Band will be performing in the Student Union Food Court from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

SESSION 5 — 2-2:45 p.m.
JOINT INTEREST SESSIONS

The Honors College: Terry Scholars Program
“The Terry Scholars Program: More Than a Scholarship”
Learn about the prestigious, Terry Scholars Program, a fully funded, four-year cohort experience that provides academic, cultural, mentoring and other opportunities to its students.
Presenter: Blythe Torres, director, Terry Scholars Program

Office of Admission and Enrollment
“Q-and-A with the Admission Team”
Presenters: Ingrid London, director of enrollment services, and admission team

Walking Campus Tour
Learn more about the University’s campus, traditions and amenities during this 30-minute walking tour (does not include housing)

Residence Hall Tours
Learn more about the University’s housing during this 30-minute walking tour

Lunch
Locations: Student Union Food Court and Dining Hall West
Faculty Lecture Information for Session 2

School of Arts and Humanities

Lecture Title: “Studying Health and Culture Abroad in Mexico”

Synopsis: Study abroad programs provide students with innumerable lessons. One of the best options is a five-week program during the summer. The charming city of Oaxaca, Mexico, provides students with the ideal immersion experience. Aspects of health, medicine and culture in Mexican history typically involve language instruction, scholarly presentations and field activities where students experience firsthand the vibrant intersection of the country’s history through the lens of public health, culture and community engagement.

Speaker Bio: Maria A. “Toni” Loftin is a doctoral student in the history of ideas program in the School of Arts and Humanities. Her research interest is modern Mexican history and the focus of her dissertation is consumer culture in the built environment of Mexico City from the 1920s to the 1960s. She is also the research assistant at UT Dallas’ Center for U.S.-Latin America Initiatives (CUSLAI) under the direction of Dr. Monica Rankin.

School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication

Lecture Title: “From Minecraft to No Man’s Sky: Community Building in Virtual Worlds”

Synopsis: Inspiring, fostering and supporting a community of players is a critical aspect of game development. Whether you’re developing for 10 players or 10 million, similar challenges emerge in gameplay, balance and communication. In this talk, Dr. Monica Evans will explore the history and culture of virtual communities in digital games — from the early days of tabletop role-playing games to the current structures of massively multiplayer role-playing games, mobile online battle arenas, social creative games, and location-based virtual reality games. This talk will also cover best practices for creating strong communities of players, fans and developers.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Monica Evans is an associate professor and associate dean for graduate programs in the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication. She has designed and developed experimental and educational games with numerous university partners, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, Children’s Medical Center of Dallas, and the United States Department of Defense. Evans coordinates the games program within ATEC, which has been named one of Princeton Review’s Top Schools in Gaming every year it has published a ranking. Her students have been hired at numerous game development studios, including Blizzard, Gearbox, ID, Bethesda and Naughty Dog. Evans also directs the Narrative Systems Research Lab, which studies aspects of narrative and interactive media in digital games.

School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Lecture Title: “Generating the Next Generation of Non-Opioid Pain Medicines”

Synopsis: Pain is the primary reason people seek medical attention and chronic pain (defined as pain lasting for longer than three months) is more common than diabetes, heart disease and cancer combined. Opioids are widely used to treat pain, but this class of drugs has created enormous problems for patients, healthcare providers and society. A solution to these challenges is the generation of new analgesic medicines that achieve opioid efficacy without producing side effects. Dr. Theodore Price will discuss his lab’s efforts. He will focus on emerging evidence that chronic pain is generated by different mechanisms in males and females, and how to perform molecular neuroscience experiments in human patients to generate animal model-independent pain targets.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Theodore Price completed his bachelor’s in neuroscience at UT Dallas in 1997 and his PhD from UT Health Science Center at San Antonio in 2003, where he worked on mechanisms of cannabinoid analgesia with Dr. Ken Hargreaves. As a postdoctoral fellow from 2004-07 at McGill University, Price worked on mechanisms of spinal pain amplification and developed an independent line of investigation on local translation control in nociceptors as a mechanism for rapid deployment of new gene expression to alter excitability. In 2007, Price moved to the University of Arizona School of Medicine where he started his independent laboratory. He obtained funding from the Rita Allen Foundation and the National Institutes of Health on diverse projects aimed at understanding molecular mechanisms that cause pain to become chronic. In 2014, Price returned to UT Dallas as the director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. His lab focuses on molecular mechanisms driving the transition to chronic pain with an increasing interest in drug development for chronic pain disease modification. He has won numerous awards, including the John C. Liebeskind Early Career Scholar Award from the American Pain Society, and the Patrick D. Wall Young Investigator Award from the International Association for the Study of Pain. Price serves on editorial boards for leading pain and neuroscience journals and is a standing member of the Somatosensory and Chemosensory Study Section for NIH.

School of Interdisciplinary Studies

Lecture Title: “Preparation for Healthcare: The Bachelor of Science Degree in Healthcare Studies”

Synopsis: This lecture provides an overview of the Bachelor of Science in healthcare studies, which prepares students who want to pursue careers in healthcare fields, including medicine, pharmacy, optometry, dentistry, physical therapy and physician assisting. The degree prepares students for future training as well as employment in the U.S. healthcare industry.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Kathleen Byrnes is program head of healthcare studies. She earned her PhD in healthcare studies from Texas Woman’s University. Byrnes also is a licensed professional counselor and has spent 20 years working in healthcare administration as well as working with patients and families in a variety of healthcare settings.
**Faculty Lecture Information for Session 2 (cont’d)**

**School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences**

**Lecture Title:** “Working in the Public Sector: Rewarding Careers”

**Synopsis:** In this lecture, Dr. Doug Goodman will talk about his career that led him on a journey of discovery — from the private sector, through the public sector and into academia. He will discuss his teaching and research interests in public service and public administration. The discussion will center around the career choices and benefits available to students who want to work for governments & nonprofit organizations.

**Speaker Bio:** Dr. Doug Goodman (PhD, University of Utah, 2002) is a professor and program head of Public and Nonprofit Management in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at UT Dallas. He teaches public human resource management, negotiation and public management courses in the master’s of public affairs and the PhD in public affairs programs. His current research interests include public-sector workforce issues, planning, organization behavior, sustainability and public management. Goodman’s work appears in journals such as the American Review of Public Administration; Review of Public Personnel Administration; Political Research Quarterly; Human Resource Development Quarterly; Public Personnel Management; Politics & Policy; Public Administration Review; and American Review of Politics. He is associate editor for practitioner outreach for the Review of Public Personnel Administration. He is also on the editorial board for Public Personnel Management. Goodman is an inaugural John C. Stennis Fellow at the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development at Mississippi State University. He is the section chair for the Personnel Administration and Labor Relations for the American Society for Public Administration.

**Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science**

**Lecture Title:** “Automating Common Sense Reasoning”

**Synopsis:** In this introductory talk, Dr. Gopal Gupta will discuss the problem of automating common sense reasoning. Gupta will give an overview of answer set programming (ASP), a rule-based paradigm for programming intelligent applications. ASP is based on non-monotonic logic, frequently employed in common sense reasoning where conclusions may be withdrawn as more information becomes available. ASP allows simulation of reasoning techniques that humans employ on a daily basis — default reasoning, counterfactual reasoning, abductive reasoning, etc. He also will discuss applications to various domains: web-based recommendation systems, undergraduate degree audit and advising, disease management, etc.

**Speaker Bio:** Dr. Gopal Gupta is the Erik Jonsson Chair and head of computer science at UT Dallas. He has done research in automated reasoning, computational logic, programming languages, parallel computing and assistive technology for the last 30 years. He has published extensively in these areas. His research group has received a number of best paper awards, including the 10 Year Test of Time Award from the International Conference on Logic Programming in 2016. He serves as an area editor of the journal Theory and Practice of Logic Programming and has served in the program committees of numerous technical conferences. He served as the president of the Association for Logic Programming from 2010-14. His group has authored many research software systems, including the sASP system, a query-driven ASP system. His research has been the basis of several commercial software systems as well. He obtained his bachelor’s in computer science from IIT Kanpur, and his master’s and PhD from the University of North Carolina.

**Naveen Jindal School of Management**

**Lecture Title:** “STEM in Business”

**Synopsis:** Did you know that careers in technology are among the fastest growing jobs? Careers in technology are on the rise; however, knowledge of technology is critical in all fields. This information session will help individuals understand the field of information technology and how businesses use technology to meet their goals.

**Speaker Bio:** Beth Kent is the program manager for the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Systems program and the Master of Science in Business Analytics program. She advises students and handles data collection, marketing and recruiting, and event planning for these programs. Kent is passionate about working with students, student organizations and industry professionals to coordinate professional development activities on campus. She has a background in retail management and higher education. Prior to joining UT Dallas in August, she supported Jindal School faculty and students for 10 years as an internship advisor, career advisor, event planner and coordinator for academic programs and employer relations.

**School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**

**Lecture Title:** “Plasma Science: From Creating (Maybe?) and Sustaining Life (Definitely) to the Future of Our Technology”

**Synopsis:** Plasma science is the study of the fourth state of matter. One can think of slowly heating a piece of ice until it melts, which describes the phase change between a solid and a liquid. If you continue to heat the water you will produce steam with a phase change from liquid to gas. If you further heat the gas you begin to strip electrons off of neutral molecules, creating positively charged “ions.” This is known as a plasma. Humanity has made use of plasma (fire and the sun) for millennia. More recently we use plasmas to light our homes and cook our food. We also widely use plasmas in a variety of high tech industrial applications. This lecture will provide an overview of plasmas. This includes understanding the link between plasmas and ‘non-traditional’ chemistry, and how plasmas combined with a bit of water might have been the source of life on earth. The lecture will also delve into how plasmas are currently used to produce your cell phone and may someday cure cancer.

**Speaker Bio:** Dr. Matthew Goeckner is associate dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and a professor of physics. He earned his PhD from the University of Iowa and has held a number of academic and industrial positions. He been at UTD since 1999.
Informational Fair
Visitor Center Atrium
Noon-2 p.m.

Academic Department Tables
1. School of Arts and Humanities
2. School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication
3. School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences
4. School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
5. Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science
6. UT Design EPICS (Engineering Projects in Community Service)
7. School of Interdisciplinary Studies (Healthcare Studies)
8. Naveen Jindal School of Management
9. School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
10. Health Professions Advising Center
11. Physics Department (Natural Sciences & Mathematics)

Student Services Department Tables
1. Academic Bridge Program
2. Academic Excellence Scholarship Program
3. Career Center
4. Dining Services at UT Dallas
5. Diversity Scholarship Program
6. Education Abroad
7. Galerstein Women’s Center
8. Office of Diversity and Community Engagement
9. Office of Financial Aid
10. The Honors College at UT Dallas
11. Living Learning Communities
12. Multicultural Center
13. National Merit Scholars Program
14. New Student Programs
15. Office of Student Volunteerism
16. Residential Life
17. Student Success Center
18. Student Transition Programs
19. Terry Foundation Scholars Program

Student Organization Tables
1. A Modest Proposal (AMP)
2. Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA)
3. Comet Cupboard
4. Fellowship of Christian University Students (FOCUS)
5. Gamma Sigma Sorority
6. Geospatial Information Sciences Student Organization
7. Intellicheice
8. Islamic Relief at UTD
9. Mexican American Student Association
10. Phi Beta Lambda
11. Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity
12. Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
13. Radio UTD
14. Tri Sci Professions at UTD
15. UTD Women’s Lacrosse
For Your Information

Lunch can be purchased in Dining Hall West (all you care to eat) or the Student Union Food Court (à la carte) from noon to 3 p.m. All registered students will receive a free meal ticket in their registration packets. Be sure to check out the UT Dallas Jazz Band performance in the Student Union Food Court from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Want to talk one-on-one with UT Dallas faculty, staff and students? Visit our Informational Fair in the Visitor Center Atrium from noon to 2 p.m.

Visit our Application Assistance Lab to apply for admission and turn in any official documents in the McDermott Library’s Student Success Center Computer Lab (MC 1.304) from noon to 1 p.m.

Campus tours will leave every half hour from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. from the Visitor Center lobby in the Visitor Center and University Bookstore building.

Our nationally recognized UT Dallas Chess Team will provide a live demonstration at Chess Plaza, between the Student Services Building and the Naveen Jindal School of Management Building from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop by and meet some of the best in chess.

The University Bookstore will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Don’t forget to use your special Scholars’ Day coupon to save 20 percent off the latest UT Dallas spirit items.

Follow us on social media and share your pictures of campus during Scholars’ Day: facebook.com/UTDallasVisitorCenter | twitter.com/futurecomets | instagram.com/futurecomets
#FutureComet #UTDScholarsDay

We want to hear from you: Please bring your completed event evaluation to the Visitor Center lobby between noon and 3 p.m. for a special student gift.

Thank You for Attending Scholars’ Day!

UT DALLAS

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Office of Admission and Enrollment
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