How is Graduate School Different?

• Less structure and oversight – requires:
  – Responsibility
  – Initiative
  – Time management
  – Follow through

• Writing and more writing

• Stress
  – Balance graduate college course work/internships with work and home

• Professional behavior.
Emphasis on Life-Long Learning and Opportunity

- Take a deep breath – you don’t need to be an expert.
- Looking back, how will you know that you made the best use of this opportunity?
  - Did you push your own boundaries, test new things, expand your professional network, make mistakes and grow from the lessons learned?
- Never stop visualizing walking across that stage.
- If you sense you are stumbling, there is honor in reaching out and using support.
Program Structure

• Complies with UNI Graduate College Requirements
• Complies with Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Core Competencies
• Advisory Council Recommendations
• Required to attend classes that are on-site at UNI – summer sessions meet daily
Provisional status

• Statistics – *take as soon as possible*,
• <3.0 – Must have at least a 3.0 after completion of 8 credit hours.
• All students must maintain a 3.0 throughout the program.
• No more than six (6) semester hours of C credit (C+, C, C-) earned within the program of study may be applied toward credit for graduation.
• BA Transcript.
Financial assistance

- Scholarships & Graduate Assistantships
  - Graduate Assistant Position Descriptions
  - Full-Time Status
  - Minimum of 3.0 GPA
  - Register each semester ASAP – definitely by March 15

- UNI Office of Financial Aid and Assistance
  - http://uni.edu/finaid/
  - Part-Time Status – at least 5 Credit Hours
How do I know I am on track?

- Advisor will be assigned during the first two weeks of the first semester
  - Reach out and establish rapport
  - Maintain contact
  - Obtain approval for electives
- Student Advisement Report and Student Requests
  - Advisement Report
  - Student Requests
Structure and Process for Resolving Issues

- Process for Resolving Issues Related to the Classroom:
  - Department Head
  - Faculty Advisor
  - Instructor
  - Peer

- Process for Resolving Issues Related to the Field:
  - Department Head
  - Field Director
  - Faculty Liaison
  - Agency Instructor
Departmental Communication

• Things Will Change – Policies & Requirements.

• Please monitor:
  - UNI Email – especially from the UNI Graduate College and the Social Work Department
  - Department Website.

• If you have questions, check with:
  - Donna Raubs, Secretary
  - Dr. Juby, Dept. Head/MSW Program Director

• We value your perspective – serve on a departmental committee &/or MSW Student Association.
Miscellaneous

• Graduate College Orientation
• Electives
  – All courses must be 5000-level or higher
  – Obtain approval from faculty advisor
• Manual
• APA Formatting
• Graduate Research Paper
• UNI Writing Center
• Social Work Licensing