First Year Buzz Words

Cohort - The 20 of you! All of you will likely be taking the same classes at the same time for the next three years - get used to them and get to know them! You're going to be spending A LOT of time with them.

Embracing Ambiguity - A phrase you'll hear ALL THE TIME. School psychology is all about working in grey areas. Your professors will want you to get used to not having all the answers all of the time.

NASP(National Association of School Psychologists) - The major national professional organization for school psychs. Joining NASP will get you access to a lot of good resources; they also hold a national annual conference which will be in Baltimore in February 2020. Take advantage of the student rate while you can.

CASP(California Association of School Psychologists) - Like NASP, just smaller. Their annual conference will be held in Long Beach in October 2019.

Resilience/Resiliency Paper - This is the first major paper of your first semester. You will write this paper in your class with Dr. Hass and Professor Olaya. Between your professors, your mentor, and your classmates you will have all the information you need to do well.

First-Year Paper/FYP - This is the second major paper you will write during the second semester. There is a lot of research that goes into writing this paper, so be sure to start early, stay organized, and choose a topic that you're passionate about!

Mentor - A student in the cohort above you that is there to answer any questions you have, provide you with examples of assignments, and get you documents you might need for class if you don't have access to them! Don't be shy - everyone has been a first-year at some point and we've all used our mentors at one point or another.

CUASP(Chapman University Association of School Psychologists) - Our program's student organization - YOU'RE ALL IN CUASP! CUASP has a site for merchandise, student resources; CUASP also puts on socials for everyone in all cohorts to get to know each other outside of the classroom.

Practicum - The fieldwork you will have to complete during your second year in the program; you will likely work two to three days a week (probably three).

Practicum Packet/Fieldwork Clearance Packet - Includes LiveScan, TB Test, and CBEST scores as well as signed documents about dress code, ethical violations; basically, everything you will need to begin your practicum. Hilary usually sends this out to be completed sometime around January.

Internship - Don't worry about this just yet, but if you're dying to know it's your full-time fieldwork position during your last year in the program.

Socials - Events put on by CUASP a few times a year. These are great opportunities to get to know your peers outside of class, let off some steam, and network with other cohorts! We strongly suggest participating in socials for all of these reasons, PLUS- there usually is free food ;)

First Year Review - This is the meeting you will have between yourself and a faculty member after the end of your first semester; these usually happen at the beginning of the second semester. They are nothing to worry about! They'll ask you about how the program is going so far, your strengths, and what your goals are for the rest of the year and your time in the program.