

Sisters of the Academy

(SOTA)

Mission

As Sisters of the Academy, our mission is to create a network of Black women in higher education committed to fostering continuous scholarship and academic achievement. Through this commitment, members of the organization will reinforce the idea of excellence in access to higher education for Black people, schools and communities.

Purpose of the Research Boot Camp

1. To create a forum for senior scholars, junior scholars, and doctoral students to advance their research skills.
2. To connect participants with mentors who will assist them in their development as scholars in the academy.

Research Boot Camp Overview

The Research Boot Camp is an intense, one-week program designed to assist doctoral students and junior faculty members in the development of skills necessary for success in the academy. Senior scholars, statisticians, and theorists will facilitate workshops intended to help doctoral students conceptualize and design key components of their dissertations including:

- Research Question and hypothesis development
- Literature Review
- Conceptual Framework development
- Instrumentation
- Methodology
- Data analysis

These senior scholars will also assist junior scholars in the development of manuscripts for publication and clarification of a future research agenda. In addition to the research component, each participant will be linked with a mentor, either a junior or senior scholar, to help cultivate a mentoring relationship.

The Research Boot Camp will be held August 5-12, 2007, on the campus of Auburn University in Auburn, AL.

Fee Structure

I. Boot Camp (Non-member fee includes one year of SOTA membership)	
Doctoral Students (SOTA members).....	\$500
Doctoral Students (non-members).....	\$550
Faculty (SOTA members)	\$650
Faculty (non-member)	\$730

NOTE: Graduate students should seek financial assistance for this research opportunity through their departments. Scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis.

Application Process: The Research Boot Camp has been designed for those individuals in social science disciplines. There are three levels of participation and a specific application process for each level. Applications must be accompanied with a \$100 refundable fee application fee.

Junior Faculty: All pre-tenure social science faculty in the academy. [Junior Faculty will also be asked to mentor doctoral students] Junior Faculty should submit the following items with their Boot Camp Application:

1. **Curriculum Vitae**
2. **Letter of support from department chair or departmental mentor**
3. **Personal Statement addressing the following questions:**
 - Describe your research agenda, and how far you have advanced toward this agenda.
 - Where do you anticipate your research agenda to be by the time the Boot Camp begins?
 - What expectations does your institution have of you to achieve promotion and tenure?
 - Given your experiences at your institution, what challenges have you faced in meeting these expectations?
 - What do you expect to gain from the Boot Camp?

Level Two - Doctoral Student: A student in the social sciences who has successfully defended the research proposal and is in the process of conducting the research/data collection stage. Doctoral students interested in attending the Research Boot Camp should submit the following materials with their application:

1. **Curriculum Vitae or Resume**
2. **Abstract of your research goals**
3. **Methodology section of your research proposal or dissertation**
4. **Letter of support from faculty advisor addressing**
 - (1) student's strengths and weaknesses as a researcher and
 - (2) skills you would like student develop as they pertain to conducting research.
5. **Personal Statement addressing the following**
(Please limit to 3 pages):
 - Describe your research interests and any research experiences you have participated in during your program
 - What research skills you would like to develop (i.e. statistical analysis, survey design, data management)
 - What you expect to gain from the Boot Camp

Level One - Doctoral Student: A student in the social sciences who is preparing the research or dissertation proposal. Doctoral students interested in attending the research boot camp should submit the following materials with their application:

1. **Curriculum Vitae or Resume**
2. **Abstract of your research goals**
3. **Letter of support from faculty advisor addressing:**
 - (1) student's strengths and weaknesses as a researcher and
 - (2) skills you would like students to develop as they pertain to conducting research.
4. **Personal Statement addressing the following**
(Please limit to 3 pages):
 - Describe your research interests and any research experiences you have participated in during your program?
 - What research skills you would like to develop (i.e. statistical analysis, survey design, data management)?
 - What do you expect to gain from the Boot Camp?

Research Boot Camp Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Institutional Affiliation _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Current Status: (if student, Degree pursuing) _____

Expected Year of Completion _____

Major/Field of Study: _____

Which level are you? Junior Scholar

Level One Doctoral Level Two Doctoral

List the name, title, institutional affiliation, telephone number and e-mail address of the person from whom you are requesting a letter of support.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

This application is available in alternative format upon request.

Application Deadline:

All application materials should be postmarked by

March 2, 2007

for priority consideration.

Application must include a \$100 deposit.

Remainder of the registration fee is due by May 4, 2007

Please send materials to:

Sisters of the Academy Institute

4036 Haley Center

Auburn University, AL 36849-5221

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For more information contact:

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RESEARCH BOOT CAMP

August 5–12, 2007

Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama