

***Introducing the NEW
Uniting Divine Sistahs
Course/Program***



Sponsored by

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.**

Description of the Uniting Divine Sistahs Membership:

The “Uniting Divine Sistahs” course/program is dedicated to empowering African American women of all classifications at Texas A&M University by providing culturally relevant information. The “Uniting Divine Sistahs” course/program is designed to address the development of leader capacity and socially constructed identities. The course/program is an expansion from the pre-existing UDS retreat, which addressed leading in diverse organizations, healthy body image, and challenging socially established gender norms and roles. The course will aid students in their ability to encourage social change, build camaraderie among other women, and develop networking opportunities among women from diverse backgrounds.

Program/Course Objectives:

To become theoretically knowledgeable, well rounded educators that are able to synthesize the concepts of effective problem solving strategies, global accountability, and social consciousness as it pertains to the leadership of student organizations and becoming a global leader.

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate integrity and competence in leadership practices
2. Demonstrate effective small group dynamics
3. Apply intrapersonal and critical thinking competencies
4. Articulate the values, beliefs, norms, and ideals that are embedded in culture and gender which affect leadership behavior, goals and strategies of organizations and education
5. Develop interpersonal and intrapersonal competency
6. Articulate personal leadership style through the lens of culture and gender

Students will be able to:

1. Communicate values, needs, and boundaries effectively
7. Demonstrate willingness to address challenges and pursue opportunities
8. Develop effective strategies to utilize as a student on a predominantly white campus
2. Integrate complex information from a variety of sources including personal experience to form a decision or opinion
3. Develop a vision for professional/personal growth congruent with one’s passions, values, and skills
4. Articulate the advantages and challenges of a diverse society

Program Overview:

The “Uniting Divine Sistahs” program/course is a ten-week program/course with new member selected each fall semester by application and interview process. Membership in the course/program is exclusive and highly competitive, offering the opportunity to top applicants. The candidates for membership will be selected based on level of motivation, commitment to self-improvement, desire to participate, and the ability to maintain a level of professionalism throughout the course/program.

The members who are selected will attend weekly seminars and activities and be divided into small learning groups with a predetermined group of women. These smaller groups will serve as break out groups designed to promote and encourage intimate conversation on predefined topics. Each seminar will discuss topics such as Black identity, gender roles, leader identity, body image, and effective goal setting.

Expectations of Course/Program Members:

- Pay \$125 registration fee which will cover all resources, meals, transportation, lodging, and a t-shirt
- Be actively engaged in all activities
- Attend mandatory weekly UDS meetings, retreats, and final project,
Meetings on Tuesdays at 4-7 pm Beginning September 6, 2016
Retreat to Houston, TX: October 14-16, 2016 **Final Project:** November 19, 2016
Induction: November 29, 2016
- Attend NPHC sororities programs or service activities
- Select one staff or faculty member to be a point of contact for weekly check-in. This check-in is intended to be informal and brief in nature and should acts as a catalyst for women to become acquainted with their professors and/or academic advisor
- Members with less than a 2.5 cumulative GPA are required to enroll in an academic skills training program through Student Counseling and must receive a certificate of completion
- Maintain contact with Executive Board
- Comply with the UDS Code of Ethics
- Complete content questionnaires

*to be a member of the program you, **DO NOT** have to register for the course component. The course will be a (3) our course credit listed as ALED 380. If selected and interested in the course option, the faculty member will register you for the course the first open day of registration.

Compliance Deficiency

Failure to comply with expectations may result in immediate termination of membership and submission of all organization resources. **Any member may be removed from the club by unanimous vote of the Executive Board or failure to adhere to the code of ethics.*

**Uniting Divine Sistahs
Fall 2016 Participant Registration**

Please TYPE or PRINT in ink.

T-Shirt Size _____

Last _____ First _____ MI _____ UIN _____

Local Address _____

Local Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____ Classification _____ Major _____

Email _____ Cumulative GPR _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Emergency Phone Number _____ Relation _____

Dietary needs, please describe _____

Please type your responses and attach to this form:

1. How do you define leadership?
2. Identify one African American female you would emulate and why. What characteristics do you feel they possess to qualify as leaders?
3. What adjustments, if any, do you believe African American women make when attending a Predominantly White institutions (PWI)?
4. What do you hope to gain from participation in this program/course?
5. What are the three most important things that African American students at Texas A&M must possess to be successful?
6. If barriers exist for African American females at Texas A&M, what are they?
7. List all major commitments and/or jobs you will or plan to engage in during the next year.
8. Are you interested in registering for this as a class? If yes, please register as ALED 380 Tuesday for 3 hours

This constitutes my consent and authorization to disclose any relevant information to the appropriate parties for the “Uniting Divine Sistahs” program/course concerning my character or academic status for determination of my suitability for attendance. I also affirm all information on this application is correct and give permission for verification.

Signature _____ Date _____

Submit completed form electronically to UnitingDivineSistahs@gmail.com **OR** bring to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life located in 224 John J. Koldus Building. **Please remember to submit a wallet sized photo of yourself with the application. Application Due Date: Friday, May 13, 2016 by 5 p.m.** to Sade Dawson in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Koldus 224. If selected you will be contacted for an interview via phone or skype the week of May 23rd. If you have, any questions contact saded@greeklife.tamu.edu or 979-862-5636.

**ONLY SUBMIT THE REGISTRATION PAGE, WALLET SIZED PHOTO, AND THE TYPED ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS.
INTERVIEWS MAY BE CONDUCTED.**