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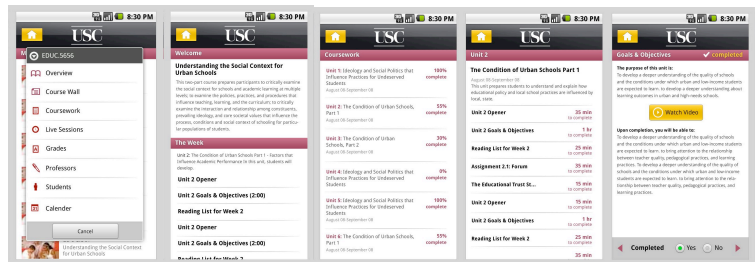
USC SCHOOLS OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK GO MOBILE

*New Android Mobile Application Gives Students Access to Lectures,
Coursework and Other Virtual Classroom Elements*

LOS ANGELES – February 1, 2012 – The University of Southern California (USC) Rossier School of Education (MAT@USC) and USC School of Social Work (MSW@USC) web-based graduate programs have released a new mobile application that allows students to access multi-media course content and intra-school social networks, all from their Android smart phone. The launch follows the introduction of a similar iPhone/iPad app on iTunes last year.

While some higher education institutions offer select mobile technology or online classes to students, the MAT@USC (Master of Arts in Teaching) and MSW@USC (Master of Social Work) programs are thought to be among the first to offer comprehensive access to recorded lectures, course content, videos *and* social networking features via a mobile app.

“Integrating mobile technology into the Rossier School’s online learning management system was a natural next step,” said Karen Symms Gallagher, dean of the USC Rossier School of Education. “We think having quick access to multi-media course content is something more and more students at universities will come to expect in the future.”



Sample Android App Interfaces

“We’re definitely pushing the technology envelope with this new mobile app,” said Paul Maiden, vice dean at the USC School of Social Work. “Our MSW@USC students are located all over the country on different time zones and have demanding work schedules. Having access to lectures and assignments on your phone takes the idea of mobile learning to a whole new level.”

The MAT@USC and MSW@USC graduate degree programs are offered via a highly advanced web-based learning management system that uses robust social networking platforms and face-to-face, “Skype-like” interactive technology to create a real-time, personal classroom experience. The programs’ students are based throughout the United States and the world.

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Similar to the programs' iPhone/iPad app, the new Android app features visually impressive, yet easy-to-navigate interfaces that allow students to:

- View recorded lectures and course materials, including lessons, documents and videos
- Find and connect with other classmates in their program
- Interact with their professors and students
- Receive notifications of upcoming live sessions and assignment due dates
- Participate and post photographs, documents and videos in socially-created communities
- Take cloud-synced notes that sync across mobile and web systems

The new Android app can be downloaded from the Android Market on any web-enabled Android phone. Only students enrolled in the MAT@USC and MSW@USC programs via the schools' online learning platforms can log in and use its features.

The Android and iPhone mobile apps are an integrated feature of the MAT@USC and MSW@USC online learning management systems, developed and managed by the education technology company 2tor, Inc. of Maryland. 2tor partners with preeminent institutions of higher education to deliver rigorous and selective degree programs online to students globally. The Android and iPhone app technology was developed by TouchAppMedia, a New York-based mobile technology firm that specializes in developing front-and-back-end mobile solutions for education and media organizations.

About the USC Rossier School of Education

As part of the University of Southern California and located in the heart of urban Los Angeles, the USC Rossier (ross-EAR) School of Education is one of the world's premiere centers for the study of urban education, preparing teachers and educational leaders who are committed to strengthening urban education locally, nationally and globally. USC Rossier is leading the search for innovative solutions to the challenges in urban education, and creating mutually beneficial partnerships to rethink curricula, develop sound policy and improve educational environments (<http://rossier.usc.edu>).

About the USC School of Social Work

The University of Southern California's School of Social Work (www.usc.edu/socialwork) ranks among the nation's top 10 social work graduate programs and maintains the oldest social work master's and Ph.D. programs in the West. With its reputation for educational excellence, cultural diversity and significant research funding, the school prepares students for leadership roles in public and private organizations that serve individuals, families and communities in need. The USC School of Social Work was the first to endow a center for interdisciplinary social work research – the Hamovitch Center for Science in the Human Services – and remains a pioneer in translational research, experiential learning and academic innovation.

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