The Office of Student Engagement, in conjunction with other departments and student organizations, offers a series of programs intended to connect first-year and transfer students and reconnect returning Smithies to the Smith Community.

To view the 2019 First Week schedule click on the photo below
FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE 2019
WEEK 1: SEPTEMBER 8-14

SEPTEMBER 6

8:00AM
LIBRARIES SCAVENGER HUNT

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Smith College Libraries presents the Libraries Scavenger Hunt! The HONS will organize their first year students into groups and then lead them on a scavenger hunt across all four Libraries stops on campus: Hillyer Art Library, Josten Performing Arts Library, and Young Library/Special Collections. Each group will receive a scavenger hunt checklist. To complete the checklist, each group must answer all the corresponding questions about each Libraries stop correctly. Bring the checklist to any library service desk, and a Libraries staff member will check the group's answers. If the answers are correct, the group will receive a stamp. After the group has answered all the questions and collected all four stamps, the checklist is completed – bring it to any Smith library and every member of the group will receive a prize!

The scavenger hunt runs from September 6 to September 13, during the Libraries' locations open hours. Visit libraries.smith.edu/hours to plan ahead! Completing the Scavenger Hunt will take around 45-60 minutes.

12:15PM-1:00PM
HEALTH & STEM PROFESSIONS FRIDAY LUNCHBAG
WELCOME SESSION

MCCONNELL 103

Learn how the Health Professions Advising (HPA) program supports Smithies, what steps and classes to take as a first year to get started, and meet the HPA Advisers who will work with you throughout your time on campus. Preparing to enter a health profession school takes time and careful planning, so now's the time to get started!
SEPTEMBER 9

4:15 PM-5:15PM  MATH SUCCESS AT SMITH  CAMPUS CENTER 205

The goal of this session is to help you navigate all the different resources at Smith College for succeeding in mathematics courses. Representatives from Department of Mathematics, the Department of Statistics and Data Science, and the Math Success initiative on campus (composed of faculty and staff committed to student success across STEM courses) will be on hand to answer any questions about your quantitative courses, how they connect to your goals, and the resources available to support YOU.

SEPTEMBER 12

4:30PM-6:00PM  COMMUNITY OF COLOR MIXER  DAVIS LAWN

The Smith College Community of Color Mixer is intended to strengthen the relationships within the community of color. This is open to all Smith students, staff, and faculty of color. Join us for sweets, games, dancing, and information on the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
SEPTEMBER 13

1:00PM-4:00PM

**EXPLORE THE DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE: MAKE YOUR OWN NOTEBOOK**

**DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE, CAPEN ANNEX 25A HENSHAW AVE**

Learn about the Design Thinking Initiative and the opportunities we offer throughout the year. Join us for a crash course in design methodology and walk away with a hand-crafted notebook. Participants will also complete safety training, which includes learning how to operate hand tools and our Glowforge lasercutter safely. Safety training will also grant you 24/7 access to the downstairs making space at Capen Annex throughout your time at Smith!

4:00PM-5:00PM

**STUDY ABROAD TALK BACK TEA WITH RETURNED STUDENTS**

**LEWIS GLOBAL STUDIES CENTER LOUNGE, WRIGHT HALL**

First-year students are encouraged to come and hear from recently returned study abroad students about their experiences. Not only will the returned study abroad students talk about their “journey” of getting ready to study abroad, they’ll also reflect on their experiences while abroad as well as the impact study abroad has made on their future. A wide variety of study abroad experiences will be represented.
FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE 2019
WEEK 1: SEPTEMBER 8-14

SEPTEMBER 13

4:30PM-5:30PM
GETTIN’ DIRTY WITH THE BOTANIC GARDEN!
LYMAN PLANT HOUSE

A Botanic Garden is a living museum of plants. And you live in one! Over 6,500 species of plants are represented in our indoor and outdoor collections. Take a tour of the Lyman Plant House (where it will be 85 degrees and sunny even in the depths of winter), then learn to take cuttings from our amazing collection of tropical plants to green up your new living space. How can a little shoot tip live and thrive when it’s cut off from the rest of the plant? You can’t do that to an animal...! This hands-on activity will be a little bit of botany and a lot of fun.

SEPTEMBER 14

10:00AM-9:30PM
SHOPPING 101
AT PARTICIPATING STORES, RESTAURANTS, AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

Holyoke Mall is excited to invite our neighboring colleges and universities to the shopping center to discover what’s new and pick up their everyday essentials— we have something for everyone! Come check out our 150+ dining, entertainment, and retail locations featuring new tenants such as Flight Fit N Fun, Round1 Bowling & Amusement, and 110 Grill. The event will feature a DJ, photo booth, in-store events, raffle prizes, and more! Best of all, the event is FREE! Click here for exclusive sales and offers.
FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE 2019
WEEK 2: SEPTEMBER 15-21

SEPTEMBER 18

4:30PM-5:30PM  GETTIN’ DIRTY WITH THE BOTANIC GARDEN!
LYMAN PLANT HOUSE
A Botanic Garden is a living museum of plants. And you live in one! Over 6,500 species of plants are represented in our indoor and outdoor collections. Take a tour of the Lyman Plant House (where it will be 85 degrees and sunny even in the depths of winter), then learn to take cuttings from our amazing collection of tropical plants to green up your new living space. How can a little shoot tip live and thrive when it’s cut off from the rest of the plant? You can’t do that to an animal...! This hands-on activity will be a little bit of botany and a lot of fun.

4:30PM-5:30PM  HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF TUTORING
SPINELLI CENTER FOR QUANTITATIVE LEARNING, SEELYE 207
Cookies, questions, and answers with students and tutors about tutoring! What are some ways to make use of it? What are some scheduling hints? What do people get out of it? You can ask your own questions, too!

SEPTEMBER 19

12:00PM-1:00PM  TIME MANAGEMENT AND STUDY STRATEGIES
JACOBSON CENTER
What do you want to spend more time doing? What do you want to spend less time doing? And why is it so hard to find time for yourself? Come to this workshop led by the Jacobson Center Learning Specialist where you will learn strategies to help you complete important activities without pressure, stay organized, and still find time to achieve your personal goals.
SEPTEMBER 20

1:00PM-4:00PM EXPLORE THE DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE: MAKE YOUR OWN NOTEBOOK

DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE, CAPEN ANNEX 25A HENSHAW AVE

Learn about the Design Thinking Initiative and the opportunities we offer throughout the year. Join us for a crash course in design methodology and walk away with a handcrafted notebook. Participants will also complete safety training, which includes learning how to operate hand tools and our Glowforge lasercutter safely. Safety training will also grant you 24/7 access to the downstairs making space at Capen Annex throughout your time at Smith!

4:00PM-5:00PM STUDY ABROAD TALK BACK TEA WITH RETURNED STUDENTS

LEWIS GLOBAL STUDIES CENTER LOUNGE, WRIGHT HALL

First-year students are encouraged to come and hear from recently returned study abroad students about their experiences. Not only will the returned study abroad students talk about their “journey” of getting ready to study abroad, they’ll also reflect on their experiences while abroad as well as the impact study abroad has made on their future. A wide variety of study abroad experiences will be represented.

5:30PM-7:30PM UNITY FALL FESTIVAL

DAVIS BALLROOM

The Unity Presidents’ Council (UPC) comprises the eleven unity organizations at Smith. UPC focuses on creating a climate of unity across cultural organizations and within the Smith community. Attend the Fall Festival to meet the organizations, enjoy cultural foods, and learn how you can get involved in our multicultural community!
SEPTEMBER 26

6:00PM-8:00PM

CRSL WELCOME PARTY
CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Reflect, Resist, Rejuvenate. Join us for an evening of fun, music, and games with the CRSL staff and affiliates. We will introduce you to some offerings on campus and beyond such mindfulness, meditation, religious and spiritual practice, social and community engagement. Ice cream to be served. Come build community in a warm, supportive environment. Ice Cream served!

SEPTEMBER 27

1:00PM-4:00PM

EXPLORE THE DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE:
MAKE YOUR OWN NOTEBOOK

DESIGN THINKING INITIATIVE, CAPEN ANNEX 25A HENSHAW AVE

Learn about the Design Thinking Initiative and the opportunities we offer throughout the year. Join us for a crash course in design methodology and walk away with a hand-crafted notebook. Participants will also complete safety training, which includes learning how to operate hand tools and our Glowforge lasercutter safely. Safety training will also grant you 24/7 access to the downstairs making space at Capen Annex throughout your time at Smith!

4:00PM-5:00PM

WHY STUDY ABROAD: PERSPECTIVES FROM FACULTY TEA

LEWIS GLOBAL STUDIES CENTER LOUNGE, WRIGHT HALL

Want to know why faculty think it is important to study abroad? Are you curious to better understand how studying abroad can enhance your studies at Smith? If so, please consider attending this tea to hear from faculty from different academic departments and fields of study as they discuss recommended courses to take prior to studying abroad as well as how to map out your degree and major requirements to include study abroad.
October 9

4:00PM-5:00PM

Why Study Abroad: Perspectives from Faculty Tea

Lewis Global Studies Center Lounge, Wright Hall

Want to know why faculty think it is important to study abroad? Are you curious to better understand how studying abroad can enhance your studies at Smith? If so, please consider attending this tea to hear from faculty from different academic departments and fields of study as they discuss recommended courses to take prior to studying abroad as well as how to map out your degree and major requirements to include study abroad.

October 18

12:00PM-1:00PM

Connecting the Global Dots: Co-Curricular Opportunities to Enhance the Smith Global Experience

Lewis Global Studies Center Lounge, Wright Hall

This session will provide students with the opportunity to learn how other areas of campus can help students enhance their global experience. Representatives from various centers and offices will speak about how career opportunities, service and community engagement, summer/j-term study abroad, funding for international experiences can enhance and strengthen a student’s preparation for study abroad.