Family Orientation

August 30, 2019

DRAFT
Family Orientation 2019
Friday, August 30

11:30-1:00 p.m. Lunch for all new students and families
Chase/Duckett, Cushing/Emerson, Cutter/Ziskind, King/Scales, Lamont, Wilson, Northrop/Gillett, and Tyler house dining rooms
New students and families are invited to join us! Lunch will be served buffet style, so feel free to come at any point during this time.

11:30 a.m. Walking tour of the campus
Admission Office
Departing from the admission office, these tours will end at the Campus Center.

1 p.m. Welcome to Smith’s Global Community: President’s Panel 2018
John M. Greene Hall
All entering students and their families are invited to the President’s first community address of the academic year. Speakers and guests include:
- Kathleen McCartney, President of the College
- Susan Etheredge, Vice President for Campus Life and Dean of the College
- Jonathan Hirsh, Senior Lecturer, Music Department
- Sarah Paquet, Lecturer, Music Department
- Lemuel Gurtkowsky, Accompanist
- Rosalie Toupin, Student Government Association president

1:30 p.m. - Welcome Reception
2:30 p.m. Chapin Lawn (Rain location: Davis Ballroom)
Meet Your Faculty, Staff, and Administrators
New students and their families are invited to an informal mixer to meet members of the faculty, administration, returning students, and each other.

2:30 p.m. - Meet the Campus Life Staff
3:30 p.m. Weinstein Auditorium, Wright Hall
Discuss the joys and anxieties of sending your student to college. Join members of the Campus Life team and others for a lively discussion of what to expect, based on your questions.

3:45 p.m. – Family Orientation Sessions
4:45 p.m. as listed below – please choose one

Student Financial Services 101 – Student Financial Services
Seelye 109
Meet with staff from Student Financial Services to discuss your student’s money management, campus employment, the billing process, and financial aid.

Working Together for a Safe Community
Seelye 110
Staff members from the Office of Campus Police will present on the role Campus Police plays on campus. The discussion will focus on campus safety, emergency messaging, campus crime prevention and changes that have been made in campus safety in response to recent national events. The Campus Police staff welcomes your questions and will provide ample opportunity for discussion.
FERPA, Communication, and Confidentiality – What can we talk about?
Seelye 201
The Associate Dean of the College/Dean of Students, Registrar’s Office and Medical/Counseling Services will be happy to answer questions about how to navigate Smith's policies regarding information sharing. We’ll also talk about the importance of our partnership and the parameters of communication between administrators and your student.

Better than Google: The Smith College Libraries
Josten Library Mezzanine
When your student asks for your help researching a paper, just send them to us! Learn all about the resources, collections, and reference assistance the Smith College Libraries (SCL) provides. This session will also talk about the new Neilson construction project. Feel free to ask questions about the SCL and then accompany a library staff member on a tour of one of the Libraries or the Special Collections Reading Room.

Engaging in Co-Curricular life – Tamra Bates and Kristin Hughes
Seelye 212

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Everything You Need to Know to Help Your New Student Thrive
Weinstein Auditorium
Associate Dean of the College/Dean of Students Julie Ohotnicky and Associate Dean of the College/Class Dean Danielle Ramdath will talk about your student’s new life as a college student and what this means for you as a parent/guardian.

ASSETS information session
Stoddard Auditorium
Jane Stangl, Dean of the first-year class, and Laura Rauscher, Director of Disability Services, will help students understand the services available to them for physical and learning disabilities as well as ADHD, mental health issues, and other conditions. Parents will discover how to enhance their children’s success in the Smith learning environment. This session will cover academic requirements, social expectations, Smith’s academic support services and residential program, disability services and accommodations at Smith, requirements for disability documentation, and students’ rights and responsibilities.

6:00 p.m.
Free time/Family time

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Dinner for residential board-paying students and families
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

7:30 p.m.
PARENTS AND FAMILIES DEPART
Fall 2019

Friday, August 30
Central check-in for new students

Tuesday, September 3–Wednesday, September 4, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Key pick-up (Clark Hall) and move-in for returning students

Friday, August 30–Wednesday, September 4: Orientation
The week before the start of classes, new students gather to learn about the college and get to know each other.

Wednesday, September 4
Opening convocation, 7 p.m.

Thursday, September 5
Classes begin at 8 a.m.

Wednesday, September 11
Last day to add a course online

Wednesday, September 18
Last day to drop a course online; last day to add a Five College course

Wednesday, September 25
Last day to add a Smith course

To be announced by the president: Mountain Day
Mountain Day is a surprise break from classes. The president chooses a beautiful fall day and announces the holiday by ringing the college bells. Classes scheduled before 7 p.m. are canceled.

Saturday, October 12–Tuesday, October 15
Autumn recess

Tuesday, October 29: Sherrerd Teaching Prize Ceremony
The Sherrerd Prize for Distinguished Teaching is given annually to Smith faculty members selected for their distinguished teaching records and demonstrated enthusiasm and excellence.

Friday, October 25–Sunday, October 27: Family Weekend
Students and their families are invited to attend concerts, lectures and panel discussions as well as athletic and social events.

Monday, November 4–Friday, November 15
Advising and course registration for the spring 2020 semester

Thursday, November 7: Otelia Cromwell Day
Otelia Cromwell Day is an annual slate of workshops, lectures, films and entertainment held to honor Smith’s first African American graduate. Afternoon and evening classes are canceled.

Wednesday, November 27–Sunday, December 1
Thanksgiving recess (houses close at 10 a.m. on November 27 and open at 1 p.m. on December 1)

Thursday, December 12
Last day of classes

Friday, December 13–Monday, December 16
Pre-examination study period

Tuesday, December 17–Friday, December 20
Final examinations

Saturday, December 21, 2019–Sunday, January 5, 2020
Winter recess (houses close at 10 a.m. on December 21 and open at 1 p.m. on January 5)

Wednesday, January 8
Fall 2019 grades due

Interterm 2020

Monday, January 6–Friday, January 24
During January interterm, the college is open, but residence is not required. Interterm provides time for students to investigate a special area of interest; to participate in courses, activities and conferences at Smith and other area colleges; to do work in libraries, museums, laboratories, etc.; to participate in internships; to work on research projects; or to enjoy the facilities of the campus at a more leisurely pace. No classes are held on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20.

Houses open for returning students at 1 p.m. on January 5. Students returning from study abroad/away, readmitted students and transfers for the spring semester may move in Monday, January 20; keys may be picked up at Clark Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Spring 2020

Thursday, January 23–Sunday, January 26
Orientation for entering students

Monday, January 27
Classes begin at 8 a.m.

Friday, January 31
Last day to add a course online

Friday, February 7
Last day to drop a course online; last day to add a Five College course

Friday, February 14
Last day to add a Smith course

Thursday, February 20: Rally Day
Rally Day is highlighted by an all-college convocation at which distinguished alumnae are awarded the Smith College Medal, with a reception to follow. *Afternoon classes are canceled.*

Saturday, March 14–Sunday, March 22
Spring recess (houses close at 10 a.m. on March 14 and open at 1 p.m. on March 22)

Monday, April 6–Friday, April 17
Advising and course registration for the fall 2020 semester

Saturday, April 25: Celebrating Collaborations
Celebrating Collaborations is Smith’s annual showcase of student research and performance, highlighting the collaborative efforts of students and faculty.

Friday, May 1
Last day of classes

Saturday, May 2–Monday, May 4
Pre-examination study period

Tuesday, May 5–Friday, May 8
Final examinations

Saturday, May 9
Houses close at 10 a.m. for all students except graduates, Commencement workers and those with Five College finals after May 9

Monday, May 11
Senior grades due

Sunday, May 17: Commencement
Commencement Weekend is Smith’s final chance to honor its graduating seniors and to observe such traditions as Ivy Day and Illumination Night. The weekend culminates on Sunday when families, friends and seniors gather for the awarding of diplomas.

Monday, May 18
All houses close at noon

Monday, May 18
Non-senior grades due

Thursday, May 21–Sunday, May 24
Second Reunion Weekend