



SMITH COLLEGE

ORIENTATION
for New Students
2021

All links for remote sessions can be found on our [Orientation moodle course](#). Please note that the moodle course will open on Monday, August 16, 2021. Any session recordings will be made available on the moodle course.

An * (asterisk) indicates that the session is for Adas and transfer students.

Departmental Placement Exams

To assist students in considering what level of courses they should enter, please visit the Registrar's website for information about placement exams. Some exams have due dates prior to individual advising appointments. The links to placement exams, auditions and portfolio reviews can be found on the [Registrar's Office website](#).

Monday, August 23– Thursday, August 26

By Appt 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. **Individual Advising Appointments via Zoom (Required for first-years)**

Advisers will meet for one half hour with each advisee. Students will be contacted by their liberal arts adviser the week prior to schedule their appointment within this time frame.

During this half hour, you—the advisee—should be prepared to discuss course ideas and interests, and your adviser will help you link your developing academic preferences with choices for classes. They may also offer other avenues for you to explore your interests this fall and in the coming academic year.

Monday, August 23

6– 9 p.m. **Calling In as a Smith Leadership Practice With Professor Loretta Ross Part I**

This two-part virtual training is required for new students. Students must register ahead of time to attend via Zoom or watch the recording by the start of the semester. The link to register for the event will be available on Moodle.

Participants will learn about calling-in practices to counter the call-out culture.

The presentation will address the following questions: What is the calling-in/calling-out continuum? What do you say to call someone in? When should it be used? When is calling someone out the right thing to do? Can we set logical boundaries for dissent without losing cohesion? If so many of us are aware of the problems of call-out culture, why haven't we changed it? Can we stop the busy urgency of our lives to pay closer attention to our effects on other people? Can we create this culture shift?

Tuesday, August 24

6– 9 p.m. **Calling In as a Smith Leadership Practice With Professor Loretta Ross Part II**

This two-part virtual training is required for new students. Students must register ahead of time to attend via Zoom or watch the recording by the start of the semester. The link to register for the event will be available on Moodle.

Participants will learn about calling-in practices to counter the call-out culture. The presentation will address the following questions: What is the calling-in/calling-out continuum? What do you say to call someone in? When should it be used? When is calling someone out the right thing to do? Can we set logical boundaries for dissent without losing cohesion? If so many of us are aware of the problems of call-out culture, why haven't we changed it? Can we stop the busy urgency of our lives to pay closer attention to our effects on other people? Can we create this culture shift?

Friday, August 27

8– 11 a.m. Central Check-In and Move In for new students

Indoor Track and Tennis Facility (ITT)

All students must visit central check-in before arriving at their houses to move in. In addition to receiving your room keys, course registration materials and college ID card, you will have the opportunity to connect with various campus departments and services.

11:30 a.m.– 1 p.m. Lunch for all new students and families

Davis Lawn

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.

Lunch for incoming Adas with Ada coordinator*

Chase House

Join Ada Coordinator Sam Wentworth for lunch.

1 p.m. President's Welcome

Seelye Tent

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
- Baishakhi Taylor, Vice President for Campus Life and Dean of the College
- Paige Graham, Lecturer, Music Department
- Jonathan Hirsh, Senior Lecturer, Music Department
- Grant Moss, Accompanist and Senior Lecturer, Music Department
- Emma Tierney '22, Student Government Association President

1:30– 2:30 p.m. Welcome Reception

Seelye Lawn

New students and their families are invited to an informal mixer to meet members of the faculty, administration, staff, returning students and each other. Light refreshments will be served until 2:15 p.m. when you will want to start heading to your separate sessions.

Family Orientation

2:30– **Seelye Tent**

6 p.m. See family orientation schedule for details and locations. (No students.) The Family Orientation Schedule will be available on the [For New Students website](#) in late August.

2:30– **Class Dean's Welcome for transfers, Ada's, visiting and exchange students* (students only)**

Graham Hall, Hillyer Hall

Class Deans Andrea Rossi-Reder and Susanna Howe will share important academic information. The meeting will conclude with the official Ada Comstock Scholars class photo. *Attendance is mandatory.*

Class Dean's Welcome for first-year students (students only)

John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

Jane Stangl, dean of the first-year class, welcomes the Class of 2025 into the Smith College academic community. This meeting is critical to your academic success at Smith! *Attendance is mandatory.*

4–5 p.m. ASSETS (parents and students welcome)

Chapin Tent

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 and other conditions. Parents will discover ways 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. *Optional for those interested.*

Campus Tours by your Head of New Student (HONS)

Meet your HONS in front of your house if you want to walk around and talk about the campus.

5:30–7 p.m.

Dinner for residential board-paying students and families

Chase/Duckett, Cushing/Emerson, Cutter/Ziskind, King/Scales, Lamont, and Tyler house dining rooms

New students and families are invited to join us! Dinner will be served in to-go containers. Your student will be invited to enter the dining hall and pack your meal for you. You are welcome to picnic outdoors on campus.

7:30 p.m.

Parents and Families Depart

8–9 p.m.

**Nuts and Bolts of Living on Campus
All first-years should attend.**

House living room

Gather with your fellow housemates for this multifaceted information session. House reps will cover:

- Campus life resources–Heads of New Students (HONS)
- Academic resources and policies–Student Academic Advisers (SAA)
- Residential policies and procedures–Head Resident (HR)
- House Life: House Community Adviser (HCA) and House President (HP)

10–10:30 a.m.

Coffee and Pastry in the Ada Lounge*

Hopkins Lounge

Check out the Ada lounge and meet your coordinator, Sam Wentworth, for coffee and pastry. We will walk to JMG together for the party bus tour after.

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Party Bus: Tour of the Valley*

John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

Join your fellow Ada and transfer students to see what the Pioneer Valley has to offer. Current Ada scholars will show you all the special spots on campus that will make you feel at home, from restaurants to swimming areas and all the necessities in between.

noon–1:30 p.m.

Lunch for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Picnic Lunch for Ada Comstock Scholars*

Capen Lawn

Get to know your entering Ada classmates and have lunch in the beautiful Capen gardens.

1:30–2:30 p.m.

**Campus Tour for transfers*
Clark Hall porch**

A chance for transfer students to become familiar with campus and with each other.

5:30–7 p.m.

Dinner for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

7–9 p.m.

**Drag Bingo
Davis Ballroom**

Not your grandmother's bingo! Drag Bingo is a louder, rowdier and spicier version of an old favorite. New students are invited to join in the chance to win prizes and meet new friends!

Trivia Night

Weinstein Auditorium, Wright Hall

All new students are invited to put their stores of meaningless information to the test for Trivia Night. Join in an evening of informal team competition, the chance to win prizes, meet new friends and have a great time!

Saturday, August 28

7:30–8 a.m.

Breakfast for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Orientation Groups

Program locations will be made available to you before you arrive on campus. Check the time for your group as they may vary for beginning or end times.

9:30–10:15 a.m.

**Meet and Greet for transfers*
Seelye Hall, Room 201**

Meet your fellow transfer students and walk to JMG for a tour of the valley.

Sunday, August 29

7:30–8 a.m. **Breakfast for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

8:30 a.m.–noon

Orientation Groups

Program locations will be made available to you before you arrive on campus. Check the time for your group as they may vary for beginning or end times.

10 a.m.–noon **Ada and Transfer Info Session With Karen Sise and Student Panel***
Seelye Hall, Room 201
Required for all Ada and transfer students.
Join us for a transfer and Ada information session followed by a panel of current Ada students to answer any lingering questions.

noon–1:30 p.m. **Lunch for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

1:30–3 p.m. **Playfair for all new students**
Chapin Lawn
It's time to play! Come together on the lawn for some fun and festivities.

3:30–5:30 p.m. **Living in a Diverse Community**
John M. Greene Hall (JMG)
Smith is a global community. You are joining a community of people from a variety of backgrounds. This is a chance to hear from Floyd Cheung, vice president for equity and inclusion, Professor Loretta Ross from the Department for the Study of Women and Gender, and a panel of current students who will share their experiences and advice for joining this community of Smithies. There will also be an opportunity to reflect on your own experiences and make some new connections! *Attendance is mandatory for all students.*

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

7–9 p.m. **Smith To Do Seelye Tent**
Looking to get a little crafty? The Office of Student Engagement Programming Team will be on hand with supplies and snacks to help you get creative and personalize your new Smith space.

Monday, August 30

7:30–9 a.m. **Breakfast for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

9–9:45 a.m. **Meet Your Student Academic Adviser (SAA)**
House Living Rooms
Your student academic advisers will be invaluable in providing help for navigating your registration process as you chart your academic path. *This is required for all first-year students.*

10–10:45 a.m. **How to Be an Effective Advisee**
John M. Greene Hall (JMG)
The faculty director of liberal arts advising (Professor Sarah Moore) will help you to learn about our academic advising system, providing perspectives on how to best work with your faculty liberal arts adviser in exploring the many learning opportunities at Smith. *Required for all new students.*

10:45–10:55 a.m. **Provost Michael Thurston will offer greetings to the Class of 2025**
John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

11–noon **Smith Reads**
John M. Greene Hall (JMG)
Mohsin Hamid, author of *Exit West*, will speak to our incoming students about his book, collections and work as an author. Students will have an opportunity to question Hamid before his presentation and Ambreen Hai, professor and chair, Department of English Language and Literature, will interview him. The author's works have been translated into 40 languages, featured on best-seller lists and adapted for the cinema.

noon–1:30 p.m. **Lunch for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

1:30–2:30 p.m. **Group Advising Meeting**
Various locations shared by advisers
Faculty liberal arts advisers will meet with their cohort of liberal arts advisees in groups. Location will be shared in your individual advising meetings.

2:45–4 p.m. **Conversations With Faculty**
Zoom links for departments and programs will be on Moodle
Individual academic departments and programs will hold synchronous Zoom sessions for entering students. These sessions give students and faculty members a chance to discuss the particulars of their programs and departments.

4:15–5:30 p.m. **Getting Help Helps**
John M. Greene
We all need help sometimes. Wellness Services and the Office of Disability Services staff will discuss campus resources and options for support. *Required for all new students.*

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

ASSETS Pizza Party
Campus Center 103/104
Meet and greet opportunity for students with all types of disabilities such as mobility, chronic health, mental health or other conditions. Get to know other students and meet upper-class students and alums. We are a supportive community who invite you to share your ideas and interests and who want to offer support and suggestions, and do everything we can to help you feel welcome, share ideas, interests, offer support, suggestions and do everything we can to get you connected and make sure your time at Smith is the best.

8–10 p.m. **Movie Night**
Seelye Tent
Join us for popcorn and a movie.
Optional.

Tuesday, August 31

7:30–9:30 a.m. **Breakfast for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

9:30–noon **Online Registration Opens**
Students will register for courses through Workday. **Seelye 212** is reserved for students who need computer access.

10–noon **Adas Library Tour***
Welcome to your exclusive sneak peek of the libraries. Meet Cat Hannula, first-year's experience and engagement librarian, at the Nielson Seelye lawn entrance for a tour of the libraries: Neilson Library, Josten Performing Arts Library and Hillyer Art Library.

noon–1:00 p.m. **Lunch for residential board-paying students**
Open dining rooms
Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

1–2 p.m. **Pathways—Facilitated Activity**
House living rooms
There are many possible pathways you can create in your learning at and beyond Smith. Students will meet in their houses with their student academic advisers for a session facilitated by the faculty director of liberal arts advising to start to design the many pathways you might want to start exploring.

Ada Drop-In*
Hopkins Lounge
Bring your lunch and ask any questions.

2–3 p.m. **Summer Reading Discussions**
House living rooms
Adas: Hopkins lounge*
Join a faculty facilitator and your fellow students for a conversation about *Exit West*, our summer reading. *Required for all new students.*

3:30–4:30 p.m. **Concentrations and centers**
Seelye Tent
The centers at Smith are unique resources to support your learning, offering both curricular and co-curricular

programming. Concentrations present an opportunity to integrate coursework with practical experiences and independent work, often using the resources of Smith's centers. Come learn how to explore these opportunities.

5:30–
7 p.m.

Transfer and Ada Q&A with STEM faculty*

Sabin-Reed 220

Come prepared to ask questions and to meet faculty from various departments. Topics to be discussed include: navigating STEM majors, shopping appropriate first courses, and finding positions in research labs. A light meal will be provided.

5:30–
7 p.m.

Dinner for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

7–
8:30 p.m.

Playfair for Returners (Returning students to include sophomores and Adas)

Chapin lawn

It's time to play! Come together on the lawn for some fun and festivities.

Wednesday, September 1

7:30–
9:30 a.m.

Breakfast for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

9:30–
10:30 a.m.

Open House
A list of open offices will be provided on the Smith social network.

Offices will be waiting to welcome new students. Take some time to get acquainted with Smith's friendly community and beautiful campus.

10–
11:15 a.m.

Returners' Reboot for sophomores and Adas

Seelye tent

Welcome back! The sophomore and Ada class deans, Susannah Howe and Andrea Rossi-Reder, and the faculty director of advising, Sarah Moore, will help you to connect and reconnect with your peers while you support each other

in taking the next steps in your learning at Smith, inside and outside of the classroom.

11:30 a.m.–
1 p.m.

Lunch for residential board-paying students

Open dining rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a list of open dining rooms.

1–2 p.m.

Resource Fair

Seelye tent

Need academic help or help with writing or public speaking? Have a question about dining that you've been too busy to ask? Join us for an informal look at offices, departments and programs that are here to support and enhance your Smith experience.

3–4 p.m.

Getting Help Helps

Weinstein Auditorium, Wright Hall

We all need help sometimes. Wellness Services and the Office of Disability Services staff will discuss campus resources and options for support.

Recommended for all returning students.

5–
5:30 p.m.

Convocation
Seelye Lawn

Students, faculty and staff gather for this long-standing Smith tradition to signal the start of the academic year.

5–
7:30 p.m.

Convocation Dinner
Chapin Lawn

Join together for Food Truck themed dinner on the lawn.

5:30–
8:30 p.m.

Convocation Carnival
Chapin Lawn

Join the Office of Student Engagement, SGA, Dining Services, the Dean of the College and Division of Student Affairs as we kick-off the beginning of another wonderful academic year! The evening will be filled with games, music and of course lots of food as we celebrate our community together.

Open Dining Rooms

Students may dine in any open dining room by using their OneCard IDs. Check for meal times and menus at: smith.edu/diningservices. Unless noted otherwise, meal times are: breakfast, 7:30–9:30 a.m.; lunch, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.; dinner, 5–7 p.m.

Friday, August 27

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Chase/Duckett | lunch, dinner* |
| Cushing/Emerson | lunch, dinner |
| Cutter/Ziskind | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| Dawes | lunch, dinner |
| King/Scales | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | lunch, dinner |

Saturday, August 28

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Cushing/Emerson | brunch, dinner*** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | brunch, dinner |
| Dawes | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |
| King/Scales | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |

Sunday, August 29

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Cushing/Emerson | brunch, dinner*** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | brunch, dinner |
| Dawes | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |
| King/Scales | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | continental breakfast brunch, dinner |

Monday, August 30

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Cushing/Emerson | grab and go breakfast, dinner*** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | breakfast, lunch dinner |
| Dawes | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| King/Scales | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | breakfast, lunch dinner |

Tuesday, August 31

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Cushing/Emerson | grab and go breakfast, dinner*** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | breakfast, lunch dinner |
| Dawes | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| King/Scales | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | breakfast, lunch dinner |

Wednesday, September 1: Convocation

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | breakfast, lunch |
| Dawes | breakfast, lunch |
| Emerson | grab and go breakfast |
| King/Scales | breakfast, lunch |
| Lamont | lunch |
| Tyler | breakfast, lunch |

Convocation Dinner on Chapin Lawn

Thursday, September 2: First Day of Classes

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Chapin | grab and go breakfast, lunch |
| Chase/Duckett | grab and go site** |
| Comstock | dinner |
| Cushing/Emerson | grab and go breakfast dinner*** |
| Cutter/Ziskind | breakfast, lunch dinner |
| Dawes | breakfast, lunch dinner |
| King/Scales | breakfast, lunch, dinner |
| Lamont | lunch, dinner |
| Tyler | breakfast, lunch dinner |

*grab and go dinner

**Chase open 7:15 a.m.–7 p.m., Monday–Friday
7:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Saturday–Sunday

Meals and snacks all day

Kosher opens Friday 8/27 lunch and will be open for lunch and dinner, Monday–Friday

***Emerson open for grab and go breakfast and buffet dinner/ Cushing open for buffet dinner only

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Smith College is committed to maintaining a diverse community in an atmosphere of mutual respect and appreciation of differences. Smith College does not discriminate in its educational and employment policies on the bases of race, color, creed, religion, national/ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, age, disability, or service in the military or other uniformed services. Smith's admission policies and practices are guided by the same principle, concerning applicants to the undergraduate program who identify as women, and all applicants to the graduate programs. For more information, please contact the adviser for equity complaints, College Hall 302, 413-585-2141, or visit smith.edu/diversity.