



Class Deans Office
Smith College
Northampton, Massachusetts 01063
classdeans@smith.edu

June 2021

Dear Entering Transfer or Visiting Student,

Congratulations and welcome to Smith College!

As your class deans, we are responsible for overseeing the academic progress of all new students. We look forward to meeting you this fall and to working with you during your time here at Smith.

Academics at Smith centers around the commitment by students, faculty, and administration to an excellent and rigorous liberal arts education. Typically, you will find any combination of courses totaling 16-18 credits - the “normal” load - to be an exhilarating and rigorous intellectual experience. We are here to help you as you transition to the College.

Smith offers on-line course registration from **Monday, July 26 - Friday, July 30, 2021** for entering transfer and visiting students. If you would like to schedule an advising appointment prior to summer registration, please email classdeans@smith.edu. We will have advising appointments available on various weekdays in July leading up to registration. You will receive more information about credits and registration from the Registrar’s Office to prepare you for summer on-line registration.

In conjunction with Student Affairs, we have planned Orientation from **August 27 – September 1** to help you learn about the college and to meet each other. Please clear your schedule so you are able to attend the events listed in the [Orientation schedule](#) which is updated often throughout the summer.

In early to mid-August you will be assigned an adviser—and learn through Workday, the name of that faculty member. Prior to the formal [orientation](#) on Smith’s campus, you will meet with your adviser remotely in order to discuss the courses you are interested in taking. This meeting will take place in the third week of August. Your adviser will contact you at that time. We deans are available to confer with you about choosing classes, but during Orientation, your adviser and you will make the final decisions about the courses you choose to take.

Our “[For New Students](#)” website offers numerous links to our orientation program and expands further to help guide you in your preparation for living within the Smith community—academically, residentially, and socially. For new incoming students, the site linked above is your current home. Still, we encourage you to actively peruse the college website, being aware that the For New Students site will grow and be updated regularly, so get to know these sites as they will help in your preparation too.

Your central resource for academic information is the *Smith College Course Catalog*. The Catalog includes information about the organization of the curriculum, defines the Liberal Arts, explains Smith's "Academic Rules and Procedures," and offers descriptions and requirements for all majors, minors, and concentrations. For specific courses held in fall 2021, see the [Schedule of Classes](#) on the Registrar's website.

You should also make sure to explore the many services Smith offers all of its students, such as Disability Services - support for students with physical disabilities and learning differences: ods@smith.edu; the Jacobson Center - consultation for writing, tutorial services in all fields, workshops, study skills and time management strategies; and the Spinelli Center for Quantitative Reasoning - assistance with math and quantitative skills. In addition, the [Libraries](#) have an informative website.

As part of our Orientation, all entering students are asked to read a book before their arrival through our "Smith Reads" program. This Year's book is *Exit West by Mohsin Hamid*. More information about the reading is available in the [Smith Reads](#) section of our new students' website.

In closing, we would like again to personally welcome you to Smith. We are available to you for information and advising. You can learn more about us and about the [Class Deans Office](#) where we work (College Hall 101) by visiting our website. Our assistants can also help with questions -feel free to email them at classdeans@smith.edu.

Smith's mission is to educate women of promise for lives of distinction. Everyone at Smith is here to help you achieve that promise - and we all look forward to meeting you in the fall. In the meantime, enjoy the next few months before the start of the fall semester.

Sincerely,



Andrea Rossi-Reder
Dean of the Junior Class
Dean of the Ada Comstock Scholars



Susannah Howe
Dean of the Sophomore Class
Director of the Engineering Design Clinic