



June 2019

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 22 - Friday, July 26, 2019** for entering transfer and visiting students. If you would like to schedule an advising appointment with us prior to summer registration, please call our office at 413-585-4930. Advising appointments are available weekdays from **Tuesday, July 9 - Friday, July 19, 2019**. At the end of June, you will receive more information about credits and registration from the Registrar’s Office to prepare you for summer on-line registration.

When you arrive at Smith, you will be assigned a faculty adviser. During Orientation, you will meet your adviser in order to discuss the courses you may have chosen during the summer registration process and to get suggestions about courses you may not have considered. 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.

On our “[For New Students](#)” website, you will find a link to our *Making the Most of Smith* booklet. This is a guide to prepare for living within the Smith community - academically, residentially, and socially. Read it! By working your way through the booklet, you will begin your transition to college.

Be sure to look at the on-line catalog and websites for various academic programs, paying special attention to the parts of *Making the Most of Smith* entitled “Advising and Curriculum,” and the “Curricular Planning Worksheet.”

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 2019, see the [Schedule of Classes](#) on the Registrar’s website.

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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 (413-585-2071; TTY/TDD 413-585-2072); 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 *How Culture Shapes the Climate Change Debate* by Andrew J. Hoffman. 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 give them a call at our office.

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 Ada Comstock Scholars



Tina Wildhagen
Dean of the Sophomore Class
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

ARR/ck

Mark these important dates:

Friday, August 30

- **Central Check-In** – 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Indoor Track and Tennis facility (ITT), in Ainsworth Gymnasium. **You must attend Central Check-In for keys and ID.**
- **President’s Welcome** – 1:00 p.m. in John M. Greene Hall. President Kathleen McCartney, and members of the administration and faculty welcome new students and their families. A reception with faculty will follow.
- **Required meeting with Class Deans** – 2:30 p.m. in Graham Hall, Hillyer. We will give you important information about registration, academic policies and regulations.

Tuesday, September 3:

- **Group Meeting with faculty adviser from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.** You will meet your assigned faculty adviser and their other new advisees.

You will be scheduled to meet with your faculty adviser for an individual advising conference on one of the following days:

Tuesday, September 3 or Wednesday, September 4:

- **Tuesday – Individual advising appointments take place** in faculty offices on the half-hour from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday – Individual advising appointments take place** in faculty offices on the half-hour from 8:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 4:

- **Online registration takes place** from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
- **Opening Convocation**, at 7:00 p.m. in John M. Greene Hall. At this rowdy event, the entire community comes together to celebrate the start of the academic year.

Thursday, September 5:

- **Classes begin** – 8:00 a.m.