



SMITH COLLEGE.

Orientation

FOR NEW STUDENTS

2024

Moodle

Links for remote sessions can be found on the [academic Moodle course](#), which will open by August 5, 2024.

Wednesday, August 21– Wednesday, August 28

Individual Advising Appointments (By Zoom or Phone)

Beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern time on August 21, and closing at 5 p.m. on August 28, advisers will arrange to meet for one half hour with each student advisee via phone or Zoom. Students will be contacted by their liberal arts adviser prior to the advising time frame noted above to schedule their individual appointment.

During this half hour, you 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 this coming academic year.

Tuesday, August 27

Note: Events scheduled prior to August 29, 2024, are virtual. You may not arrive on campus before August 29 unless otherwise instructed.

9–10 a.m.

Health Professions Advising Program Information Session

[Online Zoom link can be found in your academic Moodle course.](#)

Preparation for a career in the health professions is part of a larger plan that includes completing prerequisite coursework, relevant clinical experiences, and community service activities. Join this session to get help with selecting your first classes, learn more about planning your activities, and find the support and resources our program offers.

(Choose this health advising session or the one from 8–9 p.m.; no need to attend both.)

11 a.m.–noon

Languages at Smith Information Session

[Online Zoom link can be found in your academic Moodle course.](#)

Do you want to continue studying a language? Learn a new language? Study abroad? Learn about other cultures? Become multilingual? Build community in small interactive classes? Register for a language class this fall! Smith's language classes teach you to communicate in a new language in under a year. Join this

session to learn more about selecting your first classes, taking placement exams, thinking about study abroad, and all the language programs Smith offers.

8–9 p.m.

Health Professions Advising Program Information Session

[Online Zoom link can be found in your academic Moodle course.](#)

Preparation for a career in the health professions is part of a larger plan that includes completing prerequisite coursework, relevant clinical experiences, and community service activities. Join this session to get help with selecting your first classes, learn more about planning your activities, and find the support and resources our program offers.

(Choose this health advising session or the one from 9–10 a.m.; no need to attend both.)

Thursday, August 29

8–11 a.m.

Central Check-In

Indoor Track & Tennis Facility (ITT)

All students must visit Central Check-In (CCI) prior to arriving at their house to move in. Here, you will check in with the registrar, receive an information packet with your student ID (OneCard), complete forms as necessary, and receive your room key. You and your family will be able to meet representatives from offices on campus as well as community partners who offer valuable services to students.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

11–11:45 a.m.

Settle In

Take this time to move into your room, meet your roommate or housemates, and start unpacking the essentials. Tips:

- Students who mailed their belongings can retrieve them from the mail center on the lower level of the Campus Center.
- Handcarts are available to borrow (in limited quantities) from the mail center and Clark Hall.
- Student volunteers in houses may assist with moving according to their own abilities. You should always be prepared to move your items into your house by yourself or with the help of your family/guests.

11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Lunch for All New Students and Their Families

Open Dining Rooms

New students and their families are invited to enjoy lunch, served buffet style, at all open dining rooms. Come at any time during the lunch hour. Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

12:45–1:30 p.m.

President's Assembly

John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

All entering students and their families are invited to a community address by President Sarah Willie-LeBreton.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

1:30–2 p.m.

Refreshments

Chapin Lawn (Rain Location: Campus Center Carroll Room)

Following the President's Assembly, light refreshments will be served until 2 p.m., when parents and students will head to their respective sessions.

2–3 p.m.

Playfair

Chapin Lawn (Rain Location: Scott Gym)

After refreshments, stay out on the lawn for Playfair, where you will jump-start friendships, boost your team spirit, and build confidence in a series of fun games. *This experience is for students only. Parents and families are asked to begin the Family Orientation sessions at this time.*

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

Family Orientation— Meet the Staff

2–3 p.m.

John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

Head back to JMG to get to know all the ways Smith staff members work to support your student throughout their time at Smith. This presentation will introduce you to both academic and campus life staff who will lead a lively discussion on what to expect in your student's first year at Smith and give an overview of the rest of the Family Orientation activities.

This session is for families only. Students are expected to attend Playfair followed by their dean's welcome session at this time.

3–4 p.m.

Welcome From the Dean of the First-Year Class

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

Dean of the First-Year Class, Jennifer Joyce, welcomes the class of 2028 into the Smith College community. This meeting is critical to your success at Smith and will teach you all you need to know about how to approach your first year academically and how the class dean and others will support you! **All first-year students are required to attend.** *This meeting is for students only.*

3–4 p.m.

Class Dean's Welcome for Transfers, Adas, and Visiting and Exchange Students

Graham Hall, Hillyer Hall

Class Dean Andrea Rossi-Reder and Associate Registrar Karen Sise welcome new transfers, Adas, and visiting and exchange students into the Smith College academic community and share important academic information. The meeting will conclude with the official Ada Comstock Scholars class photo.

All transfer, visiting, and exchange students and Ada Comstock Scholars are required to attend.

This meeting is for students only.

3–5:30 p.m.

Family Orientation—Choice Sessions

Various Locations

While students are getting filled in on the essentials of campus and academic life, families can partake in walking tours or one of several sessions tailored to their curiosities or concerns. For a full list of events and sessions open to families, please see the Family Orientation schedule on the [Parents and Families webpage](#) or pick up a schedule at the "Meet the Staff" session.

These sessions are for families only. Students are expected to attend Playfair followed by their dean's welcome session at this time.

4–4:30 p.m.

Music Department Information Session

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

Everything you need to know or want to ask about music at Smith will be covered in this session. Learn about courses, lessons, auditions for ensembles, chamber music, and more.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

Accessibility and Accommodations

Seelye Hall Room 106

EJ Seibert, director of the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC), will explain to students and families how the ARC supports equal access and participation for students with disabilities and/or access needs

in all programs and activities at Smith College.

This session will cover:

- disability services, accommodations, and documentation
- academic requirements and support services
- students' rights and responsibilities

Parents and families are welcome.

4:30–5:30 p.m.

Meet Your Orientation Leaders (OLs)

Various Locations Shared by OLs via Email

Meet with all members of your team and your Orientation Leaders (OLs) for the first time. Learn about the orientation team experience, get acquainted with ongoing orientation activities, and work together to create something special to showcase your team spirit.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

5:30–7 p.m.

Dinner*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only. Students wishing to dine with families should plan to eat downtown at one of our local restaurants.*

5:30–7 p.m.

Welcome Back Dinner for Smith's Indigenous Community and Special Welcome for Incoming Native and Indigenous Students

Bodman Lounge, Helen Hills Hills Chapel

Please join the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life for dinner to greet our new students and welcome back returning Indigenous-identified students, staff, and faculty.

Parents and families are welcome.

7 p.m.

This concludes the programming for parents and families.

8–9 p.m.

Nuts and Bolts of Living on Campus House Living Rooms

Gather with your fellow housemates for this multifaceted information session. Various topics will be covered by the corresponding house representatives:

- Campus life resources: Heads of New Students (HONS)
- Academic resources and policies: Student Academic Advisers (SAAs)
- House life: House Community Adviser(s) (HCA) and the House President (HP)

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

Friday, August 30

7–8 a.m.

Breakfast*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

8–9 a.m.

Meet With Your Student Academic Advisers House Living Rooms

Meet up with your Student Academic Advisers (SAAs) in your house living room. Your SAAs are current students elected by their house community to support you as you chart your academic path. They will share recommendations for making the best of your Group Advising Meeting and the Conversations with Faculty event, and they will help prepare you for registration. SAAs will walk new students to their Group Advising Meetings for a 9 a.m. start.

9–10 a.m.

Group Advising Meetings

Various Locations Shared by OLs via Email

Faculty liberal arts advisers (LAAs) will meet with their cohort of student advisees in a group context. These meetings are an opportunity to meet other students with similar academic interests and get comfortable interacting with faculty as you solidify your plans for registration.

Your adviser will communicate the location of this meeting to you directly during your pre-orientation individual advising meeting and in a follow-up email afterward.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

10–11:30 a.m.

Conversations With Faculty

Indoor Track & Tennis Facility (ITT)

For this event, faculty members from all departments and programs gather in one place to speak with students about course content and selection. Faculty members will be grouped around signs indicating their department, and students are encouraged to speak with faculty from any area of study that piques their interest.

Treat yourself to some light refreshments while you mingle! Not sure what to say? Here are some ideas:

- Are there classes I need to take now in order to major in this subject?
- What course should I take to see if this area of study is a good fit for me?
- What is the focus of your research or work in your field?
- What practical experiences are there for students who major in this subject?
- How can I study this subject along with another I am interested in?

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Lunch*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

12:30—1:45 p.m.

Resource Fair

Campus Center Carroll Room

If you're wondering how to become a more confident public speaker, get help with your first college-level essay, start volunteering, or connect with students who share your interests, this is the place to be!

Hosted in partnership with the Office of Student Engagement (OSE) You Belong program, the Resource Fair will introduce you to over 30 centers and departments at Smith that will support your academic and extracurricular pursuits. OSE staff will welcome you to the fair and help you navigate the many involvement opportunities available to you. Come with questions at the ready!

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

2—3 p.m.

Smith Reads Discussions

Various Locations Shared via Email*

Reconvene with your orientation team to converse with a faculty or staff facilitator about this year's Smith Reads selection, *World of Wonders* by Aimee Nezhukumatathil. This is a great opportunity to practice academic dialogue in a classroom setting before you begin classes. This kind of participation will be vital to your success in courses across all areas of study. Bring your book/e-book and be ready to share your thoughts.

**Orientation team meet-up spots will be shared directly with students via email. Once you arrive at the meet-up spot, your OLs will split the team into smaller groups and lead you to designated classrooms for discussion.*

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

3:15—4:15 p.m.

Course Registration

Online—Students will register for courses through Workday.

Registration will open on Workday at this time. Your SAAs will be waiting for you in your house living room if you have questions or need support during registration.

4:30—5:30 p.m.

Team Time

Various Locations Shared by OLs via Email

Join your team for a post-registration debrief; chat about the classes you picked, assuage your waitlist

worry, and share your thoughts on orientation so far. Your OLs have planned this activity especially for you!

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

5:30—7 p.m.

Dinner*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

5:30—7 p.m.

Transfer Students and Ada Comstock Scholars STEM Session*

Burton Hall Room 209

Entering transfer students and Ada Comstock Scholars considering a STEM major can join this session for information tailored to their experience. Hear from faculty representatives from several STEM departments for information on course selection, finding research positions, and making sure you feel prepared and supported in your studies at Smith.

**This session is intended for transfers and Ada Comstock Scholars only.*

7 p.m.

**Smith Field Hockey vs. Nichols College
Smith Turf Field**

8—10 p.m.

**Welcome to the Campus Center Bash
Campus Center, All Levels**

Join the Office of Student Engagement for a taste of the best of our yearly programming, which includes Smith 2 Do and a live game on the upper level, live music on the lower level, and an introduction to the You Belong program and how to get involved on campus on the main level. This celebration to launch your time at Smith will feature prizes, crafting, and more.

Saturday, August 31

8—9 a.m.

Breakfast*

Open Dining Rooms

Group Day Participants

Your OLs will pick a spot for breakfast and let you know where to meet via email. Feel free to join them or get breakfast at any open dining hall before Group Day begins.

Outdoor Adventure Participants

Outdoor Adventure participants will receive specific instructions via email about where to get breakfast, where to meet, and whether you will need a bagged lunch.

Preseason Athletes

Students who arrived early to participate in certain fall sports may have team commitments on

Group Day. Your coach will provide more information about your schedule.

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

9–10:30 a.m.

Group Day—Morning Session 1

Various Locations

Group Day activity locations will be communicated to students via email.

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Group Day—Morning Session 2

Various Locations

Group Day activity locations will be communicated to students via email.

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Lunch*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

1:45–3:15 p.m.

Group Day—Afternoon Session 1

Various Locations

Group Day activity locations will be communicated to students via email.

3:30–5:00 p.m.

Group Day—Afternoon Session 2

Various Locations

Group Day activity locations will be communicated to students via email.

5:30–7 p.m.

Dinner*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

7–8:30 p.m.

HONS Programs

House Living Rooms

Meet up with your Head(s) of New Students (HONS) in your house living room to take part in an activity planned especially for you! This is a good time to connect with the other new students in your house and unwind after Group Day.

HONS are current students elected by their house community to assist your transition to residential life at Smith. They are the first to welcome you to your house on move-in day, and will continue to welcome you into the house community throughout the year.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

Sunday, September 1

8–10 a.m.

Breakfast*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

10–10:45 a.m.

Your First Year: Being a Part of the Smith Community

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

First-Year Class Dean Jennifer Joyce will discuss what it means to be a Smithie and how that gets defined by its own distinct values, expectations, and practices across campus spaces (from the classroom to the living room, with the public spheres in between).

While she will touch on some important aspects of students' responsibilities within the community and describe the modes of integrity required of all community members, Dean Joyce will offer tips for thriving in the first year and best practices for building, enacting, and improving community in all campus spaces and areas of campus life.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

10:45 a.m.–noon

Living in a Diverse Community

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

Smith is a global community right here in Massachusetts! You are joining a community of people who are diverse in every sense of the word. Meet Floyd Cheung, vice president of the Office for Equity and Inclusion, and engage in community-building activities led by current students in the Leaders for Equity-Centered and Action-Based Design (LEAD) program. There will also be an opportunity to reflect on your own experiences and make some new connections!

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

noon–1:30 p.m.

Lunch*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

1:30–3 p.m.

Karaoke Jam With DJ PRL

Campus Center Carroll Room

Singing together is one of the oldest means of making connections. Let loose and meet fellow music lovers at our first ever karaoke jam! This event is hosted by local DJ PRL and features a bubble tea bar.

1:30–3 p.m.

Smith Trivia

Davis Ballroom, Davis Center

We hope you've brushed up on your Smith College knowledge! Put your capacity for hoarding trivial tidbits to the test in this Smith-themed trivia game. Of course, no trivia game is complete without the chance to win prizes!

3–5 p.m.

Free Time/Me Time

Here are some ways of creating meaningful experiences that still allow you to recharge:

- Relax in your room, but leave your door open for a while so your housemates can say hello.
- Create art, photos, or poetry that can be added to the Orientation Collab Collage. Supplies can be found in Campus Center Room 103/104 during this time.
- Get some coffee, tea, or treats in the Campus Center Café or downtown. Northampton is home to over a dozen cafés perfect for unhurried time with friends.
- Visit the botanic garden's Lyman Plant House and take advantage of the calming effect that lush greenery can have.

5–7 p.m.

Dinner*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

5–6:30 p.m.

Accessibility Resource Center (ARC)

Disability Justice Dinner

Campus Center Room 103/104

The Accessibility Resource Center welcomes students with disabilities and/or access needs to an informal meet-and-greet opportunity featuring ARC staff. This is a space for sharing interests and ideas, finding support, and learning about opportunities for connection in the Smith community while enjoying a meal together.

7–9 p.m.

Drag Bingo

Scott Gym

Not your grandma's bingo! Drag Bingo is a louder, rowdier, and spicier version of an old favorite. Come with your teammates or on your own to enjoy a fabulous show, make friends, and maybe even win a prize!

7–9 p.m.

Spirits of Smith Ghost Tours*

Meet on Chapin House front porch.

A tour group leaves every 30 minutes between 7 and 9 p.m.

Your OLs have extensively trained in the art of supernatural storytelling. Join them on a tour of

Smith—which by some accounts is the most haunted college campus in America—to hear spine-tingling tales of the specters of Smith's past. Get in the spirit by wearing your scary best (if you'd like) and enjoy a silly survey of Smith's spookiest spaces.

**This event will be canceled in the event of inclement weather.*

Monday, September 2

7–9 a.m.

Breakfast*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

9–10 a.m.

Meet Up With Your Student

Academic Advisers

Your House Living Room

In preparation for the start of classes on Tuesday, your SAAs will meet you to discuss best practices in the classroom and where to find academic support resources. This will also be a time for some bonding with your SAAs.

10–10:30 a.m.

Library Information Session

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

Meet the First Years' Engagement and Humanities Librarian Xochitl Quiroz and get a primer on the support and resources available to you through the Smith College Libraries.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

10:30 a.m.–noon

The Care and Keeping of You:

Smith College Edition

Sweeney Auditorium, Sage Hall

Join the Schacht Center for Health and Wellness, the Accessibility Resource Center, and the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life to learn about maintaining well-being on campus. This workshop will promote key skills around mental and physical well-being and provide tools for designing a self-advocacy road map for maintaining health and wellness while at Smith. At the end, participants will enter a drawing for fun self-care items.

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

noon–1:15 p.m.

Lunch*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

1:15–2:45 p.m.

Smith Reads: A Conversation With the Author

John M. Greene Hall (JMG)

This is a “wonder”-ful chance to hear from this year’s Smith Reads’ author, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, writer of *World of Wonders*. Nezhukumatathil will offer a reading and will participate in a lively onstage conversation stemming from questions posed over the course of the summer by our incoming students. You don’t want to miss this!

Attendance at this event is required for all new students.

2:45–4 p.m.

Team Time—End of Orientation and Team Farewell*

Chapin Lawn

We know that you wish Orientation could go on forever, but all good things must come to an end. Be rewarded for your participation with some sweet treats and prizes, thank your OLs, and take part in one final showdown to find out which team will come out on top. Wear your team color, and bring lots of good vibes!

**This event will be canceled in the event of inclement weather.*

4–5:30 p.m.

Free Time/Me Time

Take a moment to make sure you are ready for your first day of classes before the evening fun begins. Double-check the locations of your classrooms, pack up your supplies, and prepare any questions you have about your courses. We encourage you to enjoy your evening, but take good care of yourself so that you can have a productive day tomorrow!

5:30–7 p.m.

Dinner*

Open Dining Rooms

Please refer to the end of this program for a link to the dining hall menus.

**For residential board-paying students only.*

7–10 p.m.

Welcome Carnival

Chapin Lawn

Join the Office of Student Engagement, the Student Government Association, Dining Services, the Dean of the College, and the Office of Student Affairs as we kick off the beginning of another wonderful academic year! The evening will be filled with music, dancing, and a few fun treats as we celebrate our community together.

Open Dining Rooms

Students may eat in any open dining room by using their Student ID (OneCard). Check the “On the Menu” section of the [Smith College Dining & Menus webpage](#) for meal times and menus.

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.