



ROAR

Governors State University
2016 Orientation



Governors State
UNIVERSITY

Orientation Checklist

- Submit Final High School Transcripts
- Participate fully in Orientation program and sessions
- Submit immunization records to Academic Resource Center (Room B1215) by September 4, 2015
- Pick up your myONECARD from the Welcome Center
- Consider living in Prairie Place. (Congratulations if you have already submitted your contract)
- Purchase a dining plan (<http://www.govst.edu/dining/>)
- Check your financial aid status through your myGSU Portal
 - Complete entrance counseling (www.studentloans.gov)
 - Complete your Master Promissory Note (www.studentloans.gov)
- Set up a tuition payment plan (www.govst.edu/cashier)
- Check the GSU foundation webpage for any scholarships you may qualify for.
- Check your class schedule and speak to your advisor about making any changes



Dear Student,

Welcome to Governors State University. You have already distinguished yourself as someone who is ready for success. You are smart enough to see the special opportunities waiting for you as a GSU freshman.

- You will make life-long friends, as you take at least three classes with the same group of students.
- You will be inspired as you study in small classes with our dedicated full-time faculty.
- You will see the world in new ways, as you discover and create Big Ideas.

The first year of college is just as important as the first year of life and offers similar opportunities for growth and development. Make a resolution to try something new this year: audition for a play, join a team, lead a club, understand what it means to live in the midst of art, take Metra to Millennium Park—the possibilities are endless.

Be proud to be a Jaguar. Cheer on our teams. But also think about what it means to be part of Jaguar Nation. Jaguars are resilient, and so are you. Studies have shown that resilience—the ability to deal with stress and bounce back—is the essential attribute of college success. GSU is set up to help you manage the stress you will inevitably encounter. My best advice is to stay with the program. We are committed to help you balance a full course schedule with employment opportunities, family commitments, and time for relaxation. Strong people ask for help when needed. Just ask.

I hope to meet each one of you during this academic year in your classes, at Prairie Place, at campus activities, and in the bleachers at athletic events. Have a remarkably successful freshman year.

And Go Jaguars!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elaine P. Maimon".

Elaine P. Maimon, Ph.D.
President, Governors State University



Getting Connected at GSU

Make sure you check out the departments on this page. Most offices on campus are open Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. Keep in mind that during the summer, the University is closed on Fridays. Many of these departments will be participating in New Student Orientation at some point during the day, so make sure you check the program schedule to see the best way to connect with the staff.

New Student Programs

We're glad to have you as part of the GSU family! As a new student on campus, you're probably not sure what to expect your first year. You may be both nervous and excited about starting college. New Student Programs is here to help ease the transition of your first year. We have programs and services that will help you become familiar with campus resources, connect with other students, and provide you with opportunities to make social connections across campus. New Student Programs will provide academic advising to first year students, support for Early Start and peer mentors to help you through your first year.

Student Life

Beyond great professors and challenging classes, there are all kinds of activities to get involved in at Governors State University. You'll find sports teams plus more than 70 clubs and organizations to meet your every interest - and then some. Better yet, why not try out something brand new? It's never too early to start flexing your community leadership muscles at GSU.

Leadership Opportunities

- Student Senate is your voice in decisions that affect our campus.
- The GSU Program Council not only creates student events, but celebrates our diversity.

- The Community Service Council can help you get involved in service activities such as the GSU Food Pantry or food and clothing drives.
- The GSU Editorial Board publishes The Phoenix, our student newspaper, which keeps the entire campus informed.

Study Abroad

The Office of International Services is committed to promoting the growth of the international community at Governors State University and to helping students meet their academic goals and have a successful and enjoyable experience while attending GSU. OIS offers assistance to students that desire to enhance their education by studying abroad. Please speak with an OIS advisor about the possibility of participating in an education abroad experience.

Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room available to GSU community

Consistent with its focus on diversity and inclusion, GSU is committed to supporting people of all faiths fairly and to provide the GSU Community with access to facilities for personal observation of their faith traditions or quiet contemplation.

Accordingly, a Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room is available year round in Building A, room 2150. The room is an accessible space, which can be used by people of all faith traditions and beliefs, and for those whom religion has no particular significance in their lives. The room may be used as a quiet space for people to sit and contemplate, to pray, to take a few moments to de-stress from a busy day, or to recover from a traumatic life event, such as bereavement. The Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room is available on a drop-in basis, or can be reserved by contacting Student Life at 708.235.7362.

Quick Guide to Campus Services

Admissions

Phone: 708.534.4490
Email: gsunow@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/admissions
Location: D Building - main entrance

Bookstore

Phone: 708.534.4558
Email: governors@bkstr.com
Webpage: www.govst.edu/bookstore
Location: E Building

Career Services

Phone: 708.235.3974
Email: career@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/careerservices
Location: A1120

Cashier/Financial Services

**for tuition payment plans*
Phone: 708.534.4055
Email: cashier@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/cashier
Location: C1336

Counseling and Academic Resource Center

Phone: 708.534.4090
Email: arc@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/arc
Location: B1215

Dean of Students

Phone: 708.235.7595
Email: deanofstudents@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/dos
Location: A2134

Disability Services

Phone: 708.235.3968
Email: rsweney@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/disabilities
Location: B1215

Financial Aid

Phone: 708.534.4480
Email: faid@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/finaid
Location: D Building – main entrance

Fitness Center

Phone: 708.534.4556
Email: recfit@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/recfit
Location: A1106

Library

Phone: 708.534.4112
Email: library@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/library
Location: Second Floor D Building

New Student Programs/ General Education Advising

Phone: 708.235.6819
Email: fye@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/nsp
Location: A Wing, Second Floor

Student Life

Phone: 708.235.7362
Email: SLCO@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/studentlife
Location: A2100

University Housing

Phone: 708.235.7110
Email: housing@govst.edu
Webpage: www.govst.edu/housing
Location: C1330



“Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson inspired by Henry David Thoreau



Welcome new students to the GSU Family! We are excited that you are here and look forward to helping you prepare for the start of your college experience, and also look forward to assisting your family members and supporters in understanding the many ways they can contribute to your success.

This is an exciting time to be a student at Governors State University and we are honored to have you and your families be part of our community at this transformative moment in our history. We believe strongly that orientation will serve as the first step in your journey toward becoming part of the rich legacy of this institution's past, and more importantly, contributing to its very bright future. As you learn more about the people, programs, and resources that define our community, look for places where you can contribute your talent and energy. You were selected to attend GSU because you have something to offer – something of value to others.

Lastly, I would encourage you to keep in touch with your Orientation Leaders. These students are campus experts and are here to assist you not only during orientation, but also throughout the beginning of your experience at GSU in August and September. We hope that you enjoy your orientation experience, and most significantly, that you leave campus feeling excited about returning to GSU as a member of Jaguar Nation!

Sincerely,

Dr. Aurélio Manuel Valente
Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

 @GSUDean

Campus Location: Student Life Center (A-2130)

Mailing Address: 1 University Parkway | University Park, IL 60484

Website: www.govst.edu/studentaffairs

Ask an Advisor



- What are the required courses for this major?
- What are the classes like?
- What electives are recommended?
- Do you require a minimum GPA to get into the major?
- Will a bachelor's degree in this major prepare me for a job in this field, or will I more than likely need to pursue graduate work?
- What are some advantages of a dual major, or minor?
- What is a good "try it out" course for this major/minor? Why is this good course for students looking to explore this major?
- Are there departmental/professional associations I should join if I select this major?
- Will a senior project or internship be required for majors in this program? What kind of projects or internships have students worked on recently?
- What are some recommended minors that work well with this major?
- Are there Service Learning opportunities in this major?
- What are some internships opportunities in this major?
- What kinds of career opportunities are available to graduates of this program?
- Are jobs available in the state of Illinois for graduates of this program or do graduates with this major need to plan to move to other areas of the country or world?
- Should I pursue some type of part-time work to prepare for careers in this field?
- What are recent graduates of this program doing now?
- Will I have a lot of faculty contact in this major? What will that contact be like (will it be in research, small class sizes, mentoring, service projects, advising, etc)?
- Are your student organizations active? What are the advantages of joining these?
- Is there an Honor Society for this major? What are the requirements for selection to this honors organization?
- Does this major prepare me for professional certifications?

Student Schedule



8:00 a.m. Arrival, ID Photos and Check-In

Come on in, enjoy some coffee and a continental breakfast before the day ahead. Once you're ready, a ROAR Leader will guide you to the joint welcome address for students and families. Did you arrive early enough to take your photo for your student ID? If so, your ROAR Leader will show you where to go so that you can beat the lines later. Make sure you let them know if you're planning to live on campus so they direct you to the correct location.

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

ROAR (Resources, Orientation, Advising and Registration) has started! Meet the ROAR Leaders and Interns, and get information about the exciting day ahead.

9:30 a.m. Advising 101 A

10:15 a.m. Academic Overview: What to expect in the first year

Smart Start

This session is required for students admitted to Smart Start Math and/or Smart Start English. Any students interested in learning more about Smart Start are welcome to attend. Your advising folder will indicate if this session is required for you.

Direct Admits

Join the Dean of Students and Director of Multicultural Affairs to learn more about the cohort theme you've selected, the common reading, and civic engagement opportunities on and off campus.

11:00 a.m. Money Talks

In this session you'll learn about the academic requirements of GSU, meet your Academic Advisor and learn about GSU's First Year Peer Mentor program. You will receive a copy of your class schedule, learn more about the cohort theme you've selected, classes you have already been registered for and receive tips on how to select your remaining classes.

11:45 a.m. MyONECARD, Campus Dining and Bookstore Services on the GSU Campus

The myONECARD, dining services and the GSU bookstore can make every student's life a little easier. Come hear how these areas will help you be a successful GSU student.

Prairie Place is Governors State University's first on-campus residential community where students can take full advantage of everything our diverse and lively community has to offer. Residents will have the opportunity to fully immerse themselves into the campus culture and create memorable experiences. This presentation provides future residents with a taste of the on-campus living experience as information on resources and important dates to aid with their transition into and success in the GSU community as well as the opportunity to meet their future neighbors at Prairie Place.

12:15 p.m. Lunch with Leaders and Academic Programs Fair

Now is the time to enjoy a tasty lunch and talk to your family members about the classes you are considering adding to your schedule. Representatives from the four academic colleges will be available to talk to you about the majors that you may be considering. This is the time to ask the experts about what classes you may want to take to start your major or explore the ones you are interested in.

Student Schedule

1:00 p.m. Small Group Meetings with ROAR Leaders

If you didn't join us last night for the Getting Ready to ROAR activities, this may be your first chance to meet your peers and interact with our talented and energetic ROAR Leaders. In addition to participating in lively and engaging activities, along with university policies and procedures, this meeting will set the tone for your orientation experience and is a perfect opportunity to ask any early questions you may have.

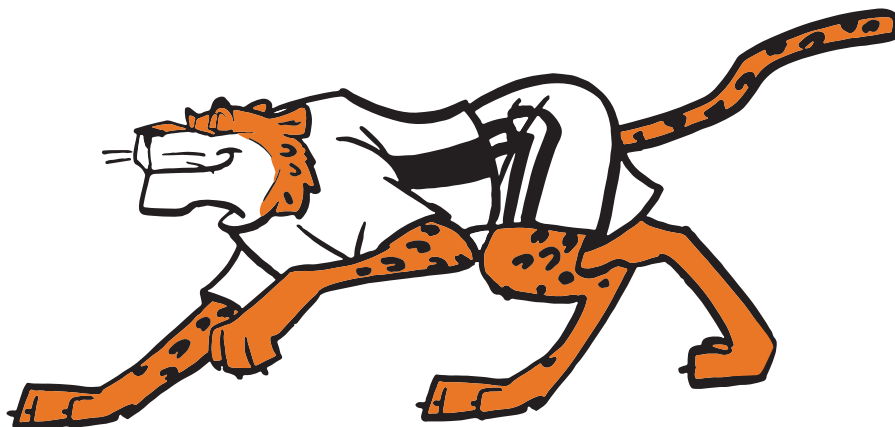
2:45 p.m. Creating GSU Traditions: How to make your mark in a changing culture!

This is your time to shine! There are many opportunities on campus; however changing a college culture can be a challenge. This interactive session will allow students to explore what it means to be part of a transitioning college campus, how to make your mark at GSU, and the supportive services to ensure your success as part of the freshman class.

3:30 p.m. Advising 101B

All students will meet for a second time with their Academic Advisor to complete their Fall Schedule. Come prepared with questions and classes you are interested in adding to your schedule and be ready to continue the registration process.

While schedules are being finalized and printed, students will also be guided through the resource fair, receive campus tours before checking out and receiving your finalized Fall 2015 class schedule (complete with Smart Start schedule, if required).



Making your Orientation Day a Success



Please keep this information for your reference.

These resources will be very useful in your success at Governors State University.

My GSU Email Address: _____@student.govst.edu

My Academic Advisor:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Orientation Leaders and other students I would like to keep in contact with later:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Things I am interested in getting involved in at GSU:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Questions I should ask before I leave orientation:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Things to do before my first day of classes.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Notes:

Getting Social with Your Media

We invite and encourage you to share your experiences through Social Media. Social Networking is a great way for people to communicate, share photos, memories, and stories with their friends, family members and the GSU community. For our Orientation sessions this summer, we will be using the hashtags #new2gsu and #govst2016 to connect everyone to the GSU social scene.

Like a presentation? Tweet about it! Talk about it on your Facebook! Take a photo with new friends? Put it up on Instagram! Just use those hashtags for your posts, and maybe you'll see your Orientation experience streaming around campus this fall.

Download the GSU Apps – They will make your life as a student easier.



myGSU Mobile (available on iTunes and Google Play)

The official Mobile App of Governors State University. Download now to check grades, see course schedule and keep up with all GSU news and events. If you have any suggestions about how we can make it better please email us at webmaster@govst.edu. We appreciate all feedback!



Eat Well On Campus (available on iTunes and Google Play)

Why wait in line in the Café? Need groceries to take back to your apartment? Order your favorites and simply come into the Café to pick up your food & beverage order or your groceries.



Governor State Athletics (available on iTunes and Google Play)

Download the official app of Governors State University's Jaguars Athletics and get into the action even when you can't make the game!

Keep up with Governors State University's Jaguars Athletic teams with schedules of their games, gamescores, stats, media and more! You'll read the highlights of our GSU Jaguars, see how we stand in our conference rankings and access to our GSU Jaguars videos you can watch on your anywhere and anytime.

Go GSU Jaguars! We're "Roaring" to go and you can be there for all the action with the GSU Jaguars app!



This Week at GSU (available on iTunes)

Want to stay up-to-date on events and news going on around Governors State University? Then check out This Week at GSU's TWAG App!

Watch weekly TWAGisodes and news stories. Find out what events are going on around the university, connect with the TWAG team, and much more.

Interest Sessions



Four Year Career Compass – Pointing You in the Right Direction for Career Success

The Office of Career Services is ready to assist with a variety of career development needs. Assistant Vice President Darcie Campos will discuss the Four Year Career Compass, and how this model will guide students through a process that will lead them to success – from defining career goals to getting the job they want. Whether it is deciding on the right major, choosing the best career, or simply learning about student employment or internship opportunities.

Self-Advocacy: Know How to Get What You Need and Want to be Successful

The Director of Disability Services will lead a discussion about how college students can become their own advocate. This workshop will be an introduction to self-advocacy skills specifically for students with disabilities. The goal is to give you strategies for how to take a proactive role in the management of your college experience. Learn how to advocate for your learning needs by communicating about your accommodations, not your disability.

University Honors

Honors Program Director Dr. David Rhea will discuss the difference between high school honors programs and collegiate honors programs. Learn how the GSU Honors Program can be an excellent opportunity to enhance your academic experience. This session will discuss program requirements for the new HP Points Curriculum, program benefits and maximizing your educational experience.

Study Abroad

What would it be like to study in another country? Am I eligible to study abroad? How do I get started? With the world right outside your door, you have the abilities to achieve your dreams of studying abroad. Study Abroad Coordinator, Amy Schoenberg, will be talking about the study abroad opportunities through GSU, application requirements and procedures, financial aid options, overall benefits to studying abroad and what the next step is for YOU.

Unleash the Leader in You

This workshop will discuss opportunities to get engaged in the university from joining a club to student governance. Come to this workshop to receive all the trade secrets to enhancing the educational experience and unleashing the leader in YOU!

Family/Guest Schedule



8:00 a.m. Arrival and Check-In

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

9:30 a.m. Millennials go to GSU: How we can be partners in their success.

We will discuss the developmental changes that young adults face as they begin college life and present information on the Millennial Generation, our students and your children. This session will also explore how generational differences, technology usage and an increasingly challenging economic landscape might influence family dynamics during their transition to college. Most importantly, this session explores ways, which as their family members, you can support them as they transition from your home, to ours, and ultimately to theirs.

10:15 a.m. Academic Overview: What to expect the first year!

Your students are ready to explore a new world socially, academically and emotionally. There are many opportunities on campus that are available to those in the GSU community. This session will help you discover what's new at GSU that will help your students be successful and blaze a trail for others to follow. Learn about Cohort Themes, Smart Start and Common Reading from the Cohort Advisors.

11:00 a.m. Money Talks

The Financial Aid Assistant Director and Assistant Director of Student Accounts will give an overview of how students/parents will be financing the direct and indirect costs of their education here at GSU. Focus will be on the financial aid process, including deadlines, types of aid, and responsible borrowing. Additionally, students/parents will be educated on due dates regarding their bills, methods of payment, and payment plans.

11:45 a.m. MyONECARD, Campus Dining and Bookstore Services on the GSU Campus

The myONECARD, dining services and the GSU bookstore can make every student's life a little easier. Come hear how these areas will help you be a successful GSU student.

Prairie Place is Governors State University's first on-campus residential community where students can take full advantage of everything our diverse and lively community has to offer. Residents will have the opportunity to fully immerse themselves into the campus culture and create memorable experiences. This presentation provides future residents with a taste of the on-campus living experience as information on resources and important dates to aid with their transition into and success in the GSU community as well as the opportunity to meet their future neighbors at Prairie Place.

12:15 p.m. Lunch and Academic Programs Fair

Now is the time to enjoy a tasty lunch and talk to your student about the classes they will be taking in the Fall. Representatives from the four academic colleges will be available to talk about the different majors GSU offers.

1:00 p.m. Meet the College Deans

This is your opportunity to learn about each of GSU's four colleges and the Library. Deans from the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Public Administration, College of Education, College of Health and Human Services and the University Library will provide valuable information on degree programs and services available.

Family/Guest Schedule

3:30 p.m. Community Standards; Health and Safety on Campus

This interactive session will introduce parents to campus and off campus resources that are available to students who need assistance or medical care as well as to take responsibility and ownership of their campus experience.

4:15 p.m. Campus Housing – Learn about Prairie Place (family of residents)

Prairie Place is Governors State University's first on-campus residential community where students can take full advantage of everything our diverse and lively community has to offer and show parents that with GSU; their child is in great hands. This presentation provides parents and families of students with an overview of the services University Housing provides for residents in Prairie Place as well as resources and important dates to aid families with their student's transition into the GSU community.

OR

4:15 p.m. Panel of Commuter Students

Would you like to experience GSU from the perspective of a commuter student? Meet some students who just completed their first year of college at GSU while living at home. Learn how they balanced home commitments, relationships and continue to maintain high academic standards and stay connected on campus.

4:45 p.m. Closing Reception

Stop by the Closing Reception for more information and to meet with representatives of GSU offices and services.



Academic Life at Governors State University



This is a very exciting time to be at Governors State University. Big ideas that have been in development for a long time are becoming reality.

As a freshman student, you will begin your college career with a curriculum designed to support your academic success and to spark lifelong learning. The freshman class will be in three groups or cohorts. You will have the opportunity to network and explore one of three big ideas – civic engagement, global citizenship or sustainability. These themes will be integrated across all of your classes during your first year on campus at GSU. In addition, there will be other activities through Student Life and Academic Clubs that will enhance your learning experience.

This year also begins with new majors and minors in all four of our colleges, as well as new offerings in our School of Extended Learning. Each is designed to meet the needs of an increasingly global society, a shifting economy and an expanding need for specialized studies.

We're also creating a revitalized environment for learning. Our newly renovated Science Wing – the result of state support and a National Science Foundation grant – will allow all GSU students to experience state-of-the-market facilities before they take that new or improved job, or move on to graduate studies. Our library and computer labs are also being renovated to promote interaction and engage students in the academic community.

When I was named Provost in June 2013, I was truly honored to be a part of such a strong faculty and administrative team. Leading the academic life of a university – one with innovation embedded in its DNA – is a wonderful responsibility and challenge. As a former GSU dean I know that our faculty members are full of energy for pushing all of us, both colleagues and students, to pursue the big ideas that have been the hallmark of GSU since our founding. Academic excellence is everywhere you look.

I look forward to meeting you.

Provost Deb Bordelon

Meet your Deans



Dr. Elizabeth Cada

Dean, College of Health and Human Services
Room: G158 | Email: bcada@govst.edu

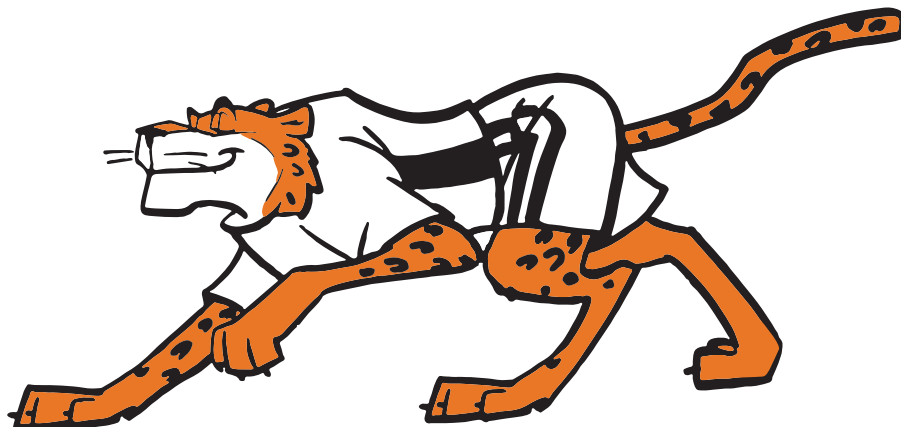
It's an exciting time to be a student in the College of Health and Human Services, as our nation continues to navigate through health care reform. The demand for nurses, occupational and physical therapists, social workers, speech-language pathologists, healthcare administrators/educators and addictions-behavioral health counselors is expected to continue to rise at an above-average pace. As you begin to formulate your own career path, perhaps you will choose to pursue a course of study in one of our seven academic departments: Addictions Studies and Behavioral Health (which includes Community Health), Communication Disorders, Health Administration, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Social Work.



Dr. Andrae Marak

Interim Dean of College of Arts and Sciences
Room: E2578 | Email: amarak@govst.edu

The College of Arts and Sciences' mission is to teach theoretical and applied knowledge and to cultivate habits of mind, communication skills, and artistic vision and expression befitting advanced learning. CAS seeks to empower students to join and strengthen the wider community to become change agents within a global culture; to serve as leaders in their respective disciplines and professions and to live as informed, responsible citizens. The College of Arts and Sciences offers a broad range of undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs to give you a strong foundation built with hands-on experience and with the latest technology. Our programs cultivate creative expression and prepare you to succeed in diverse environments. Our faculty and staff mirror the diversity of our student body and share similar experiences and backgrounds. Dedicated to your success, they bring a wealth of world-class research, exhibition, and service to your GSU experience.



Meet your Deans



Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis

Dean of College of Business

Room: G264 | Email: efostercurtis@govst.edu

The College of Business is accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). We offer seven undergraduate and three graduate degree programs that cover business administration, accounting, economics, entrepreneurship, and more! COB programs are designed to empower students with the knowledge, skills and ethical perspectives needed to lead and succeed in a technologically sophisticated global society.

Our highly qualified faculty members are teachers and researchers. Our curricula focus on the practical as well as the theoretical. Thus, our graduates are prepared to address challenges ranging from the uncertainties presented by the globalization of markets to the impacts of the human dynamics of complex organizations. Our successful alumni include leaders in business, government, and the not-for-profit sector.

COB has a number of student professional organizations to supplement your classroom learning. Contact the faculty advisor or attend one of our events to get involved.



Dr. Andrea Evans

Dean of College of Education

Room: G256 | Email: aevans@govst.edu

I am pleased to greet you all on behalf of the College of Education. The College of Education is home to undergraduate programs in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education and Psychology as well as graduate programs in educational administration, special education, counseling, reading, psychology, leadership, education, bilingual education, and preparation for principals and school superintendents. Our college is home to the Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education and the Family Development Center where we offer a federally funded early head start program. Our students, alumni, faculty and staff are engaged with schools and school districts and clinical sites across the region and have a positive impact on student learning and mental health programs. Your future is our focus. Congratulations on your decision to be a part of the transformation here at Governors State University.

Mark your Calendar

Weeks of Welcome Kick-Off Events



Smart Start

Monday, August 15

Jaguar Welcome Café –
Ice Cream Social
GSU Rocks the Vote

Service and Leadership Seminar

August 16 – 22, 2016

If interested, please register at
www.govst.edu/service

Friday, August 26

Convocation

Welcome Week

Aug. 29 – Sept. 02

Monday, August 29

Classes Commence
Student Life Open House

Tuesday, August 30

Student Club and Organization Fair
GSU Rocks the Vote!
Secretary of State Mobile Services
Drug Awareness Program

Wednesday, August 31

Career Services Student Employment
Fair
Sexual Awareness Program

Thursday, September 1

Farmer's Market

Friday, September 2

Movies under the Stars

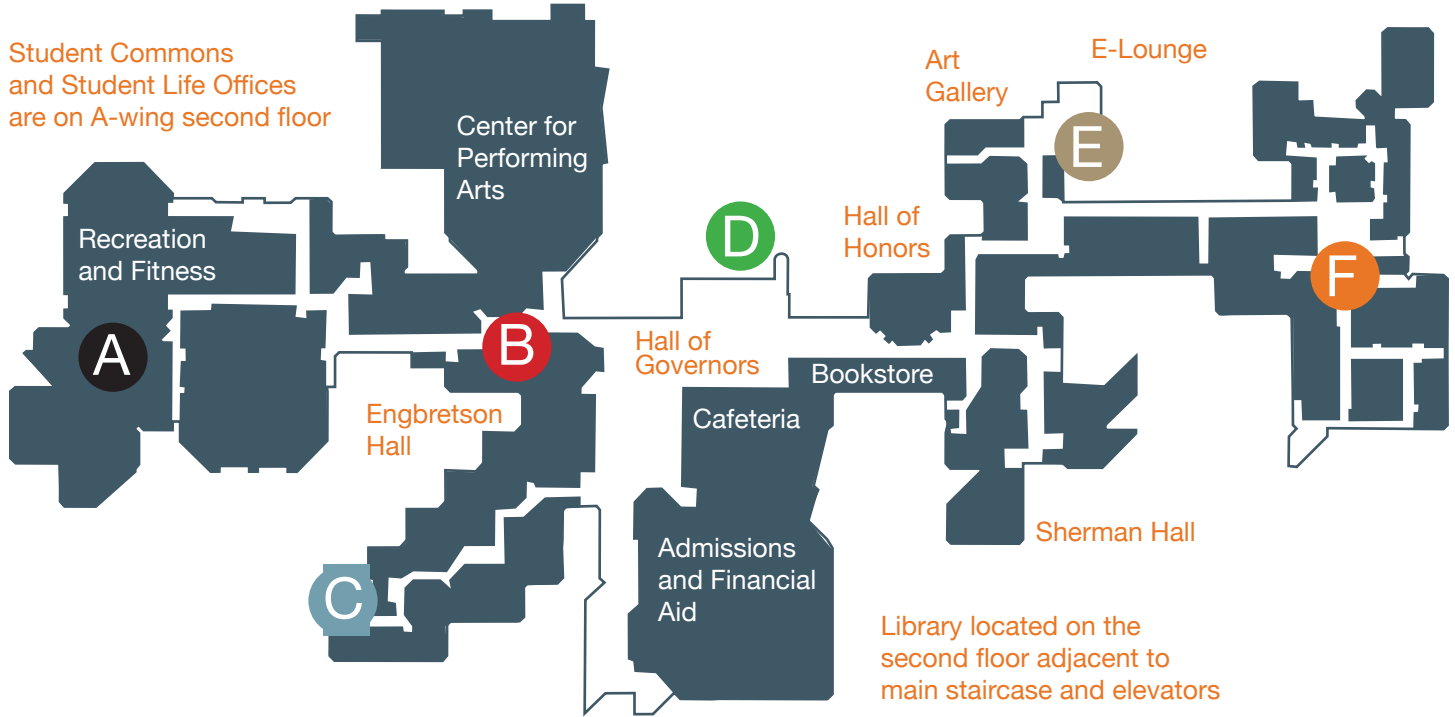
Saturday, September 3

Service Day

Family and Friends Weekend

October 7 - 8

Campus Map



1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484

