

# New Student Orientation Schedule 2019

Friday, August 30, 2019

**9:00 am-1:00 pm**

**Arrival and Check-in** | *Student Center*

Arriving students need to check in to pick up Orientation materials, room key, and Bennington student ID card. Please be sure to stop by all the tables for important information you need on acclimating to Bennington.

*Family and friends are welcome.*

**12:00-2:00 pm**

**Lunch** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Lunch is available for students, family, and friends.

**2:00-3:15 pm**

**Welcome to Bennington** | *Greenwall Auditorium*

Natalie Basil, Dean of Students, and Laurie Kobik, Dean of Studies, along with staff representing many areas of the College will welcome and introduce you to the Bennington community and campus resources.

**3:15-4:00 pm**

**Students: First-Year Forum Group Meeting** | *Meet at Greenwall Auditorium*

Meet your First-Year Forum group and co-leader to start to get to know each other with some activities. This will also be an opportunity to ask questions that you may have related to the panel.

**3:15-4:00 pm**

**Families & Friends: Questions & Answers** | *Greenwall Auditorium*

Welcome panel presenters and additional staff members will be on hand to answer questions about the College, its educational structures, and resources for students.

**4:00-5:00 pm**

**Orientation Reception** | *Commons Cafe Terrace (Rain location: Student Center)*

Join Interim President Isabel Roche, who will officially welcome students to the Bennington community. Incoming student photo taken. *Family and friends are welcome; all events after this will be students only.*

ALL STUDENTS SPLIT INTO GROUPS "A" OR "B" ACCORDING TO NAME OF HOUSE

**GROUP A**

Houses: Bingham through McCullough (alphabetical)

**5:30-6:30 pm**

**HELLO, my name is...** | *Individual Houses*

Join your Orientation Leader and House Chair for activities to learn about your new peers and your house.

**6:30-7:30 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**GROUP B**

Houses: Merck through Woolley (alphabetical)

**5:30-6:30 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**6:30-7:30 pm**

**HELLO, my name is...** | *Individual Houses*

Join your Orientation Leader and House Chair for activities to learn about your new peers and your house.

All Students

**7:30-9:00 pm**

**In the Place Where You Live** | *Individual Houses*

Head to your house to join your housemates for your first evening house gathering.

**9:00-11:00 pm**

**Campus Scavenger Hunt** | *Individual Houses*

Individual houses will compete in a campus scavenger hunt, learning key spots on campus, followed by an ice cream social.

**Saturday, August 31, 2019**

**7:30-9:30 am**

**Breakfast** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**9:30 am-12:00 pm**

**Bennington** | *Greenwall*

What is a Bennington education? Explore the College's history, educational values, tenets, and aims in a series of rotating interactive sessions.

**12:00-1:30 pm**

**Lunch** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**1:30-3:00 pm**

**Faculty Panel: Everyday Practices: Creating Original Work** | *VAPA Lester Martin*

In whatever we do—whether our work is in the arts, sciences, philosophy, psychology, mathematics, history, or any other field—we hone skills and make progress on our projects through daily work and practice. That process is largely hidden when viewing the final product. What does it take to create novel works? After an introduction by Katie Montovan, Associate Dean of Advising, faculty members Andrew McIntyre, mathematics; Liz White, photography; and Stephen Shapiro, French will share their work and the daily practices that help them engage meaningfully in their fields.

**3:00-5:30 pm**

**First-Year Forum: First Class** | *See your Orientation folder for a letter with your assigned group and room.*

This will be your official first class for First-Year Forum (FYF). Among other things, you will meet your First-Year Forum advisor and find out more about what to expect within First-Year Forum throughout the year. You will also do other important start of class work and will have time to ask questions about things you are wondering about. This session is an important part of your semester-long First-Year Forum course.

**3:00-4:00 pm**

**Transfer Student Fireside Chat** | *Cricket Hill Barn*

Meet with faculty member Noah Coburn, returning students, and staff from Academic Services and FWT to learn more about the Plan Process and faculty advising.

*Please note this is for transfer and exchange students only.*

**4:00-4:45 pm**

**Transfer Student Meet and Greet: Student Engagement** | *UpCaf*

Join staff from the Office of Student Engagement to learn about student extra- and co-curricular activities at Bennington.

*Please note this is for transfer and exchange students only.*

**4:45-5:30 pm**

**Transfer Student Exploration: North Bennington** | *Meet at Student Center*

Join this informal tour for transfer and exchange students, and learn about your new community.

*Please note this is for transfer and exchange students only.*

**5:30-7:00 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**8:00-9:00 pm**

**Nightly House Meeting** | *Individual Houses*

Check in with your House Chair and Orientation leaders.

**9:00-11:00 pm**

**PAC Presents: New Student Open Mic Night** | *DownCaf*

Hosted by the Program & Activity Council (PAC). A sign-up sheet will be posted on Friday, August 30, at the Commons Dining Hall entrance and remain there until Saturday, August 31, following dinner.

**Sunday, September 1, 2019**

**7:30-9:00 am**

**Breakfast** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

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**GROUP A**

Houses: Bingham through McCullough (alphabetical)

**10:30 am-12:00 pm**

**Foundations of Social Justice and Equity at Bennington** | *VAPA D207*

Are you curious about your peers and if they will accept you as you are? Do you know which pronouns you want others to use when referring to you? Are you aware of local places of worship that meet your needs? This session will address these questions and more!

**GROUP B**

Houses: Merck through Woolley (alphabetical)

**10:30 am-12:00 pm**

**ConnectED: Bystander Intervention** | *VAPA Margot Tenney Theatre*

Our ConnectED session offers an opportunity to learn about bystander interventions of all types (alcohol, sexual assault, and mental health). This program is interactive and facilitated by peers. Bring your questions!

All Students

**12:00-2:00 pm**

**Lunch with your First-Year Forum Co-Leader** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Meet your co-leader for lunch to find out all about how to make changes to your schedule, prepare to meet individually with your faculty advisor on Monday, and approach your first classes of the term in the coming week. Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**2:00-4:30 pm**

**Faculty Workshops** | *See your Orientation folder for your assigned workshop and location.*

Noelle Rouxel-Cubberly, French; Dana Rietz, dance with Michael Giannitti, drama/dance; Vanessa Lyon, art history; Michael Dumanis, literature; Andrew McIntyre, mathematics; Amber Hancock, chemistry; Camille Guthrie, writing; Ginger Lin, Chinese; Carol Pal, history; Michael Wimberly, music.

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**5:00-6:00 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Staff from Institutional Research will be available to answer questions about the First-Year Survey. Bring your laptop or plan to stop at one of the computer labs to complete this important survey. Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**6:00-7:30 pm**

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All Students

**7:30-9:00 pm**

**Faculty Works** | *Martha Hill*

Featuring: David Bond, Michael Dumanis, Molly Lieber, Jen Liu, and Mina Nishimura.

**10:00 pm-12:00 am**

**PAC Presents: Karaoke Night** | *DownCaf*

No sign-ups in advance necessary. Come reinterpret your favorite songs or create new ones with an evening of Karaoke hosted by the Program & Activity Council (PAC)!

**Monday, September 2, 2019**

*As today is Labor Day, a national holiday, some College offices will be closed. The Student Health Center and the Library will be open from 9:00 am-5:00 pm.*

**7:30-9:00 am**

**Breakfast** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card. Regular dining hours.

**All Day**

**Musical Placement Auditions** | Bass: Michael Bisio | *Jennings 335 D*

Email [mbisio@bennington.edu](mailto:mbisio@bennington.edu) to schedule.

**8:00-9:00 am**

**Language Placement** | *UpCaf and DownCaf*

Incoming students who have registered for a language class and all students interested in studying a language at Bennington should plan to attend the Language Placement session. You are welcome to bring your breakfast from the Dining Hall. This event is an opportunity to meet with the entire language faculty, while also allowing time for you to ask questions you may have about which language level is most appropriate for you.

**9:00 am-5:00 pm**

**Academic Services Open Office Hours for first-year students** | *Barn North (Barn*

113)

Do you have questions about the add/drop process? Do you want to learn more about the free resources available to you on campus? Do you simply have questions? First-Year Counselors in Academic Services will be holding open office hours for incoming students. We hope you'll stop by!

**9:00-10:00 am**

**Musical Placement Auditions** | Cello: Nat Parke | *Jennings 214*

**9:00-10:00 am**

**Introduction to Working on Campus: Session 1** | *EAC 1*

Required for students intending to use work-study awards. Students will learn about holding jobs on campus and will fill out I-9 and W-4 forms if they have not already done so.

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**GROUP A**

Houses: Bingham through McCullough (alphabetical)

**10:00-11:30 am**

**Communication Skills** | *VAPA D207*

Communication skills are very important in your success as a Bennington College student. Come to this session to learn how you can hone your communication skills and how those skills will help you in the future.

**GROUP B**

Houses: Merck through Woolley (alphabetical)

**10:00-11:30 am**

**Rethink the Drink: Alcohol Awareness** | *VAPA Lester Martin*

Do you have questions from your AlcoholEdu program? Do you like games and enjoy prizes? This highly interactive program is led by the Office of Student Health Promotion.

All Students

**11:30 am-1:30 pm**

**Lunch** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**1:30-4:30 pm**

**Faculty Individual Advising Sessions** | *Faculty Offices*

This is an opportunity to meet individually with your Faculty advisor (who is also your First-Year Forum teacher) to get to know each other, talk about your schedule, registration, Add/Drop, and any other start of term needs. Faculty will let you know when your appointment is either by email or in class on Saturday.

**2:15-3:15 pm**

**Introduction to Working on Campus: Session 2** | *EAC 1*

Required for students intending to use work-study awards. Students will learn about holding jobs on campus and will fill out I-9 and W-4 forms if they have not already done so.

**3:30-4:30 pm**

**Introduction to Working on Campus: Session 3** | *EAC 1*

Required for students intending to use work-study awards. Students will learn about holding jobs on campus and will fill out I-9 and W-4 forms if they have not already done so.

ALL STUDENTS SPLIT INTO GROUPS "A" OR "B" ACCORDING TO NAME OF HOUSE

**GROUP A**

Houses: Bingham through McCullough (alphabetical)

**5:00-6:00 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**6:00-7:30 pm**

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**4:30-6:00 pm**

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**6:00-7:00 pm**

**Dinner** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**7:00-8:00 pm**

**Musical Placement Auditions**

- **Intermediate Voice: Kerry Ryer-Parke, Tom Bogdan** | *Jennings 218*  
Students should prepare a short, simple a cappella song that showcases their singing range and ability.
- **Mallet Percussion: Michael Wimberly** | *Jennings 134*

**9:00-11:00 pm**

**Monday Night Reset** | *Commons Lawn*

Everyone is invited to a campus-wide bonfire, bring your own instrument jam session, and tent full of self-care activities for those wanting a break from the bonfire and music. Light refreshments provided.

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

**7:30-9:00 am**

**Breakfast** | *Commons Dining Hall*

Don't forget your Bennington Student ID card.

**9:00-10:30 am**

**Registration Completion (Add/Drop)** | *Individual Faculty Offices*

Starting today, you can make changes to your class schedules, as needed, in faculty offices. Students will find an Add/Drop form in their Orientation folder, which course instructors and faculty advisors will need to sign in order to add or drop a course from their schedule.

**9:00 am-5:00 pm**

**Academic Services Open Office Hours for first-year students** | *Barn North (Barn 113)*

Do you have questions about the add/drop process? Do you want to learn more about the free resources available to you on campus? Do you simply have questions? First-Year Counselors in Academic Services will be holding open office hours for incoming students.

**11:00 am-12:00 pm**

**Convocation** | *Greenwall Auditorium*

A community tradition to celebrate the start of the academic year.

12:00-2:00 pm

**Lunch** | *Commons Lawn (Rain location: Commons Dining Hall)*

Join fellow students, faculty, and staff as we share a meal together.

1:00-2:00 pm

**Drama Forum** | *VAPA D207*

Weekly gathering of students and faculty interested in curricular and extra-curricular involvement with theater at Bennington College. This meeting will discuss the auditions, productions, and opportunities to participate this term.

2:10 pm

**CLASSES BEGIN**

6:00-7:00 pm

**Musical Placement Auditions**

- **Piano: John Forsyth, Chris Lewis, Yushoko Sato** | *Jennings 232*

7:00-9:00 pm

**SEPC Presents: Student Works** | *Martha Hill*

An evening of discipline-specific student performances curated by the Student Educational Policies Committee (SEPC) featuring live music, dance, visual art, literature, poetry, and much more. A full schedule of event times and locations can be found in the new Student Orientation folder.

7:00-9:00 pm

**Drama Audition Workshop** | *VAPA D207*

This workshop will provide an overview of what to expect at Drama Auditions and provide guidance to students preparing for auditions.

Orientation programming ends.