



# Explore the Possibilities

Governors State University  
2015 Transfer & Graduate  
Orientation



## ***Welcome to New Student Orientation.***

Whether you're a transfer student new to the GSU community or you're a graduate student returning to continue your academic journey, this orientation is designed with you in mind. Please use this valuable time to take in all the information you can and enjoy your introduction to GSU. We look forward to getting to know you and hope we can enrich your life as much as you will, no doubt, enrich our campus.

Now that you've joined us for orientation, here are a few things to keep in mind as you approach your first semester at GSU.

- Participate fully in Orientation sessions and program
- 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](http://www.studentloans.gov))
  - Complete your Master Promissory Note ([www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov))
- Set up a tuition payment plan ([www.govst.edu/cashier](http://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
- Purchase or rent your text books ([www.govst.edu/bookstore](http://www.govst.edu/bookstore))
- Get involved! ([www.govst.edu/GSUjaguars](http://www.govst.edu/GSUjaguars) ), ([www.govst.edu/studentlife](http://www.govst.edu/studentlife))

### **Getting Social with Your Media**

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 are using the hashtags **#new2gsu** and **#govst2015** 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 live on the monitors around campus.



## Dear Student,

Welcome to Governors State University. You have already distinguished yourself as someone who is ready for success and good luck. You are smart enough to see the special opportunities waiting for you as you continue your education at GSU.

- You will make life-long friends, as you participate in group projects, clubs and campus organizations.
- You will be inspired as you study with dedicated faculty — leaders in their field.
- You will see the world in new ways, as you discover and create Big Ideas.

Remember that a full college experience means more than just taking classes. 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. We are committed to help you balance your 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 year.

### ***And Go Jaguars!***

Warm regards,

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

## Schedule at a Glance

<b>Noon - 1 p.m.</b>	Student and Guest Check-in	
<b>Noon - 1 p.m.</b>	Resource Fair Campus Tours / Prairie Place Tours	
<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	Welcome from President Maimon Remarks from Provost Bordelon Remarks from Dean Valente Introduction of Orientation Leaders	Sherman Hall
<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	Graduate Student Breakout Sessions with Graduate Professional Network Remarks from Dean Cada	Sherman Hall
	Transfer Student Breakout Sessions with Orientation Leaders	Various Locations
<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session 1	Various Locations
<b>3 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session 2	Various Locations
<b>3:30 p.m.</b>	Major/Program Information Sessions with Academic Advisors	Various Locations



## Concurrent Sessions

Location	Concurrent Session 1 (2:30 p.m.)	Concurrent Session 2 (3:00 p.m.)
D34050	Blackboard	Blackboard
C3330	Can Do	Can Do
D34104	Career Services <i>How to Find Campus Employment</i>	Career Services <i>How to Find Campus Employment</i>
D34170	Financial Aid <i>Learning the GSU System</i>	Financial Aid <i>Learning the GSU System</i>
D34090	Information Technology Services <i>Microsoft Office Web Apps and OneDrive</i>	Information Technology Services <i>Microsoft Office Web Apps and OneDrive</i>
D2240B	Navigating Your Library's Website	Navigating Your Library's Website
D340150	Prairie Place <i>GSU's First On Campus Housing</i>	Prairie Place <i>GSU's First On Campus Housing</i>
D34165	Release the Leader in You	Release the Leader in You
C3331	Study Abroad	Study Abroad
D34012	Transfer Success Panel with <i>Transfer Transition Leaders</i>	Transfer Success Panel with <i>Transfer Transition Leaders</i>
Hall of Governors	Veterans Resource Center	Veterans Resource Center
D34115	Writing Tips for Graduate School	Writing Tips for Graduate School
D34110	Your Health/Wellness Meditation Session	Your Health/Wellness Meditation Session

## Concurrent Sessions

### **Blackboard**

The Center for Online Teaching and Learning provides a face to face workshop to assist students with Blackboard questions and concerns.

### **Can Do**

Sometimes having that “can do” attitude can be difficult, especially if you are feeling anxious about a project. Learn how and when to address anxiety, the importance of attitude and motivational incentives.

### **Career Services: How to Find Campus Employment**

On-campus student employment is a great opportunity to gain professional experience while making connections in a part-time paid position. Employment is available in multiple departments and in a variety of roles. Come to this session to learn about different types of employment, how to apply and follow up on an application, as well as explore other ideas for gaining experience during one’s education.

### **Financial Aid: Learning the GSU System**

Attend one of two presentations on how to apply for federal, state and institutional financial aid. Topics discussed include: when and how to apply, what you might be eligible to receive, exploring all your options and borrowing responsibly.

### **Information Technology Services: Microsoft Office Web Apps and SkyDrive**

Did you know that you have free access to the web version of MS Word, Excel, Power Point and One Note through your GSU student email account? Did you know that your email account includes 7GB of storage for your documents and files? This demo will introduce you to the web applications of Office 365 and your OneDrive.

### **Navigating Your Library’s Website**

This session introduces the GSU Library website and online library resources. Topics include selecting databases and using the I-Share catalog.

### **Prairie Place — GSU’s First on Campus Housing**

Prairie Place is the first on-campus residential community on the GSU campus. The complex is open to enrolled graduate and undergraduate students and consists of fully furnished apartments and suites. Learn more about the benefits of living on campus and what Prairie Place has to offer you.

*For your convenience, Follett’s GSU Bookstore and the GSU Cafe will be staffed during new student orientation. Feel free to visit and see what they have to offer.*

### **Release 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 releasing the leader in YOU!

### **Study Abroad**

Study abroad is for everyone...even you! Where does one start when it comes to study abroad? Amy Schoenberg, Study Abroad Coordinator for the GSU Office of International Services, will talk about the tools students should use to explore their options when considering studying abroad opportunities. There will be information on financial aid options, study abroad programs, locations to travel to, questions to consider, and the next steps for YOU.

### **Transfer Success Panel with Orientation Leaders**

We’re sure you have more questions. Here’s your chance to ask current students about their experiences and make connections with your peers.

### **Veterans Resource Center**

Meet in Hall of Governors near the Academic Resource Center to be escorted to the session location. Meet other veterans on campus. Introduce yourself to the Coordinator of Veteran Services. Visit the Veteran Resource Center and learn where you can go on campus to enjoy a quiet spot you can call your own.

### **Writing Tips for Graduate School**

Be prepared for writing. This workshop will discuss how to begin a research paper and how to conquer APA documentation style. (Almost all graduate programs at GSU require the use of APA style. If you don’t know what it is, you really need to come to this workshop!) This workshop will inform you of the resources and services offered by the GSU Writing Center including the a website that provides almost everything you need to know about APA; an online writing center where you can e-mail your paper to us and get revision suggestions back; in depth, one-on-one sessions with a writing consultant; research paper workshops; and a writing consultant in the library to answer your questions.

### **Your Health/Wellness: Meditation session**

Mindfulness has been shown to be very helpful in reducing stress, increasing concentration skills and improving emotional regulation. Daily meditation is the exercise that strengthens mindfulness. Come to this session and learn how to meditate and begin an ongoing meditation practice.



## Your first action as a GSU student is to get acquainted with the GSU Portal and access your GSU email account.

### Your GSU Portal

Log into your myGSU portal (<https://mygsu.govst.edu>) with the user name and password found in your letter of admission.

Check out all the other great self-service options available on your Portal. Under the menu titled "Online Services," click on "Students." Here you will find information about your student account, financial aid, registration and your academic record. Tutorials for all Online Services options are found in the drop down menu titled "How do I...?" located in the top middle section of your myGSU Portal.

In the student portal, you will find information that will help make your student experience at GSU more convenient, including campus news updates, events and announcements. You can register for classes through the myGSU portal. New freshman students should note that all registration, including adding and dropping courses, must be done in collaboration with your academic advisor.

### Your GSU Email

Your GSU student email is your line of communication with GSU. The university community, from your professors and advisors to student clubs and other students, will communicate with you through your GSU student email. You can access your student email account through myGSU portal.

Log into your myGSU portal (<https://mygsu.govst.edu>) with the user name and password found in your letter of admission. On the portal, find the drop down menu titled "How do I...?" In this menu, select the option for "Set up my email account" and follow the prompts. Check your GSU email three to five times per week to make sure you don't miss important requests and announcements from the university. You can also forward your student email account to another email account. Instructions are found under the gear icon in the upper-right hand corner of the myGSU Portal. Select "Options," select "Forward your email" and follow the prompts.

### Blackboard

Blackboard is the classroom support technology used by GSU faculty. Blackboard may be used by your professors for assignments, discussions or to share information with you. Blackboard and the myGSU Portal are different resources. These differences will be discussed at orientation.



# Make Your Orientation Day a Success

Please keep this information for reference.  
These resources will be very useful in your success at Governors State University.

My GSU Email Address \_\_\_\_\_@student.govst.edu

My Academic Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

## 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. \_\_\_\_\_

## Notes

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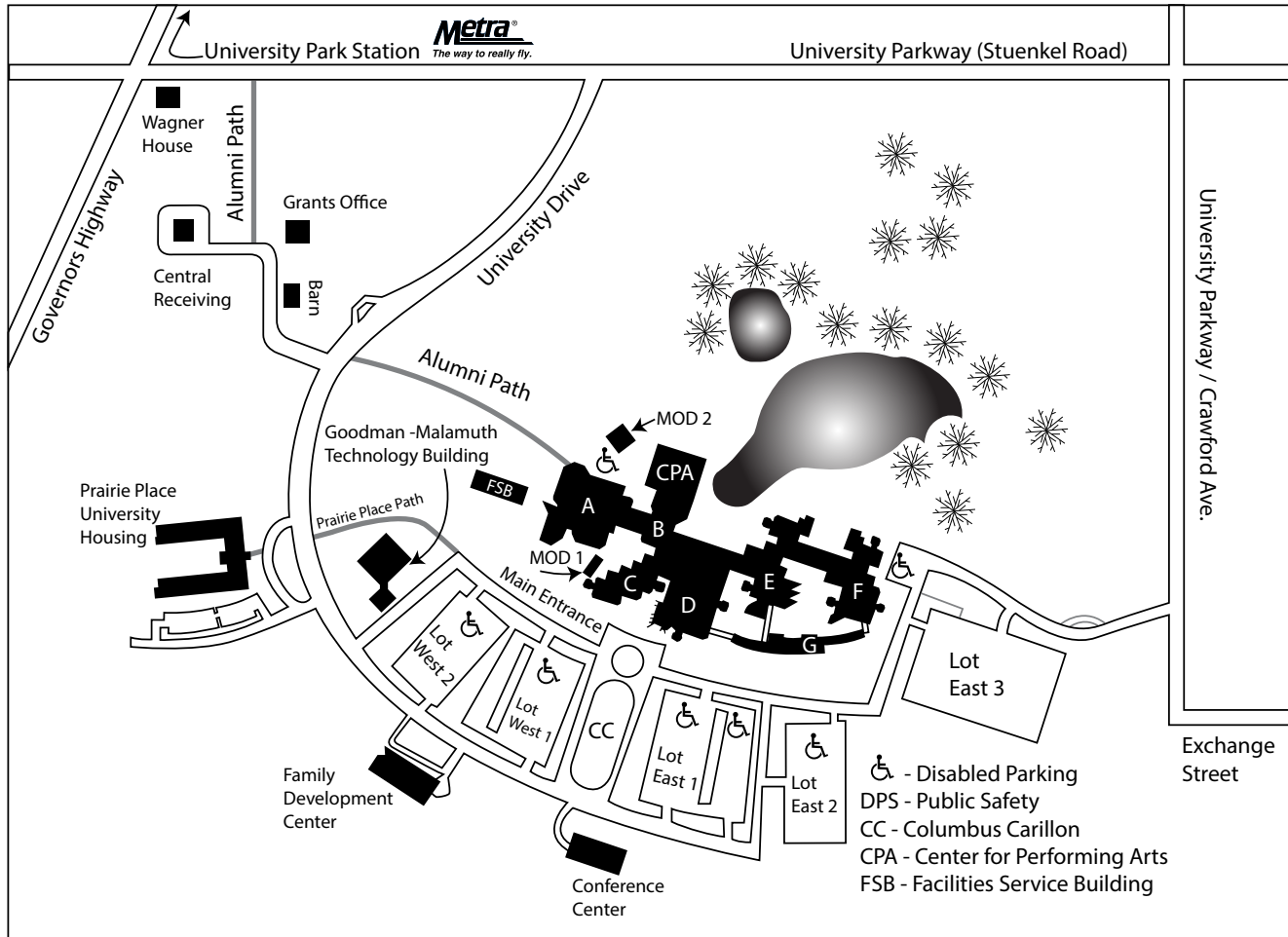
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# Campus Map



## A Building

Room	Number
Career Services	A1120 708.235.3974
Dean of Students	A2134 708.235.7595
Fitness Center/Gymnasium	A1106 708.235.7662
Student Clubs and Organizations	A2100 708.235.7653
Student Commons	A2140
Student Life	A2100 708.235.7653
Veterans Resource Center	A2109 708.235.2223

## B Building

Academic Resource Center	B1215 708.534.4090
Center for Performing Arts	1st Floor 708.235.2222
Disability Services	B1215 708.235.3968
Engbretson Hall	B1200

## C Building

Auxiliary Services and University Housing	C1330 708.235.7110
Cashier	C1336 708.534.4055
DPS/Campus Police	C1375 708.534.4900
Human Resources	C1360 708.534.4100
International Services	C3370 708.235.7611
Registrar's Office	C1300 708.534.4500
Writing Center	B1215 708.235.7337

## D Building

Computer Connections Central (The Cube)	D2430	708.534.5000 x 5370
Admissions	D1400	708.534.4490
Bookstore	D1493	708.534.4558
Financial Aid	D1413	708.534.4480
Hall of Governors	1st Floor	
Hall of Honors	D1490	
Library	D2400	708.534.4112
Welcome Center	D1400	708.534.4363

## E Building

Art Gallery	E1580	708.534.4021
College of Arts & Sciences		
Dean's Office	E2575	708.534.4101
E-Lounge	E1571	
Sherman Recital Hall	E1530	

## F Building

## G Building

College of Education		
Dean's Office	G256	708.534.4050
College of Business & Public Administration		
Dean's Office	G263	708.534.4930
College of Health & Human Services		
Dean's Office	G156	708.534.4388