NEW GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION AGENDA
Main Session Presentations will take place in Bethancourt Ballroom.
Breakout Sessions will occur throughout the second floor of the Memorial Student Center.
Friday, August 20, 2021 | 7:15 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (CT)

**Bethancourt Ballroom**

7:15 - 7:50 a.m.  CHECK-IN AND BREAKFAST  (breakfast ends at 7:50 a.m.)
8:00 - 8:10 a.m.  UNIVERSITY WELCOME  |  Dr. Patrick Louchouarn, Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs & Interdisciplinary Initiatives
8:10 - 8:25 a.m.  BUILDING CONNECTIONS
8:25 - 8:40 a.m.  GRAD SCHOOL AT TEXAS A&M  |  Dr. Karen Butler-Purry, Associate Provost & Dean of the Graduate & Professional School
8:40 - 9:00 a.m.  GRAD SCHOOL SERVICES OVERVIEW – GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL
9:00 - 9:10 a.m.  WELCOME TO AGGIELAND – TRADITIONS COUNCIL
9:10 - 9:20 a.m.  AGGIE HONOR CODE – AGGIE HONOR SYSTEMS OFFICE
9:20 - 9:30 a.m.  SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.  STUDENT BUSINESS SERVICES
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.  COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Room locations are listed beside each session

10:10 a.m.  BREAKOUT SESSION I (30 MINS)
- TIPS FOR GRAD SCHOOL SUCCESS – MSC 2406A
- INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN THE ACADEMIC SETTING – MSC 2406B*
- ESTABLISHING YOUR SCHOLARLY IDENTITY AS A GRADUATE STUDENT – MSC 2404
- UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER – MSC 2500
- RESOURCES FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS – MSC 2501
(10 minutes for transition)

10:50 a.m.  BREAKOUT SESSION II (30 MINS)
- THE ‘OTHER’ EDUCATION: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BEYOND THE CLASSROOM – MSC 2406A*
- CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE – ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PROGRAM - MSC 2406B*
- ESTABLISHING YOUR SCHOLARLY IDENTITY AS A GRADUATE STUDENT – MSC 2404
- STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP – MSC 2405
- UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER – MSC 2500
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DURING GRADUATE SCHOOL – MSC 2502
(10 minutes for transition)

11:30 a.m.  BREAKOUT SESSION III (30 MINS)
- TIPS FOR GRAD SCHOOL SUCCESS – MSC 2406A
- INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT PANEL – MSC 2406B*
- DOCTORAL STUDENT PROFILE AND FEEDBACK SYSTEM – MSC 2404
- STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP – MSC 2405
- VETERAN & MILITARY DEPENDENT STUDENT RESOURCES – MSC 2500
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DURING GRADUATE SCHOOL – MSC 2502
(10 minutes for transition)

*Streamed breakout session; staff members will be present to facilitate hybrid participation

12:10-12:35 p.m.  GROUP A (RED) LUNCH (Bethancourt) & GROUP B (BLUE) RESOURCE FAIR (Gates) (25 MINS)
12:35-1:00 p.m.  GROUP B (BLUE) LUNCH (Gates) & GROUP A (RED) RESOURCE FAIR (Bethancourt) (25 MINS)

**Bethancourt Ballroom**

1:05 - 1:20 p.m.  SAFETY AND SECURITY – UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
1:20 - 1:45 p.m.  COMMUNITY OF RESPECT – MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
1:45 - 2:05 p.m.  TITLE IX
2:05 - 2:25 p.m.  HEALTH PROMOTION
2:25 - 2:40 p.m.  COFFEE AND COOKIE BREAK
2:40 - 2:55 p.m.  GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT GOVERNMENT
2:55 - 3:40 p.m.  GRADUATE STUDENT PANEL
3:40 - 3:55 p.m.  CLOSING REMARKS & GIVEAWAYS

Breakout Session Descriptions
**Breakout Sessions**

**Center for Teaching Excellence – English Language Proficiency Program**: CTE-ELP provides linguistic support year-round for international graduate students who wish to communicate more effectively with American English speakers, especially undergraduate students. At this session, you will learn about the variety of programs and services that are available, whether you are currently eligible for a teaching assistantship, and how to become eligible. You will also hear a brief overview of the English Language Proficiency Exam (ELPE).

*Target Audience: Students who are not native speakers of North American English and desire professional development in communication.*

*Streamed session for virtual and in-person students; staff members will facilitate hybrid participation*

**Doctoral Student Profile and Feedback System**: Learn how to utilize Texas A&M’s new, all-in-one platform for collecting and reviewing doctoral students’ scholarly activities. This system streamlines information regarding all aspects of doctoral engagement for students and their faculty committee members. Doctoral students will not want to miss the opportunity to find out how to leverage this helpful tool.

*Target Audience: Doctoral students interested in learning how to curate their scholarly activities in an easy-to-use system.*

**Establishing Your Scholarly Identity as a Graduate Student – University Libraries**: This session will cover the basic aspects of creating a scholarly identity. In this session, we will talk about researcher information systems, such as ORCiD, that allow scholars to track their citations and create research networks. This session will be of interest to all graduate students.

*Target Audience: Students interested in researcher information systems.*

**Financial Management During Graduate School – Money Education Center**: Keeping track of your money as a graduate student can be stressful. Find out how to establish an effective money management system to help reduce your financial stress in graduate school.

*Target Audience: Students interested in personal financial management.*

**Intercultural Communications Skills in the Academic Setting - International Student Services**: Increased awareness of diverse cultural communication styles within academia can be a critical component to scholarly success. This session will focus on how communication in the U.S. differs from styles abroad, giving students the skills to confidently develop solutions to overcome potential issues of miscommunication.

*Target Audience: Students interested in increasing their cultural awareness within academia.*

*Streamed session for virtual and in-person students; staff members will facilitate hybrid participation*

**International Graduate Student Panel**: A diverse, virtual panel of international graduate students will answer various questions about their personal journey as a graduate student at Texas A&M, comment on how the experience of an international graduate student is unique, and provide tips for graduate school success.

*Target Audience: International students interested in hearing the experiences of other international students at Texas A&M.*

*Panel will be conducted over Zoom and streamed to virtual and in-person students; staff members will facilitate hybrid participation*

**The ‘Other’ Education: Professional Development Beyond the Classroom – Graduate Resources and Development for Aggies Professional Development Program**: Graduate education is about so much more than advanced coursework! This session will summarize some of the experiences designed to support your development into a highly qualified professional in your field.

*Target Audience: Students interested in professional development.*

*Streamed session for virtual and in-person students; staff members will facilitate hybrid participation*

**Resources for Distance Education Students**: This presentation provides an overview of distance education at Texas A&M University as well as other campus services for distance education students.

*Target Audience: Students completing their graduate coursework through distance education.*

**Student Activities and Leadership**: The Department of Student Activities creates and fosters leadership and involvement opportunities that enhance personal, interpersonal, and organizational development of students and student organizations. Come learn how to get involved on campus and develop your leadership potential while in Aggieland.

*Target Audience: Students interested in learning about and/or joining student organizations.*

**Tips for Grad School Success**: Learn strategies to help you excel in graduate school, including networking, time management, avoiding burnout, and getting to know the culture of your academic program.

*Target Audience: Students interested in the secrets to graduate school success.*

**University Writing Center**: Are you concerned about writing papers and making presentations in graduate school? Come learn what services the University Writing Center offers graduate students and get some tips on academic writing to ensure you get a successful start in your coursework!

*Target Audience: Students interested in learning about tips for success in writing for graduate school.*

**Veteran & Military Dependent Student Resources - Veteran Resource & Support Center & Veteran Services Office**: The session will provide information about military educational benefits and numerous other resources available to all military-affiliated students. Texas A&M is dedicated to serving well those who have served. Join us for this session to find out how to connect with other veterans and resources!

*Target Audience: Current or former military Service members or military dependents who may be eligible for military education benefits.*

*Streamed session for virtual and in-person students; staff members will facilitate hybrid participation*