Welcome Week 2023

First-Year Student Schedule

Please Note: ⚫ = Required Session

*Events for parents and families are listed HERE; Transfer Student Schedule HERE.

This schedule is up-to-date as of May 30, 2023.
Please be aware that some details may be updated throughout the summer.

Tues, Aug 8:

1pm  Football Athletes Arrive/Check-in (Bishops Lounge in the McCombs Campus Center)

5-6pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

Wed, Aug 16:

8-9am  Breakfast (Mabee Commons)

10:30am-1pm  Lunch (Mabee Commons)

1-4:30pm  Pirate Adventures participants arrive
Pre-registration is required. Details will be provided by your trip leader.

4:30-6:30pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

Thurs, Aug 17:

8-9:30am  Breakfast (Mabee Commons)

3-6pm  International Students Arrive – Residence Hall (Brown-Cody Lobby)
Details will be provided by the Office of Study Abroad and International Student Services

11am-1pm  Lunch (Mabee Commons)

1pm  Fall Athlete Arrival (men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s cross country, volleyball) Check-in (Bishops Lounge in the McCombs Campus Center)

4:30-6:30pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

Fri, Aug 18:
8:30am–1pm
International Student Orientation (mandatory for F-1 and J-1 visa students)
Details will be provided by the Office of Study Abroad and International Student Services

9am–1pm
Residence Hall Move-In by Appointment
Please sign up and arrive at your assigned time. The Residence Life team and volunteers will be available to assist you during your move in time. Once your car is unloaded, we ask that you move it from the loading zone to a parking lot. View more information here.

10:30am–1:30pm
Brunch (Mabee Commons)

11am–1:15pm
Campus Tours (Meet at Bishops Lounge in the McCombs Campus Center)
Kick off Welcome Week with a walk around campus. Special attention will be given to the buildings and facilities that will be used throughout Welcome Week. This is a great way to familiarize or re-familiarize yourself with Southwestern.

1:30–2pm
Interfaith Family Blessing and Reception (In front of the Lois Perkins Chapel)
Led by Chaplain Ron Swain and faith leaders from other traditions will lead a short family blessing around the University seal. Following the blessing, you and your families are invited to the Chapel Courtyard to meet our Chaplain and enjoy cold refreshments.

3:15pm
Gather with your FYS for Matriculation Convocation (Walzel Court)
Connect with your FYS professor and classmates to mark the official beginning of your Southwestern journey.

3:30–5pm
Matriculation Convocation (Corbin J. Robertson Center)
The purpose of the Matriculation Convocation ceremony is to formally welcome entering students to Southwestern and to provide them with a sense of the expectations we have for members of our community. You will process in with their FYS/AES faculty member and classmate.

5–5:15pm
New Student Photo (Walzel Court)
Following the Matriculation Convocation, take a group photo with the Class of ‘26!

First-Year Student Schedule 2023
Please Note: ⚫ = Required Session
5:30–7pm  ✪ First-Year Community Dinner with your Hall (Various Locations)
Come grab dinner with your RA and residential community, and get to know your neighbors! Your RA will provide more information.

4:30–8pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

7–8:30pm  Student Engagement Center Block Party (FY Courtyard)
The Southwestern Experience is more than just attending classes—finding community, making friends, and engaging in co-curricular opportunities are essential to making SU feel like home. Meet your fellow Pirates and start connecting at the Student Engagement Block Party.

8:30–10:30pm  ✪ Required: First-Year Community Meetings with your Hall (Various Locations)
Meet with your RA to discover what it means to be a part of our residential community. At these meetings, you'll learn about university policy as well as ways to keep yourself and your community safe and healthy. Community meetings are required.

Sun, Aug 20:

10:30am–2pm  Brunch (Mabee Commons)

10–11:00am  Interfaith Worship Service (Lois Perkins Chapel)
This Interfaith Worship Experience is an invitation to center oneself in the Presence of the Holy One, connect with others in the Southwestern Community, while seeking justice and peace for ALL.

11am–1pm  Shopping Time!
Use this time to run errands and shop for your residence hall essentials. There are lots of options for transportation—hop in a brand new Zipcar available for rent in the Lois Perkins Chapel parking lot, or your RA will help you connect with other students in your hall to carpool to Wolf Ranch, Walmart, and HEB.

1:30–4pm  ✪ Pirate Training: Pep Rally (Corbin J. Robertson Center)
Start off your Pirate Training with a cannon-like bang. Pirate Training teams begin their voyage via a series of upbeat interactions and games sure to shiver your timbers!

4–5pm  Wellness Hour
Wellness breaks have intentionally been added to the Welcome Week schedule to encourage you to build healthy practices of wellness and self care. Consider this a gentle reminder to take an hour today to prioritize yourself and your well-being. The Wellness Hour is for you to spend how you'd like—rest, exercise, journal, meditate, socialize, take a walk around campus, or whatever feels restorative to YOU. What will you do to rest and recharge?

4:30–8pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

7–9:30pm  Night at the Movies!
Heated luxury recliners—just one perk of our local movie theater, Film Alley! Free tickets and popcorn will be provided to all new students!

10–10:30pm  ✪ Required: First-Year Community Meeting (Various Locations)
Join your RA for a quick check in to review community guidelines before you prepare for your first day of FYS.

**Mon, Aug 21:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8–9:30am</td>
<td><strong>Breakfast (Mabee Commons)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00–9:20am</td>
<td>✨President’s Welcome (Alma Thomas Theater)</td>
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<td>Join Southwestern’s 16th president Dr. Laura Skandera Trombley to kick off your first week on campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:20–9:50am</td>
<td>✨Student Panel: Classroom Etiquette in a Community of Respect (Alma Thomas Theater)</td>
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<td>Before heading to your First-Year Seminar, join upper division student leaders in a discussion about classroom expectations and your role in creating a respectful learning environment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10am–12pm</td>
<td>✨First-Year Seminar (Various Classrooms)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30am–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch (Mabee Commons)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12–1:30pm</td>
<td>Get involved! (McCombs Concourse and Bishops Lounge)</td>
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<td>Make your way over to the Bishops Lounge and Concourse during lunch to explore the exciting ways you can get involved and connect with your fellow Pirates. During this time you'll be able to sign up for a variety of free off-campus field trips (including Friday excursions, Outdoor Adventure, Explore Austin, and more!), as well as intramurals, career events, and fine arts performances. You'll also meet representatives from the Student Government Association and learn how to join a variety of clubs and student organizations. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with a variety of campus resources and departments (and receive lots of free swag!).</td>
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<td>1:30–3:30pm</td>
<td>✨Sexual Health and Healthy Relationships Session (Olin Building)</td>
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<td>During the Sexual Health Session, peer educators, along with the support of the Counseling and Health Center, will guide you in exploring what it means to promote a sex-positive environment and safer sex practices. To be a sexually healthy and responsible adult, both physical and emotional safety and self-awareness are needed. The goal of this session is to educate you on how clear communication, gender identity and sexual orientation acceptance, and safer sex practices can prepare you for what it means to be a mature, sexually healthy adult.</td>
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<td>3:30–4:30pm</td>
<td><strong>Wellness Hour</strong></td>
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<td>4:30–6:30pm</td>
<td>✨Pirate Training Final Challenge (Corbin J. Robertson Center)</td>
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|            | A parley? How 'bout a final challenge? A head-to-head, fun competition pitting teams against one another for all the pirate treasures. Arrg!
4:30–8pm Dinner (Mabee Commons)

8–9:30pm Pirate Training Closing Ceremony & Snow Cone Social (Howry Center)
It’s time to hand out the booty (both team prizes and individual door prizes). Newly anointed Pirates who conquered the Pirate Training challenge will divide the Southwestern treasure. It’s a Pirate’s life for me! Meanwhile, we’ll be serving up FREE snow cones, which are a Southwestern favorite.

Tues, Aug 22:

7:30am–9am Breakfast (Mabee Commons)

9am–12pm First-Year Seminar (Various Classrooms)

11:30am–1:30pm Lunch (Mabee Commons)

12–1pm Language Placement – Information Tables (McCombs Concourse)
If you have questions about your language requirements, stop by the McCombs Concourse to meet with faculty.

1:30–4:30pm Transition to SU and Your Future (Various Locations)
*You will be attending one of these required sessions in rotation (details will be shared via email).

Smooth Sailing with Office of Advising & Retention
Meet with your Academic Advisor and your Sprog cohort to discuss academic success strategies and college transition tips to set yourself up for success in and out of the classroom! Together you and your advisor will start building connections on campus that will prepare you for your rigorous and exciting Southwestern journey!

1:30–2:30pm: Sprog 1
2:30–3:30: Sprog 2
3:30–4:30pm: Sprog 3 and e-Sprog

Design Your Life at SU and Beyond (McCombs Ballrooms)
"You are here!” Now how do you create a well-lived first year at Southwestern and beyond? From your academics, to getting involved, to working toward your future, learn techniques and tools to design your life with curiosity, intentionality and collaboration. Facilitated by the Center for Career & Professional Development.

1:30–2:30pm: Sprog 2
2:30–3:30: Sprog 3 and e-Sprog
3:30–4:30pm: Sprog 1
Google Calendar / Moodle / Time Management
New to Google Calendar? Never heard of Moodle before? We got you covered. Come and begin organizing your life for the new fall semester with the Peer Academic Mentors! Bring your planner, laptop or phone to find what works best for you. We will also have worksheets for you if you are not sure where to start.

1:30–2:30pm: Sprog 3 and e–Sprog
2:30–3:30: Sprog 1
3:30–4:30pm: Sprog 2

4:30–5:30pm  Wellness Hour
Consider this a gentle reminder to take an hour today to prioritize yourself and your well-being. The Wellness Hour is for you to spend how you’d like – rest, exercise, journal, meditate, socialize, take a walk around campus, or whatever feels restorative to YOU. What will you do to rest and recharge?

4:30–5:30pm  Walk with President Trombley (Turner–Fleming House)
Take your Wellness Hour with President Trombley! President Trombley extends a personal invitation to meet at her home for a leisurely walk with her two dogs, Twinkles and Ernest. Gather outside the Turner–Fleming House adjacent to the tennis courts. Upon your return, enjoy warm baked goods and assorted beverages.

6–8pm  Music Theory Placement Test (FAC 166)
This exam is for all students planning to major or minor in music, or those interested in studying Music Theory (please bring a pencil).

4:30–8pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

6–7pm  First Lecture (Brown–Cody Lounge, Mabee Atrium, and Clark Lounge)
Come join an SU faculty member for a casual conversation about a topic that is interesting to them – and will be to you, too!

7:30–8:30pm  First Gen Conversations (Prothro Atrium)
The Peer Academic Mentors and the student leader of Captain’s Academy will be hosting an informal First-gen panel for the new incoming first-gen students to ask questions, share stories and to mix and mingle.

7:30–8:30pm  Mix & Mingle with Mosaic (Brown–Cody Lounge)
Join the Mosaic Student Ambassadors for an evening of mixing and mingling! With interactive activities designed to foster new friendships, Mosaic is here to empower your transition to college and help you make Southwestern your new home.

8:30–10pm  Live Music: The Irons (The Cove)
Stop by The Cove and enjoy a night filled with good music and even better company. The Irons is an Austin–based band best known for their hit song "Goodbye Too Soon"!
**Wed, Aug 23:**

**8–9:30am**  
**Breakfast (Mabee Commons)**

**9am–12pm**  
**First-Year Seminar: Required Module on Mental Health & Wellbeing (Olin Building)**  
This session will give you a crash course about your own mental health, how to identify certain behaviors or trends, and how/when to ask for help. You’ll walk away from this session feeling empowered to access the mental health resources offered at SU.

**11:30am–1:30pm**  
**Lunch (Mabee Commons)**

**12–1pm**  
**Theatre Department Meet & Greet (Dan Rather Room in Mabee Commons)**  
All Theatre Scholarship students and anyone who is interested in becoming involved in the Theatre Department’s courses and productions. Join us and meet the faculty and staff and learn more about the upcoming season and how to get involved. We will discuss scholarship expectations, departmental courses and pathways for success, how to prepare for auditions and how to balance production work with academic expectations.

**12–1pm**  
**Music Interest (McCombs Concourse)**  
Please join the Music Department to discuss opportunities to join ensembles and take private lessons. There is still time to sign up for these classes. All count towards your fine arts credit. Come experience music-making at its best while forming lasting friendships.

**1:30–3pm**  
**First-Year Seminar Required Module: The Return of the JEDI–Learning how to build inclusive environments (ATT)**  
Southwestern is home to people of countless cultures and identities. Join the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Center for fun games and critical conversations about building a safe and welcoming campus.

**3–5pm**  
**Instrument Hearings (Fine Arts Center, ATT)**  
Students interested in playing an instrument at Southwestern should attend this session. This includes all entering recipients of Sarofim Scholarships and Performance Awards in an instrument. Don’t forget to bring your instrument!

**3–5pm**  
**Voice Hearings (Fine Arts Center, ATT)**  
All students interested in singing at SU (choral ensembles or private lessons) should attend this session. This includes all entering recipients of Sarofim Scholarships and Performance Awards in voice. All are Welcome!

**5–6pm**  
**Wellness Hour**  
Consider this a gentle reminder to take an hour today to prioritize yourself and your well-being. The Wellness Hour is for you to spend how you’d like – rest, exercise, journal, meditate, socialize, take a walk around campus, practice yoga (see below) or whatever feels restorative to YOU. What will you do to rest and recharge?
5–6pm  
**Yoga (ATT Lobby, Fine Arts Center)**  
Take a moment to relax and move your body with a yoga practice focused on breathing, stretching, and flexibility. This session is open to all levels of yoga practice from beginner to experienced.

4:30–8pm  
**Dinner (Mabee Commons)**

7–8pm  
**How to College (pick one session from the list below)**

- **SMART Goals for Success (Mabee Atrium)**
  What do you want to achieve this semester? How about in the next year? The first step in achieving your goals is to set them! Join the Peer Academic Mentors to learn how to utilize SMART goals and set yourself up for success at SU and beyond.

- **How to Write an Email: College Communication 101 (Clark Lounge)**
  From the simple habit of checking your email daily to setting healthy boundaries with your roommate, as a first-year you’ll discover the importance of communication. Join the Peer Academic Mentors to learn tips and tricks to effective, professional communication, and put your communication skills to the test through interactive games!

8:30–10pm  
**Tales and Traditions (McCombs Ballrooms)**
Join Student Philanthropy Council and Student Foundation as they help you learn about some of our time-honored traditions and things that are unique to Southwestern. There will be free food and chances to win some great door prizes.

**Thurs, Aug 24:**

7:30–9am  
**Breakfast (Mabee Commons)**

9am–12pm  
**First-Year Seminar (Various Classrooms)**

11:30am–1:30pm  
**Lunch (Mabee Commons)**

12–12:30pm  
**Language Placement – Information Tables (McCombs Concourse)**
If you have questions about your language requirements, stop by the McCombs Concourse to meet with faculty.

1pm  
**The First Ride: Pirate Bike Launch (Outside of Robertson Center)**
Are you ready for your first ride? We are excited to invite all incoming students to launch the bikes back on campus! *Bikes are limited and available to ride on a first-come, first-served basis.*

1:30–2:30pm  
**Student Employment Orientation (Olin 105)**
Welcome, new SU first-years and transfers! Join us to learn about searching for on-campus and off-campus student employment and how to transition your high school resume to a college employment resume for best results. If you are eligible to work on campus as part of a financial aid package then you SHOULD attend!

*First-Year Student Schedule 2023*

Please Note: 🟢 = Required Session
2:30–4pm  Out of State Mixer (McCombs Ballrooms)
New to the Lone Star State? This mixer features games, prizes, refreshments and free t-shirts for all. Come over for some fun while meeting other out-of-state and international students!

4–5pm  Wellness Hour
Consider this a gentle reminder to take an hour today to prioritize yourself and your well-being. The Wellness Hour is for you to spend how you’d like – rest, exercise, journal, meditate, socialize, take a walk around campus, or whatever feels restorative to YOU. What will you do to rest and recharge?

5–8:30pm  💫New Student Reception with President Trombley (Bishops Lounge)
All incoming students are invited to a welcome reception to meet President Trombley, enjoy hors d’oeuvres, and mingle with fellow Pirates! RSVP with your RA at the First-Year Community Meeting Monday, with your RA to receive your ticket and more information.

4:30–8pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)

8:30–10pm  Residence Hall Programming
Want to relax and get to know others throughout your hall? Come solo or bring your roommate to enjoy some fun, stress-free, end-of-the-night programming! Your RA will provide more information.

Fri, Aug 25:

8–9:30am  Breakfast (Mabee Commons)

10am–7pm  Returning Student Move-In

10am–12pm  🌟First-Year Seminar (Various Classrooms)

11:30am–1:30pm  Lunch (Mabee Commons)

12–1pm  Student Veteran Luncheon (Dan Rather Room in Mabee Commons)
Please enjoy a complimentary lunch and get to know other veterans on campus. The SCO will be available to answer questions you have about using your education benefits at SU.
Choose Your Own Adventure:

Congrats on finishing your first week on campus! The weekend is here, and we're sure you're ready to unwind and have some fun with your new Pirate friends. Pick from the list below – many of these adventures have limited capacity, so be sure to sign up during lunch on Tuesday or sign up on the Welcome Week website to guarantee your spot.

1–5pm  **Wellness Hour**  
Consider this a gentle reminder to take an hour today to prioritize yourself and your well-being. The Wellness Hour is for you to spend how you'd like, at a time that works for you – rest, exercise, journal, meditate, socialize, take a walk around campus, or whatever feels restorative to YOU. What will you do to rest and recharge?

1–2pm  **LGBTQ+ Mixer (JEDI Center, McCombs 334)**  
Are you interested in the resources provided to our LGBTQIA+ students at Southwestern? Please join students and staff as we give guidance to students introducing them to specific resources and organizations that can help navigate your time at Southwestern. Allies are welcome.

2–3pm  **Getting to Know S'MORE About the JEDI Center (Bishops Lounge)**  
Interested in changing the world through diversity and social justice? Want to learn and/or connect with cultural and identity-based organizations? If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions, come meet the leaders of the JEDI Center and learn more about support groups for underrepresented students. Come and enjoy our delicious smores!

2–3pm  **Time Travel Scavenger Hunt**  
The Pirate Catalog is missing! Join library personnel from the past as they seek clues across the campus to find this vital resource. Compete in the scavenger hunt by joining a team guided by a librarian. Prizes will be awarded.

2–5pm  **Explore Southeast Georgetown (Meet at the Chapel Parking Lot – Finch Plaza)**  
Learn about the neighborhood in which Southwestern University is located. Learn about the community assets in Old Town, San Jose and Track, Ridge and Grasshopper (TRG). RSVP is required.

3–4pm  **SEAK Sustainability Tour (Meet at the Bishops Lounge)**  
The SEAK (Students for Environmental Activism and Knowledge) Sustainability Tour is a great way to get more familiar with Southwestern’s campus while learning about all of the sustainable features that make our campus so environmentally friendly. The tour will highlight the student-run Southwestern Garden, and the efforts made by SU students that helped in making the campus run on 100% wind energy. Join us for a fun walk around the campus!

3–5pm  **First-Gen Board Gaming (Smith Library Center 205)**  
Welcome Week can be overwhelming, especially as a first-generation student. Come wind-down some with board games in the Oasis (Smith Library) and meet other first-gen students and the student leader of Captain’s Academy. Snacks will be provided!
1–4pm  **Paddleboarding on the San Gabriel River**

Come cool off with us on a fun, relaxing, and beginner-friendly paddle down the San Gabriel River. The San Gabriel is a scenic river, just minutes from campus. If you have always wanted to try paddleboarding, now is your chance. *RSVP is required.*

4–6pm  **Explore Georgetown: The Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas**

Whether you’re searching for the best coffee shop in Georgetown, looking for an eclectic shopping experience, or are curious about the rich history of your new home, this immersive afternoon on the town will introduce you to our vibrant Georgetown community. *RSVP is required.*

4:30–8pm  **Dinner (Mabee Commons)**

8–9 pm  **Friday Night Live Presents: Magician Ben Seidman (McCombs Center Ballroom)**

Join Student Activities for the first of many FNLs! Guest starring on Netflix’s “Brainchild”, Ben is a renowned sleight-of-hand performer, actor, and comedian who has performed for celebrities such as Robin Williams, Carrot Top, Christina Hendricks (*Mad Men, Toy Story 4*), and Stephen Merchant (*The Office*). You simply cannot miss this!

9–11pm  **Mini–Golf To–Go (Bishops Lounge)**

All the fun of mini–golf right on our campus! Come play this 9 hole mini–golf course complete with obstacles and adventures. Bring your friends and see who has the best putting skills.

**Sat, Aug 26:**

9am–3pm  **Returning Student Move-In**

10:30am–2pm  **Brunch (Mabee Commons)**

2–4pm  **Get to Know the Greeks (Bishops Lounge)**

Southwestern University’s Greek Life community includes 4 National Interfraternity Council fraternities, 4 National Panhellenic Conference sororities, and 1 National Pan–Hellenic Council sorority, and 1 National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations sorority. You are invited to meet members and learn about opportunities to join during this casual meet and greet.

5–7:30pm  **Dinner (Mabee Commons)**

8–10pm  **Cinematic Saturday (McCombs Ballrooms)**

Grab some friends and make your way over to the first Cinematic Saturday of the year. Catch this blockbuster movie for free! Free popcorn will be provided.

9:30–11pm  **Karaoke (The Cove)**

Showtunes? Greatest hits? Y2K classics? Whatever the genre, come on down to The Cove to belt your heart out at Karaoke!
Sun, Aug 27:

9:30–10:30am  Faith Communities in Georgetown (Bishops Lounge)
Meet leaders of local faith communities as you seek a place to enrich your spiritual formation.

10:30am–2pm  Brunch (Mabee Commons)

5–6pm  "Dessert Before Dinner:" Fine Arts Ice Cream Social (FAC Jones Lobby)
Join the Sarofim School of Fine Arts faculty, staff, and current students to learn more about classes, auditions, ensembles, and more. This is your opportunity to meet students, make friendships, relax before classes start, and eat some ice cream. All are welcome, majors and non-majors alike!

5–7:30pm  Dinner (Mabee Commons)