

2025



JD Orientation

SECTION 1

Welcome to Georgetown Law

Dear 1Ls,

You will hear this many times over the next few weeks, but welcome to Georgetown Law! We are delighted you are here and cannot wait to meet you over the course of the coming days and weeks as you embark on your first law school semester.

The Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Student Life have built a JD Orientation full of opportunities to learn more about each other, about Georgetown Law, and about Washington, DC. We hope that you will review this schedule and take advantage of its many offerings.

As a reminder, you'll notice in your schedule that events starting Wednesday, August 20, are in different colors.

Mandatory sessions are in blue and your attendance is required.

You will also see a series of **"Breakout Sessions" in green**. Throughout the day on Wednesday and Thursday, we have arranged for a menu of six of these sessions, addressing many critical topics for new students. These range from how to think about success in law school, to strategic financial aid and planning, to advice from upper-level students. **These sessions are optional, but strongly encouraged**. You'll note that each session is repeated at a variety of times (sort of like a conference schedule). We strongly recommend you plan to attend most, if not all, of the six.

Finally, there are a number of social, cultural, and wellness activities throughout the Orientation, such as fitness classes, a section dinner, and our always highly-anticipated Faculty Moot Court. We hope you'll join us for as many of these as your schedule allows.

Once again, welcome to Georgetown and Hoya Saxa!

Mitch Bailin, Dean of Students
Hannah Ward, Director of Student Life

TUESDAY 8.19

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Welcome Breakfasts

- Welcome for Military-Connected Students, McDonough 520
- Interfaith Welcome Breakfast, McDonough 113
- Welcome for First-Generation College Students, Gewirz 12

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Faculty Talks for First-Year, Transfer, Visiting, and Graduate Students

[See the addendum for full list and descriptions of Faculty Talks.](#)

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

City Tours with Faculty, Staff, and Peer Advisors

[See the addendum for full list and instructions for City Tours.](#)

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Service Project with the Office of Public Interest and Community Service

[See the addendum/link for description of service project](#)

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

On the Hour from the Tower: Campus Tours

Peer Advisors will be on hand every hour to take you around your new Georgetown Law home. Meet a group at the clocktower on the :00 on the Eleanor Holmes Norton green to catch a tour.

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Lockers and Parking, St Thomas More Chapel Corridor

New students can sign up for a locker and pick up a parking pass with our Capitol Campus Facilities team.

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Library Research Fair, Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Atrium

Meet your librarians and representatives from Bloomberg Law, Lexis, and Westlaw, and explore rare books and archival materials at the Special Collections Open House.

11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Tours

All incoming students are invited to participate in a tour of the Law Library. Tours meet in the Atrium of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library building and take approximately 30 minutes. [Register for a Law Library Tour.](#)

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Fitness Class: Total Body Conditioning, Scott K. Ginsburg Sport & Fitness Center

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Visa Information Session [Required for New International JD and Transfer Students in F-1 Visa Status], McDonough 201

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Campus Ministry Drop-in, McDonough 113

Stop by McDonough Hall, Suite 113 to meet the team and to explore what Georgetown Law Campus Ministry has to offer for building community and finding deeper meaning and purpose during your law school journey. All are welcome!

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Peer Advisor City Scavenger Hunt, Eleanor Holmes Norton Green

Join us for an exciting JD social event where you'll have the perfect opportunity to meet and connect with your fellow classmates, make new friends, and start building the networks that will support you throughout law school!

WEDNESDAY 8.20

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Check-in, McDonough Atrium (Second Floor of McDonough Hall)

Check-in should be completed before your section's respective Welcome session, even if you are attending other events prior.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Welcome for Section 1, McDonough 206

Faculty and staff deans will welcome the Class of 2027's Section 1 to Georgetown Law and formally kick off your Orientation.

Breakout Session I: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

McDonough 207
1L 101: Preparing for Your First Class

McDonough 202
What I Wish I Knew: Peer Advisor Panel

McDonough 203
Psychologically Balanced: A CAPS Guide to Preventing a 1L Crash Out

McDonough 110
Take a Break!

Breakout Session II: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

McDonough 207
1L 101: Preparing for Your First Class

McDonough 202
What I Wish I Knew: Peer Advisor Panel

McDonough 203
Psychologically Balanced: A CAPS Guide to Preventing a 1L Crash Out

McDonough 110
Take a Break!

McDonough 201
Beyond the Briefs: Respectful Dialogue as a Core Competency in Legal Practice

McDonough 208
Defining Success in Law School: Your OWN Version

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Lunch with Peer Advisors

We hope you'll join us for lunch in order to meet your '25-'26 Peer Advisor, along with your section-mates, and get the inside scoop on Georgetown Law and 1L year! Lunch pick-up will take place in the Hotung Lobby. Your Peer Advisors will reach out to you to share your cohort's meeting location!

Breakout Session III: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

McDonough 207
1L 101: Preparing for Your First Class

McDonough 202
What I Wish I Knew: Peer Advisor Panel

McDonough 203
Psychologically Balanced: A CAPS Guide to Preventing a 1L Crash Out

McDonough 110
Take a Break!

McDonough 201
Beyond the Briefs: Respectful Dialogue as a Core Competency in Legal Practice

McDonough 208
Practice Law/Practice Well: Lawyers in Balance

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

JD Careers: Support from the Start, Hart Auditorium

Join our career deans, Amy Mattock from the Office of Career Strategy (OCS) and Morgan Lynn-Alesker from the Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS), for a lively conversation with distinguished alumni who have had careers spanning the legal landscape. This program will highlight the vast career resources available to you at Georgetown, including the large staffs of OCS and OPICS – your JD Careers Team.

Here are some other things to check out when you have some free time!

Immunization Clinic, Student Health Center 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The MedStar Georgetown University Student Health Center will host immunization clinic days at the Law Center. Please call: 202-687-2200 to make an appointment. Ask for the Law Center Clinic.

Lockers and Parking, St Thomas More Chapel Corridor 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

New students can sign up for a locker and pick up a parking pass with our Capitol Campus Facilities team.

On the Hour from the Tower: Campus Tours 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Peer Advisors will be on hand every hour to take you around your new Georgetown Law home. Meet a group at the clocktower on the :00 on the Eleanor Holmes Norton green to catch a tour.

Scott K. Ginsburg Sport & Fitness Center Tours 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Meet at the check-in desk within Sports & Fitness for a tour of our facilities, described as some of the best in the city!

PNC Tabling, McDonough Atrium 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PNC is the on-campus banking partner of Georgetown University! Visit their table to learn more about opening a bank account with PNC.

Campus Ministry Drop-in, McDonough 113 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Stop by McDonough Hall, Suite 113 to meet the team and to explore what Georgetown Law Campus Ministry has to offer for building community and finding deeper meaning and purpose during your law school journey. All are welcome!

Student Organization Drop-Ins, Gewirz 12 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Come by during any down time to meet some upper-level students active in our student organizations. They'll be rotating throughout Wednesday and Thursday, as will the snacks! See addendum for the list of organizations and when they'll be available for you to say hello.

Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Tours

11:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All incoming students are invited to participate in a tour of the Law Library. Tours meet in the Atrium of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library building and take approximately 30 minutes. [Register for a Law Library Tour](#)

Fitness Class: Total Body Conditioning, Scott K. Ginsburg Sport & Fitness Center

12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

THURSDAY 8.21

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Myths and Realities of Law School for Section 1, Hart Auditorium

Dean of Students Mitch Bailin will address some common myths—and the more reassuring realities—about the first year of law school. He'll be joined by Lisa Curtis, the Law Center's Deputy Title IX Coordinator; Fred Rogers, Director of the Department of Public Safety; and representatives from Georgetown's Counseling Services. Together, they'll share tips and guidance for how to thrive and succeed in this exciting new chapter.

Breakout Session VI: 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

McDonough 208
Practice Law/Practice Well:
Lawyers in Balance

McDonough 202
What I Wish I Knew:
Peer Advisor Panel

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Defining Success in Law School:
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McDonough 203
Psychologically Balanced: A
CAPS Guide to Preventing a 1L
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McDonough 110
Take a
Break!

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Faculty Moot Reception, Scott K. Ginsburg Sport & Fitness Lobby

Before boarding the buses to the Hilltop campus for the President's and Dean's Welcome and faculty moot court, enjoy a light reception with your classmates across sections.

5:30 p.m.

Travel to Faculty Moot Court

Join us at Gaston Hall on Georgetown's Historic Main Campus (37th & O Sts. NW). We'll travel to the main campus by bus. Please meet outside McDonough Hall (2nd St NW) to board buses. at 5:30 p.m.. Early arrivals can participate in an optional tour of the Hilltop campus.

7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

President's and Dean's Welcome, Gaston Hall (3rd Floor of Healy Hall, 37th & O Sts. NW)

Immediately before the faculty moot court, Georgetown Law's interim Dean, Joshua Teitelbaum, and interim President, Robert Groves, will welcome you to the university and the law school at the University's Hilltop campus, in the historic Georgetown neighborhood.

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Faculty Moot Court, Gaston Hall (3rd Floor of Healy Hall, 37th & O Sts. NW)

Always the highlight of the Orientation program, six of our distinguished professors, who collectively have argued and briefed scores of cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, will present a "moot court," or mock argument of a case that will be heard by the Supreme Court this coming fall. Gaston Hall [37th & O Sts. NW]

Here are some other things to check out when you have some free time!

Pickleball Clinic, Scott K. Ginsburg
Sport & Fitness Center
8:00AM

Immunization Clinic
Student Health Center
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Fitness Class: Yoga, Scott K. Ginsburg
Sport & Fitness Center
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

FRIDAY 8.22

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Introduction to the First-Year Experience, McDonough 200 or McDonough 201

A faculty member teaching one of your section's Fall courses will teach the first hour of the course, then spend some time talking with you about why your professors teach what they do the way they do in the first year.

If you have Professor Spann, your class will be held in McDonough 200. If you have Professor Rogers, your class will be held in McDonough 201.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Public Sector 101 for Section 1, McDonough 201

Brought to you by the Office of Public Interest and Community Service (OPICS), Public Sector 101 will help students to learn the fundamentals of what lawyering can look like in nonprofit, government, and other public interest settings - and how to explore those paths as a law student, whether you are interested in public interest now or further down the line. This session will highlight the importance of using both information and inspiration as a guide in conducting your career exploration and search - providing a combination of nuts and bolts information, insights, and reflections on the process.

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Private Sector 101 for Section 1, McDonough 201

Join advisors from the Office of Career Strategy (OCS) to learn about the landscape of private sector legal careers, including what private sector lawyers do, how they hire, and the recruiting timeline. You'll learn action steps you can take to increase your knowledge of the market and opportunities within these employers. While there are many jobs available to you in the private sector, the focus of this session is on the structure and recruiting practices of larger law firms.

3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Meet-and-Greet with Practicing Attorneys, McDonough Atrium (Second Floor of McDonough Hall)

Come meet with alums and other practicing attorneys with a wide spectrum of career experiences in this interactive and guided networking event. At this program, you will have a chance to mingle with attorneys who are excited to welcome you into the Georgetown legal community and to shed some more light on their real-life journeys and experiences as lawyers. No suits, no resumes - come as you are!

Breakout Sessions

1L 101: Preparing for Your First Class

Director of Academic Success Lisa Curtis will discuss how to prepare for law school classes and offer some tips for continued academic success throughout the year.

Defining Success in Law School: Your OWN Version

This interactive session offers an opportunity to slow down, recollect, and reflect on your personal goals for law school. Professor Amy Uelmen will offer images and reflective questions to help frame your approach and identify the resources you already have for your own version of success. This session also provides an opportunity to connect with other first-year students outside your section.

Psychologically Balanced: A CAPS Guide to Preventing a 1L Crash Out

Join the Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) team as we provide you with an orientation to mental health and wellness as a law student. In this breakout session, we will go over common stressors incoming 1L students may experience, particularly in their first semester, along with some strategies and resources to help cope with this transition. CAPS hopes that the information provided in this breakout session will help set students up for a balanced experience that emphasizes caring for the whole person in the midst of a busy law school experience.

Practice Law/Practice Well: Lawyers in Balance

Lawyers in Balance (LIB) teaches law students mindfulness practices that will help them successfully navigate law school, defuse stress, and develop as leaders and problem-solvers. Trained facilitators (Georgetown Law staff members) will lead students in a brief mindfulness practice and provide an introduction to the LIB program during this session.

What I Wish I Knew: Peer Advisor Panels

The Peer Advisors will be on hand to give their best advice for 1L, what they wish they knew before starting their first year at Georgetown Law, and to answer your questions about the upcoming year and beyond!

Beyond the Briefs: Respectful Dialogue as a Core Competency in Legal Practice

Chief Diversity Officer Anjali Bindra Patel and upperclass students will discuss the significance of open-minded dialogue as a professional core competency and how law students can act as bridge builders across cultural, experiential, and ideological differences.

Take a Break!

Need a moment to relax and connect? Take a Break is your chance to step away from the formal sessions and get to know your peers in a laid-back, welcoming space. Join your Peer Advisors for fun icebreaker activities, casual conversation, and a chance to meet fellow new students. Whether you're outgoing or just warming up, this is a great way to build connections and feel at home.