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= WELCOME WEEK**



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, DC



A WEEK OF WELCOMES TO AU AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

Welcome Week is a long-standing tradition for first-year students to help smooth their transition to the university and introduce them to AU's extended "campus" of Washington, D.C.

Filled with programs, events, and activities, the seven days begin on Saturday, August 17, the first day students can move into their residence halls, and come to a close on Friday, August 23, with the All-American BBQ.

Welcome Week is also for meeting like-minded people and furthering your interests in a variety of areas, such as civics, outdoor sports, community service, and sustainability. Above all, this is a time to just enjoy.

Transfer students, Welcome Week is for you too! Please see "Locking In a Program" at the end of this brochure for details.



PLEASE TAKE SOME TIME READING

through the following options for Welcome Week programs. The first two, the Freshman Service Experience and Discover DC, describe AU's hallmark programs, with hundreds taking part each year. The Explore DC programs operate on a smaller scale, accepting up to only 20 students in most cases. We look forward to hearing which choice you make.



CHOOSE ONE OF THESE TWO PROGRAMS

Freshman Service Experience

The Freshman Service Experience is the cornerstone of Welcome Week. Each year, 600 students come together to connect with D.C. and American University through community service. During the day, you work in small groups with inspiring nonprofits while exploring issues of social justice. In the evenings, join other groups for dinner, speakers, and social events. Your experienced leaders will welcome you to AU, expose you to the rich culture and diversity of the city, and share their own first-year experiences. Since 1990, more than 10,000 students have participated in the Freshman Service Experience, contributing more than 200,000 hours of service. Now it's your turn. Join the AU tradition!

For more information about the Freshman Service Experience, please visit american.edu/volunteer, or contact the Center for Community Engagement and Service at 202-885-SERV (7378).



ENGAGE



EXPLORE

Discover DC

Discover DC celebrates 11 years of connecting AU's new students with residents of the District in ways that highlight its diversity and history of civic engagement. Explore D.C. neighborhoods and surrounding areas typically missed by tourists. The program begins on Tuesday evening with dinner and group activities. Neighborhood sojourns on the following two days may include tours by local residents, visits to historical sites, and appointments with local agencies and neighborhood associations to learn about issues affecting citizens of our nation's capital.

For more information about Discover DC, please visit american.edu/discoverdc, or contact New Student Programs at 202-885-3303.

... OR AN EXPLORE DC PROGRAM

Washington D.C.: The Unseen and Untold

Go beyond the TV sound bites, history books, and tourist bus rides to experience Washington from an insider's perspective. This unique exploration introduces you to the place you will call home for the next four years. Discover the plight of residents living in a "food desert," learn the story behind the construction of the Washington Nationals baseball stadium, and visit such places as the Anacostia Community Museum. See the city the way it should be seen. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the Department of Anthropology and American Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Power, Politics, and Law in D.C.

The Constitution assigns different powers to the three branches of the federal government, known as the separation of powers. This two-day introduction to power, politics, and Washington, D.C., reveals how the different branches interact to resolve issues of national importance—and why stark divisions often crop up between law and politics. Past activities have included visits to the offices of a member of Congress and a national civil rights advocacy group. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the School of Public Affairs and the Department of Justice, Law and Society.



PLAY

Connecting Faith and Social Action

Join American University's Initiative for Religion and Civic Life for two days experiencing the connections between religion and meaningful social action. Take part in discussion groups, visit local and national organizations working on social justice from a faith-based perspective, and learn about AU's certificate in religion and civic life. Also find out about other opportunities for connecting faith and action throughout your college career. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the Kay Spiritual Life Center.

Sites and Bikes: Get to Know D.C. on a Bicycle

Join fellow new students, AU staff, and Capital Bikeshare for two days of biking in Rock Creek Park and other areas of the city. Bike trail experience is not required. Each participant receives a month-long bikeshare membership. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the office of the Dean of Students.

Athletics and Recreation: Learning the Ropes

On day one, travel to Virginia's Northern Neck region, a peninsula in the Chesapeake Bay. Day two takes you to Great Falls Park, a national park, for fun, problem solving, and team-building exercises. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by AU's office of Recreational Sports and Fitness.

Kogod Capital Connections: Exploring the D.C. Business Community

Washington lies at the intersection of business and government, but did you ever wonder just how capital moves into, out of, and through this dynamic city? Gain a new perspective on careers in business from AU alumni and business professionals during site visits to six area organizations, such as SiriusXM, the World Bank, and Washington Nationals baseball franchise. Also get a jump start on career planning during a workshop through the Kogod Center for Career Development. Limited to 25 students; coordinated by the Kogod School of Business.

AU Alumni Leaders in Action

Wondering how an American University degree prepares you for a successful career? Join the AU Alumni Association for visits to four businesses led by AU alums in the Washington, D.C., region. Topics of discussion will include communicating as a leader, planning your path to success, and accessing the power of networks. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the office of Alumni Relations and the AU Alumni Association.



AU Top Chef: Terrace Dining Room College Cooking Competition

Interested in learning basic cooking skills? Wonder where your food at AU will be coming from? The last thing you want to worry about in college is what to eat. Join the staff of AU Dining Services and team of top chefs to keep your college life at a simmer with great-tasting food. Take basic cooking lessons and get tips for making the most of your floor kitchen and your meal plan at the Terrace Dining Room (TDR). All participants will compete in our Top Chef competition for a chance to win prizes. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by AU Dining Services.

Analyzing D.C. . . . Molecule by Molecule

Think politics, business, and monuments define D.C.? NASA, the National Institutes of Health, and millennia-old geologic formations: these characterize the area as much as our more familiar notions do. Train a microscope lens on the wide-ranging scientific side of the city through trips to science venues like these and to D.C. museums, complemented by activities such as cooking, crystal-growing, and solar telescope-viewing. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Sustainable Campus, Sustainable City: A Green Campus in America's Greenest College Town

See firsthand why AU has earned a gold rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Witness burgeoning sustainability in Washington through a tour of its largest solar array, green buildings, green roofs, and an urban apiary. Meet prominent sustainability experts and enjoy fresh, local, sustainable food. If you're interested in gearing your education toward protecting people and the planet, this could be your introduction. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the Office of Sustainability.

Mission: Improv-able, Welcome Week Edition

This mission is yours if you choose to accept it. Want to use your creativity . . . to learn to think on your feet? Join AU's comedy improv troupe, Mission: Improv-able, for a two-day learning experience, during which you'll observe professional improvisers in D.C., work with members of Improv-able to get down the basics, and take part in a live improv performance. Feel confident in your ability to speak and act on the fly, skills to use throughout your life. No experience required. Limited to 25 students; coordinated by Mission: Improv-able.

Going Global: The Whole World Right Outside Your Door

Interested in doing something international? You might assume that a job at the State Department is the best way to pursue an international career; but, in fact, many opportunities exist at other organizations in our nation's capital. This program introduces you to AU alumni and other professionals working in public, private, and nonprofit sectors, all with a global emphasis. Visit such places as the Department of State, Department of Energy, and Greenpeace. And begin networking in D.C.—and planning your future global career. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the School of International Service.

Media by Metro: Exploring Area Communication Organizations

Washington, D.C., is an international media hub and one of the country's largest markets for documentary film production. Learn about the field of communication, including journalism, public relations, and film and media arts, from AU alums and other media pros at organizations such as the *Washington Post*, NBC4, Spectrum (a health and science PR firm), and the Smithsonian museums. Begin planning your career during a workshop with School of Communication advisors. Limited to 20 students; coordinated by the School of Communication.

KICK-OFF DATES

All programs kick off with events late in the afternoon of Tuesday, August 20, and continue through the evening of Thursday, August 22. Check-in for all programs takes place on the first floor of the Mary Graydon Center, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Tuesday, August 20.

WHAT THE FEE COVERS

The \$115 fee for Welcome Week includes dinner on Tuesday, breakfasts on Wednesday and Thursday, and admission to evening events. It also covers supplies, materials, transportation to and from sites (and, in some cases, a SmarTrip card for Metro rides), staff costs, and a program T-shirt. Please plan to bring about \$15 per day for lunches and personal expenses. Note that because your meal plan becomes active on Tuesday, August 20, dinners on Wednesday and Thursday are not included in the fee.

Fee waivers may be available upon request. For more information, contact Katie Bowen, assistant director of New Student Programs, at NSPwaivers@american.edu.

LOCKING IN A PROGRAM



To register, scan this code or visit american.edu/oc/welcomeweekfolder.

Another way to register is to log on to the myAU.american.edu portal with your user ID and password, and click on the links as follows: Life@AU, then New Students, then New First-Year Student Checklist, then Register for a Welcome Week Program. The site will be available starting Monday, June 10—but register soon because spaces fill up quickly!

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Participating in the July 11-12 orientation? Then feel free to take part in any of the programs listed. If you choose either the Freshman Service Experience or Discover DC, you will be grouped with other transfer students. Registering for the August 21 orientation? Then you can participate in a one-day Transfer Service Experience or Discover DC. Be sure to register when you sign up for your orientation.