Freshman Preorientation Programs

OIS
Orientation for International Students

CC
Cultural Connections

FOOT
Freshman Outdoor Orientation Trips

Harvest
Open to all incoming students, Cultural Connections (CC) explores the experiences of students of color at Yale and introduces freshmen to the various resources of Yale and New Haven. CC helps to provide a smooth transition from high school to Yale through a week-long pre-orientation program.

All CC participants are housed together on the Old Campus, which allows them the opportunity to get acquainted with the Yale campus and with each other. The schedule of activities includes a little of everything, with plenty of interactive and recreational activities. Whether at a film screening or in the Lanman-Wright courtyard, students have a chance to form close ties with one another, which past participants consistently rate as one of the program’s greatest benefits. During CC, there will be opportunities to meet faculty members and current students, attend presentations on campus life and academic expectations, and visit points of interest such as Yale’s Cultural Centers, Mohegan Wigwam Festival and Powwow, and local shopping areas.
CC also features artistic performances from some of Yale’s best-known student groups, representing various cultural traditions, as well as a poetry jam with local artists. Nothing is as popular as the legendary Talent Show, however, which showcases the many talents of our CC participants.

For many incoming students, CC provides not only an ideal introduction to Yale and its rich cultural resources, but also to friendships that last far beyond the length of the program.

“I am so glad I did this program. It really helped me to meet new people and open myself up. I think it was the best way I ever could have transitioned into college.”

“Thank you for such a wonderful introduction to Yale. I’ve been amazed by the brilliance of those around me and inspired by the diverse experiences of others.”

“There is so much hope for the future it’s ridiculous.”

“CC embodies the very essence of Yale – the diversity, camaraderie, teamwork, and exchange of knowledge.”

To register for this program, please visit:

http://yalecollege.yale.edu/content/preorientation-programs

Visit our website for more information:

http://culturalconnections.yalecollege.yale.edu
Would you like to sleep under the stars? Share stories and songs around the campfire with some of your new classmates? Create a new tight-knit community of friends? If so, you may want to join us!

FOOT—Freshman Outdoor Orientation Trips—offers both 6-day and 4-day long backpacking trips for incoming students. This year, the 6-day trips are in New York’s Catskill Mountains, the White Mountains of New Hampshire, the Green Mountains of Vermont, and the Berkshires of Massachusetts. The 4-day trips are in southern Vermont and on the Appalachian Trail in northwestern Connecticut & western Massachusetts.

Participants will first come to Yale, where they will meet their leaders and other members of their hiking group for a brief orientation program. They will be housed and fed for one night on campus, and then early the next morning, they will travel by bus to their hiking trail. Participants will
return to Yale on Friday, August 28 in time for the campus orientation.

If you join us on FOOT, you will have the chance to make friends with some of your new classmates, enjoy discovering the Northeastern landscape, and spend time discussing what life at Yale will be like. Two upper-class students will lead each group of 8–10 freshmen. You do not need to be an experienced backpacker to participate in FOOT. We ask you to come with an open mind and a positive attitude about trying new experiences. You will find FOOT both exciting and rewarding. Do not delay in signing up! We offer generous financial aid and can supply some of the basic equipment. We hope you will join us on this Great Adventure!

“FOOT was amazing! I have never known such a fantastic, well organized outing in my life. It’s a phenomenal experience and introduction to Yale. FOOT is great–DO IT!”

“FOOT, to me, is a perfect freshman orientation. I feel very confident beginning Yale knowing such a great group of people. It eased that transition in an awesome manner. The trip was about people and friendships.”

To register for this program, please visit: http://yalecollege.yale.edu/content/preorientation-programs

Visit our website for more information: http://foot.yalecollege.yale.edu

Like us on Facebook at YaleFOOT

Follow us on Twitter: @YaleFOOT
Would you like to make the best burrito you’ve ever had? Form friendships as you harvest fresh fruits and veggies? Spend afternoons cooling off in nearby rivers, and evenings talking late into the night around a campfire? Join us on Harvest, and spend five days on a local, organic-practicing farm with other incoming freshmen and two student leaders. Harvest begins at the Yale Farm, where students meet their group leaders and share a lunch of pizza cooked in the Farm’s wood burning oven. After a brief orientation, groups leave for some of the Northeast’s most beautiful farms. Harvesters participate in activities ranging from picking vegetables to planting new crops to constructing chicken coops. In the afternoons and evenings, students can hike on nearby trails, tend to bags of trail mix, strum instruments around a campfire, and get to know each other. Freshmen arrive back on campus with an unforgettable experience behind them and a new group of close friends, ready to jump into Camp Yale. Harvest is the perfect way to
build strong connections with your fellow classmates while learning about sustainable agriculture in New England. No experience farming is necessary—all are welcome. Students come to the program with a wide range of experiences and backgrounds, but all share an adventurous spirit and eagerness to build lasting friendships. Sign up to join us today! We offer financial aid and can provide basic equipment—lettuce be friends!

“I absolutely loved Harvest. It was an awesome transition to Yale, plus we got to bond with a group of people even before getting to Yale – I met one of my best friends here on Harvest.”

“Harvest was incredible: I made friends, ate vegetables harvested fresh that morning, and spent my last week of summer enjoying the outdoors. More than anything, I learned a ton and felt an amazing sense of accomplishment once the trip was over. I would do it again in a heartbeat!”

To register for this program, please visit:
http://yalecollege.yale.edu/content/preorientation-programs

Visit our website and for more information:
http://harvest.yalecollege.yale.edu

Like us on Facebook at:
Yale Harvest
OIS (Orientation for International Students) is designed to provide the best possible transition to Yale for incoming freshmen from all over the world. It is the perfect venue for getting to know your fellow international students as well as freshmen who are on campus for other pre-orientation programs. This fun-filled program introduces you to Yale’s rich academic and cultural resources and includes social activities, opportunities to explore your new home town, and presentations on topics such as choosing your courses and intercontinental adjustment. Time is also scheduled to pick up necessities not brought from home, get a cell phone and open a bank account. Plus we promise a little free time to get rid of some of that jet lag. You will also want to come prepared to showcase your talents at the fabulous OIS Talent Show!

OIS
8/24 – 8/27/15
Application Deadline: 7/3/15
Organized and led by Yale College student counselors, OIS will provide your first connections to the tight-knit Yale international community. International freshmen have described OIS as the perfect launch for their four years at Yale, and remember it as one of their “best Yale moments.” It is your bridge between home and starting college in the U.S.

“When I arrived on campus with two suitcases and no sheets at all, OIS gave me a great start”

“On one hand, OIS celebrates each of our divergent national, religious and ethnic identities and perspectives but at the same time, OIS also looks beyond each of these differences and focuses on the common passions and desires that bring all of us together.”

“I was nervous and intimidated at the thought of starting my college experience. When I was welcomed at the airport by a bunch of very friendly OIS counselors, I instantly felt a lot less anxious.”

“OIS didn’t meet my expectations – it surpassed them! I absolutely loved the entire program. It was fun, enlightening, entertaining and completely satisfying. It provided me the perfect welcome to Yale.”

For more information and to register for the program, please visit: 
http://ois.yalecollege.yale.edu

Or email the Office of International Students and Scholars at oiss@yale.edu
To apply for any of these Preorientation programs, please visit:

http://yalecollege.yale.edu/content/preorientation-programs

For more information about any of these programs, visit their websites:

http://culturalconnections.yalecollege.edu
http://foot.yalecollege.yale.edu
http://harvest.yalecollege.yale.edu
http://ois.yalecollege.yale.edu