



2020

NEW STUDENT WELCOME SCHEDULE



MERCYHURST
UNIVERSITY

NEW STUDENT WELCOME SCHEDULE

All new students will be assigned to a **New Student Welcome Pod**. Your Pod is based on your residential living assignment and is intended to limit the sizes of in-person gatherings out of an abundance of caution. You can find your Pod on the Mercyhurst Hub, based on your residence hall and room number.

All Pods are assigned a designated classroom and will be led by a Mercyhurst facilitator. If you are a commuter student, you will receive an email indicating your Pod assignment and designated classroom.

Events in RED are MANDATORY with your Welcome Pod.

Events in BLUE are MANDATORY without your Welcome Pod.

SUNDAY, AUG. 16

8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

OneCard Office open (McAuley Hall Lower Level/next to Police & Safety)

If you have not already received your OneCard (student ID), please stop by and pick it up from the OneCard Office.

11 a.m.

Catholic Mass (Christ the King Chapel)

The Bishop of the Diocese of Erie has dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for the foreseeable future. This dispensation applies to both residents of the Diocese of Erie and visitors to the Diocese of Erie, **including students and parents coming to Mercyhurst University**. Although our 11 a.m. Sunday Mass has resumed, restrictions and protocols are in place, including requirements to wear a mask, to social distance in the chapel, and to utilize adequate sanitation methods. If you are thinking of attending our Sunday Mass, be advised that seating is restricted due to social distancing. Families may sit together in a pew, but unrelated individuals must socially distance (six feet apart) within any particular pew. There are several parishes close to the Mercyhurst campus which you are welcome to attend, but please note that the same protocols apply. Visit the Mercyhurst Hub for more details.

7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Resident student check-in by appointment (individual halls)

Student volunteers, the Residence Life staff, and members of the campus community will make the move-in process incredibly smooth for resident students. During move-in, you will receive your room key and a New Student Resilience & Resolve tote bag. Your Resilience & Resolve tote bag includes a Mercyhurst mug, two reusable Mercyhurst face masks, two disposable face masks, hand sanitizer, and more!

You will need to leave your room while your roommate is moving in, so during that time check out the following:

- Go off campus with your family. See the New Student Welcome Page on the Hub for ideas.
- Meet up with a Laker Leader (chat on ZeeMee).
- Take the Mercyhurst 3K Challenge. See the New Student Welcome Page on the Hub for the map.

2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Bookstore open

MONDAY, AUG. 17

2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Commuter Student Welcome Pack pickup (Student Union Great Room)

Commuter students are invited to pick up their New Student Resilience & Resolve tote bag in the Student Union. Your Resilience & Resolve tote bag includes a Mercyhurst mug, two reusable Mercyhurst face masks, two disposable face masks, hand sanitizer, commuter-themed stickers, and more!

4 – 7 p.m.

Dinner on your own

Check out on- and off-campus dining options on the Mercyhurst Hub. Please note that seating will be limited for dine-in options due to mandates from the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

7 p.m.

Residence Life Meeting

This meeting is **mandatory** for resident students. See your RA for details.

7 – 7:30 p.m.

Commuter Student Welcome Meeting

This meeting is **mandatory** for commuter students. Commuters will meet on Zoom to discuss Commuter Student Services and meet other commuter students. The link to this meeting will be emailed to you.

7:30 – 8 p.m.

Meet up outdoors

Your RA will guide you to one of three outdoor locations. Each residence hall wing will have its own designated area, so be sure to follow instructions given by your RA. Each student will have their own space to ensure proper social distancing.

8 – 8:30 p.m.

Welcome to Mercyhurst Kickoff Celebration

Kick off your life at the Hurst in style at this high-energy event! Join your fellow Lakers and the rest of the Welcome Crew to meet your Laker Leaders, Mercyhurst Student Government, the Student and Multicultural Activities Councils, and Athletics and get a glimpse of the vibrant student life opportunities available to you on campus.

8:30 p.m.

Outdoor movie

Students will remain at their designated outdoor location to watch *22 Jump Street* on the big screen. Each student will receive a towel, a bag of popcorn, and a bottle of water to enjoy.

8:30 a.m. – 4:40 p.m.

Bookstore open

7 – 9 a.m.

Complimentary breakfast (Trinity Green Tent or Grotto Commons)

Bring your student ID and stop by the tent in Trinity Green to pick up your breakfast to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please visit Grotto Commons.

8 – 8:50 a.m.

Virtual yoga with Courtney

Join Mercyhurst's own Courtney Olevnik as she virtually guides you through a yoga practice.

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

OneCard Office open (McAuley Hall Lower Level/next to Police & Safety)

If you have not already received your OneCard (student ID), please stop by and pick it up from the OneCard Office.

10 – 11 a.m.

Virtual: Living Life at Performance Level (designated Pod classroom)

Curtis Zimmerman, nationally-recognized keynote, transforms and inspires students to live their lives at a higher level of performance. Curtis provides an innovative learning experience by engaging students with juggling, "Simon Says," and fire eating, utilizing his performance expertise to demonstrate his key concepts and make his message memorable.

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

You and your fellow Lakers in your Pod will rotate through the following three items. Your facilitator will communicate your customized schedule before your morning session.

Complimentary lunch (Grotto Commons)

Bring your student ID to Grotto Commons to pick up your lunch to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please see a staff member.

Virtual Live: No Zebras, No Excuses (designated Pod classroom)

No Zebras, No Excuses is a performance-based program that consists of a series of scenes and discussions that covers domestic violence, bystander intervention, sexual

assault, drug-facilitated sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, harassment, as well as facts and statistics for college campuses.

Mercyhurst Unplugged (designated Pod classroom)

Meet with your facilitator for a Q&A session to ask any remaining questions you have about Mercyhurst.

2 - 4 p.m.

Virtual Live: Diversity University (designated Pod classroom)

Through slam poetry and role-playing, this powerful team of young speakers connects with and inspires audiences. They cover multiple dimensions of diversity, including gender, race, sexuality, physical disability, socioeconomic circumstances, and more. Monti and Julia are living examples that if you are TRU to yourself then anything is truly possible!

4 - 7 p.m.

Complimentary dinner (Grotto Commons)

Bring your student ID to Grotto Commons to pick up your dinner to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please see a staff member.

7 - 8 p.m.

Residence Life Meeting

This meeting is **mandatory** for resident students. See your RA for details.

8 - 8:30 p.m.

Meet up outdoors

Your RA will guide you to one of three outdoor locations. Each residence hall wing will have its own designated area, so be sure to follow instructions given by your RA. Each student will have their own space to ensure proper social distancing.

8:30 p.m.

Virtual Live: Keith Karkut's Hypnotic Intoxication at Saxon Stadium

In this session, Keith Karkut will lead an open discussion about responsible drinking, as he shares his personal experiences with alcohol and the way it has affected his life, as well as powerful survey questions developed over many years for his live Hypnotic Intoxication program. Additionally, he will add questions that discuss distracted driving, other addictive substances, and the social challenges students currently are experiencing. The results of your and your classmates' answers will be gathered and used as a comparison in a future session.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Bookstore open

7 - 9 a.m.

Complimentary breakfast (Trinity Green Tent or Grotto Commons)

Bring your student ID and stop by the tent in Trinity Green to pick up your breakfast to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please visit Grotto Commons.

8 - 8:50 a.m.

Morning workout on your own

Check out a free workout video from Mercyhurst or take the Mercyhurst 3K Challenge. Selfie spots are posted throughout the route and for every photo you post on social media with the hashtag #HurstIsHome, you will be entered into a raffle to win prizes! Be sure to check out our Mercyhurst 3K Challenge Snapchat filters.

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

OneCard Office open (McAuley Hall Lower Level/next to Police & Safety)

If you have not already received your OneCard (student ID), please stop by and pick it up from the OneCard Office.

10 - 11 a.m.

Virtual Live: Chat It Up: A House Call with America's Dating Doctor, David Coleman (designated Pod classroom)

COVID and our "new normal" have caused us all to pivot, modify, and review the status and importance of the relationships and involvements in our life. Digital platforms play an important role in our finding, forming, mending, and sustaining relationships and endeavors, but reporting "online" to be "in a relationship" is a far cry from actually being in one and the speed of dating, relating, and socializing accelerates daily. Factor in academic pursuits, servant leadership, social distancing, and our ever-escalating virtual world, and we face uncharted waters. Apps and sites like Tinder and Bumble, Match, Plenty of Fish, Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram (among many others) have forever changed our social landscape. One post, text, or picture can affect multiple lives in an instant. In an inclusive, humorous, and challenging format, David Coleman, the Dating Doctor, will help you navigate college's ever-changing scene as he addresses: the ABCs of Initial Interest, building an inclusive and caring community, developing resilience and coping skills, the importance of relationships, surviving a difficult breakup,

common mistakes made during online dating, what it means to be a “true friend,” surviving and thriving in our “new normal,” and every question of importance to the audience. David’s expertise and no-nonsense style make this more than just a program — it’s a life-changing event!

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

You and your fellow Lakers in your Pod will rotate through the following three items. Your facilitator will communicate your customized schedule before your morning session.

Complimentary lunch (Grotto Commons)

Bring your student ID to Grotto Commons to pick up your lunch to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please see a staff member.

Our Mercy Heritage: The Service Tradition (designated Pod classroom)

At Mercyhurst, we have a rich tradition of living out the mission by serving in our local community prior to the start of classes. Today, you will learn about a partnership Mercyhurst has developed with a local elementary school and become more knowledgeable about the U.S. Census and why it matters for our Erie community. Through these activities, you will understand more about what it means to be an Ambassador of Service!

Mercyhurst Unplugged (designated Pod classroom)

Meet with your facilitator for a Q&A session to ask any remaining questions you have about Mercyhurst.

2 p.m.

New Student Convocation (designated Pod classroom)

One of the many great Mercyhurst traditions, New Student Convocation brings together the president, provost, college deans, and other academic officers for the official ceremony to formally admit you as a member of the Mercyhurst University class. As part of this virtual ceremony, you will learn about the mission and history of Mercyhurst, and you’ll be invited to take the Pledge of Academic Fellowship. This pledge is a commitment you, as a student, make to Mercyhurst and its academic principles and to your abilities, values, and aspirations.

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

Medallion pickup

You and your fellow Lakers in your Pod will receive your Medallion pickup location assignment and your designated time for pickup. Your Mercyhurst Medallion symbolizes your membership in the Mercyhurst community of learners. Only students who have been admitted through the formal Convocation receive this Medallion.

4 – 4:30 p.m.

Major Meetings

You will receive an email from the department chair of your academic department providing you a link to a Zoom meeting with your department. Each student will meet with the faculty in their major to discuss requirements and expectations.

4:30 – 7 p.m.

Dinner (first meal on your dining plan)

Be sure to bring your student ID to Grotto Commons to pick up your dinner to go or dine in, if offered. If you have any dietary restrictions, please see a staff member.

7 – 8 p.m.

Residence Life Meeting

This meeting is **mandatory** for resident students. See your RA for details.

8 p.m.

Virtual Involvement Fair

Check out all of the involvement opportunities we have for you on campus! The Virtual Involvement Fair will be hosted on FlipGrid. Many clubs and organizations have created dynamic videos to share information about their group. To get to the Involvement Fair, visit the New Student Welcome Page on the Hub and log in with your Mercyhurst credentials. More information will be shared via email. Be sure to put your name on the sign-up sheet for the clubs you are interested in!