

MAT Orientation 2026 Schedule

Objectives/Outcomes:

- Create a welcoming environment for new students
- Support new students in their transition to the College
- Provide opportunities for new students to interact with peers, faculty, and staff to support belonging and community
- Inform new students of campus services, resources, and expectations that supports their college experience

Icon Key:

 **Groups:** This event may involve social engagement in small to large groups, teams, or crowds.

 **Physical:** This event may involve physical activity such as walking/traveling, standing, kneeling, or bending.

 **Sound:** This event may involve activities with auditory stimulation such as amplified sounds, noise, or music.

 **Verbal Participation:** This event may involve active participation, questions, or prompts which you will be asked to verbally respond.

 **Visual:** This event may involve activities with visual stimulation such as the use of changing lights/colors or looking at a projection/computer screens.

Monday, August 3

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM   

Taking Care of Business

Porteous Building: Administrative Center

If you were provided a letter at move-in, please stop in one of the offices—Financial Aid, Student Accounts, or Registrar. Each office will be available to assist with completing items in the letter. While waiting for an opening to speak with them, please feel free to familiarize yourself with the Porteous Building.

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM     

Check In and Coffee!

Porteous Building: Porteous Lobby

Check in, grab your schedule and MECA&D swag. Take a moment to grab coffee, tea, and a light snack. Join Professor and Chair of Art Education Rachel Somerville, Ed.D., and Administrative Director of Graduate Programs Rachel Katz.

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM     

Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA)

Porteous Building: ICA

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM    

Welcome to the College

Porteous Building: Cafe

Join MECA&D President Laura Freid, Executive President Beth Elicker, and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College Ian Anderson for a warm welcome and learn more about the College.

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM    

Community Supports & Resources

Porteous Building: Cafe

MECA&D offers numerous resources for students. Learn about these resources along with your rights and responsibilities as a member of the MECA&D Community.

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM    

Lunch

Porteous Building: Cafe

Welcome to the MAT Program. Join Professor and Chair of Art Education Rachel Somerville, Ed.D., and Administrative Director of Graduate Programs Rachel Katz for lunch and get to know each other.

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM    

Exploring the Stacks

Porteous Building: Joanne Waxmax Library

Learn more about the Library and services offered to support you academically including writing services.

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM    

Caring in a Community

Porteous Building: Cafe

Learn more about cultivating and caring for relationships that you will develop throughout your time at MECA&D.

1:45 PM    

Wrap Up with Rachel Somerville, Chair of Art Education

Porteous Building: 510

Congratulations on completing orientation! This is an opportunity to get any remaining questions answered before starting class for the afternoon. The chair of the program will provide feedback and next steps.

2:45 PM    

Optional: Tour

Porteous Building: Cafe

Get familiar with Porteous by taking a comprehensive tour with Graduate Admissions Counselor, Joel Tsui.