

NEW FACULTY AND RETURNING FACULTY (RE) ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

FALL 2024

This year's New and Returning Faculty (Re)Orientation is designed to provide full-time VSU faculty members with the following:

- (1) The opportunity to meet and build community with faculty from across the university.
- (2) An introduction—or reintroduction—to Valdosta State University—its mission and plans as well as your role as faculty member.
- (3) An overview with the resources, materials, and modalities available for teaching and advising.

All activities will be held face-to-face; returning faculty should register for the “All Faculty” sessions they plan to attend through VSU’s [Employee Training Portal](#). Materials and hand-outs from sessions will be available to new faculty in their BlazeVIEW course titled, “New Full-Time Faculty ACYR 24-25.”

Monday, August 5 and Tuesday, August 6 for New Faculty

By appointment Our Human Resources Team will be available to meet with new faculty in the HR office to complete any necessary paperwork and to answer questions.

Tuesday, August 6

5-7 pm **For New Faculty: Getting to Know VSU and Each Other**
CELT You and a guest are invited to join us for this reception where you will have the opportunity to meet each other and learn about how to gain the most from orientation. Our President, members of the VSU cabinet, our Interim Provost and members of the Deans’ Council will be there to greet you.
(102 Georgia Ave.)

Wednesday, August 7

Beverage service will be provided in both the morning and afternoon.

Morning Sessions

STEAM Center

(1302 N. Patterson St.)

9:00-9:15 am **For New Faculty: “Class” Photo. Come prepared to have your photo made with this year’s class of new faculty**

9:30-11:00 am **For All Faculty: A Faculty Member’s Role in a Comprehensive Public University**
Meet VSU’s Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Sheri Noviello who will be leading an interactive discussion about the role faculty play in a comprehensive university and VSU’s and Academic Affairs’ strategic goals and initiatives, and how you can get involved.

11:15-12:15 **For All Faculty: “Rules of the Road”**
Dr. Sheri Gravett, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Services, will share guidelines and resources useful for designing courses and preparing syllabi, including learner-centered approaches to course policies such as attendance, academic honesty, and more.

BREAK (12:15-1:30) **Afternoon Sessions**

1:35-3:00 pm **For All Faculty: Partnering to Create a Campus Culture of Student Success**
Janette Hall
Auditorium 1111
As faculty members, you have a role in being part of a campus environment that fosters student success. Join our panel to learn more about campus resources as we discuss how to promote safety, wellbeing and student success.

3:15-4:15 pm **For All Faculty: Strategies for Success for Students (and Faculty)**
Janette Hall
Auditorium 1111
New and experienced faculty members face the same challenges: engaging students in course content, meeting students where they are, helping students manage time productively, promoting effective study habits, and encouraging use of campus resources among others. Join us to participate in a lively discussion about strategies to help students (and faculty) succeed.

Thursday, August 8

Beverage service available in the morning and afternoon.

Morning Sessions
STEAM Center
(1302 N. Patterson St.)

9:00-11:00 am **For All Faculty: Tips for Effective Teaching the First Day F2F or Online**
Dr. Jamie Landau will introduce you to VSU’s CELT (Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching) and explore evidence-based strategies to get your class off to a successful start, whether you are teaching face-to-face or online.

11:15 am-12:15 pm For All Faculty: Introduction to Banner
Our registrar, Mr. Stanley Jones, will introduce you to VSU's computer system as well as to important policies and procedures.

12:15-1:45 On Your Own Lunch with a VSU Faculty Colleague
Sign up to have lunch at a local restaurant with a VSU faculty member—meet a faculty colleague and learn a bit about the town at the same time!

Afternoon Sessions

2:00-3:00 pm For New Faculty: Systems Orientation/Technology Support
Odum Library 3270 Information Technology (IT) will provide you with information regarding the various technology systems, technology training resources, Solution Center services, and computer security.

3:15-4:15 pm For All Faculty: Intro to Online Teaching at VSU, including BlazeVIEW
Odum Library 3270 CELT-eLearning's Training Specialist, Bryan FitzGerald, will provide an overview of educational technologies available at VSU, including BlazeVIEW (VSU's learning management system). Additionally, he will cover requirements for CELT-eLearning's Online Teaching Certificate, the growth in online learning, VSU policies related to online teaching, the Online College for Career Advancement (OCCA) at VSU, as well as special considerations for FERPA in an online course.

4:30-5:30 pm For All Faculty: Learn BlazeVIEW
Odum Library 3270 Complete *Learn BlazeVIEW* in-person in a computer lab with CELT-eLearning's Training Specialist. Usually offered as an asynchronous online course, this interactive training during new faculty orientation introduces all faculty to VSU's learning management system and counts as 1-credit hour toward CELT-eLearning's Online Teaching Certificate. This course covers the basic functionality of BlazeVIEW and helps learners navigate the landing page and their course pages.

OR

For New Faculty: Year-Long Campus Tour and Scavenger Hunt
Kick-off a year-long scavenger hunt—offered just to new faculty—starting with a tour of VSU's Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) at 102 Georgia Avenue. Begin now before classes start to find your way around different parts of campus but complete the scavenger hunt by the end of the Spring 2025 semester for a chance to win prizes. For details, see <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/new-faculty-scamenger-hunt-24-25-1.pdf>

Friday, August 9

- 9:00-10:30 am** **For New Faculty: Benefits? Retirement? Tell me more!**
New Media Center This drop-by session is designed for anyone wanting more information on
(Room 1240 how to gain the most from their USG benefits and retirement options.
1st Floor Odum Library)
- 10:30-11:15 am** **For New Faculty: Welcome to Odum Library**
New Media Center Members of our reference faculty will introduce you to the many
resources available to faculty and their students through Odum Library
and the University of Georgia System.
- 12:30-2:00 pm** **For All Faculty: Junior Faculty Learning Community**
CELT House Come to CELT to socialize with other faculty who have worked at VSU
for five (5) years or less. CELT's Director will facilitate a community-
activity for junior faculty to support one another as a cohort, whether
you're a limited term faculty, lecturer, or tenure-track prior to
promotion. Then, if you're interested in continuing as a Junior Faculty
Learning Community to address needs related to this similar stage of your
career, sign up to gather every 2-3 weeks throughout the semester.
Sample areas of focus include preparing for the annual faculty review and
promotion, collecting and responding to student feedback, best
pedagogical practices for student success in face-to-face classes or online,
strategizing service, and maintaining an active scholarly agenda.

First Day of Class, Monday, August 19