# OPENING DAYS  
**AUGUST 12-14, 2020**

**Programming for All First-Year Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, August 12, 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Popsicle Giveaway</td>
<td>Historic Quad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM to 4:00 PM Pre-Health Office Hours with Dr. Carol Bokros</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Amusement with Admissions</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM to 7:00 PM Plunkett Pool Open</td>
<td>Porter/Boone, Legacy, Plunkett, Dowell/Roberts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM to 9:00 PM Orientation Group (O-Group) KaZoom Party</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, August 13, 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Z Beans Iced Coffee Giveaway</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM to 12:00 PM Advising TentTalk</td>
<td>Penfield Annex Lawn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Popsicle Giveaway</td>
<td>Historic Quad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM to 4:00 PM Pre-Health Office Hours with Dr. Carol Bokros</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Amusement with Admissions</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM to 7:00 PM Plunkett Pool Open</td>
<td>Porter/Boone, Legacy, Plunkett, Dowell/Roberts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Rec Sports at Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM to 9:00 PM Virtual Comedy Show feat. Nick Nichols</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, August 14, 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Picture Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>Campus Wide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Z Beans Iced Coffee Giveaway</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM to 12:00 PM Advising TentTalk</td>
<td>Penfield Annex Lawn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Ice Cream with Dean Pearson</td>
<td>University Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM to 4:00 PM Pre-Health Office Hours with Dr. Carol Bokros</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Amusement with Admissions</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM to 9:00 PM Your First In-Person O-Group Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Fresh Food Company**  
(Connell Student Center)  
Open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM  
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

**Chick-fil-A**  
(University Center)  
Open from 10:30 AM to 8:00 PM  
Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

**Which Wich Superior Sandwiches**  
(Connell Student Center)  
Open from 10:30 AM to 8:00 PM  
Thursday and Friday
The Bear Beginnings program is designed to help first-year students transition both academically and socially to life at Mercer. During Bear Beginnings, students finalize their fall course schedule, learn of various campus resources, gain an understanding of Mercer’s academic expectations, and attend social events. First-year students experience Bear Beginnings alongside their Peer Advisor (PA), orientation group (O-Group), and academic advisor. Once Bear Beginnings is complete, students remain connected with their PA, O-Group, and academic advisor through the University 101 (UNV 101) classroom experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday, August 15, 2020</th>
<th>Sunday, August 16, 2020</th>
<th>Monday, August 17, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM - 9:45 AM</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</td>
<td>8:30 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quad Spot O-Group Meet-Up</td>
<td>Campus Worship</td>
<td>Placement Exams and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Cruz Plaza (optional)</td>
<td>Music Auditions (virtually)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Beginnings Welcome</td>
<td>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkins Arena</td>
<td>O-Group Session 4 &amp;</td>
<td>O-Group Session 6 &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch Rotations</td>
<td>Lunch Rotations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM - 3:00 PM</td>
<td>1:00 PM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>1:30 PM - 2:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O-Group Session 2 &amp;</td>
<td>O-Group Session 5</td>
<td>Convocation Procession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Rotations</td>
<td>Academic Representative Meetings and Advising Appointments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>5:00 PM - 8:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title IX Conversation</td>
<td>Dinner Rotations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O-Group Session 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM - 8:00 PM</td>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner Rotations</td>
<td>Outdoor Movie Night: Knives Out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM - 9:30 PM</td>
<td>Five Star Stadium (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Grocery Bingo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruz Plaza (optional)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tear this out and have a coffee on us:**

Redeem this card for a **FREE ICED SPECIALTY COFFEE** when you visit our table on Cruz Plaza!

Available on:
- 6/13 9am - 11am
- 6/14 9am - 11am
Making Your Academic Connection

☐ Make sure you have your textbooks
☐ Using MyMercer (my.mercer.edu) and support from the Registrar’s Office (registrar.mercer.edu), prepare for your first meeting with your academic advisor/UNV 101 faculty on Sunday, August 16th.
☐ Watch your College Dean’s meeting. Dean’s Meetings from Summer Orientation can be found on our YouTube page at https://www.youtube.com/user/MUOrientation
☐ Check to make sure all of your transfer, dual enrollment, AP/IB credit has been applied.
☐ Are you a full-time student with at least 12 credit hours?
☐ Take the Math Placement Exam if needed.
☐ Take the Foreign Placement Exam if needed
☐ Make sure the courses you are taking will satisfy a requirement for graduation.
☐ Fill out your Academic Advisor/UNV 101 Faculty information

- UNV 101 Faculty: ________________________________
- Office Location: ________________________________
- Phone Number: ________________________________
- Email: ________________________________

Your Peer Advisor

After your initial Zoom meeting with your Peer Advisor (PA), be sure that you know how to contact this resource who will be with you throughout your first semester!

- PA Name: ________________________________
- Preferred Contact Method: ________________________________
Your Opening Days Checklist

☐ Make sure you have your textbooks
☐ Get your parking decal from Mercer Police
☐ Check out a restaurant in Mercer Village
☐ Meet your PA
☐ Wash your Bear’s Care Mask
☐ Visit your classrooms before the first day of classes
☐ Have a meal at the Caf
☐ Check out the library
☐ Attend the movie night in Five Star Stadium
☐ Say “Go Bears!”
☐ Visit Amerson River Park
☐ Read a book on Cruz Plaza
☐ Check out Tatnall Square Park
☐ Take a picture of the Administration Building
☐ Follow @merceraas on Instagram
☐ Make a playlist of songs for your walks to class
☐ Order a meal on the new mobile ordering app
☐ Check out your courses on Canvas (if they are open)
☐ Finish the Summer Reading
☐ Visit the slides at Coleman Hill in front of the Mercer Law School

Residential Students
☐ Finish unpacking
☐ Take a picture of your residence hall room
☐ Get to know your roommate
☐ Meet your hallmates/suitmates
☐ Meet your RA

☐ Complete your Immunization Form
  • All students must provide a completed Mercer Immunization Form to the Student Health Center (shcmacon@mercer.edu) by the start of classes.
  • To obtain a copy of the immunization form, go to our Student Health Center website.
  • Note: This form must be completely filled out and received by the Student Health Center before beginning classes at Mercer.

☐ Complete any financial planning
  • Check your Mercer Live email regarding your bill and how to pay it. You can also look at the Bursar’s website for more information about campus billing such as payment plans.

☐ Submit your health insurance waiver if needed
  • The waiver can be found on the Bursar’s website for those who wish to not use Mercer University’s insurance. The waiver is due by September 15th, 2020 at 5 p.m.
Mercer Technology

How do I connect to the Internet?
For wireless access, select the MU-Secure connection from the list of available networks. From there enter your Mercer University ID and password. Your password is the same password used to log in to your MyMercer account.

How do I connect my game console and other multimedia devices (e.g., Roku, Apple TV, Chromecast) to the Internet?
For instructions on how to connect game consoles and other multimedia devices to the Internet, visit the IT website at http://it.mercer.edu and select Game Consoles link located under the Internet/Network heading.

How do I login to MyMercer?
Visit the MyMercer Student Portal at https://my.mercer.edu. Your username is your eight-digit Mercer ID number, and your initial password will be sent to the secondary email listed in your student record.
NOTE: Your MyMercer, Mercer email, Canvas, wireless network, and on-campus computer logins are all the same, so if one changes, they all change.

What is my Mercer email address?
You can find your Mercer email address by logging into http://office.com. Select My Profile from the menu on the left hand side of your MyMercer homepage. Your email address is listed in your personal information.

How do I access my Email account?
Visit the Microsoft Office 365 login page at http://office.com. Log in using the same password used to access your MyMercer account. By default, your username is your eight-digit Mercer ID Number followed by @live.mercer.edu.

How do I change my password?
Your MyMercer, Microsoft Office 365, Canvas, wireless network, and on-campus computer passwords can all be changed via phone or through Microsoft Office 365. Visit http://it.mercer.edu and select the Password Self-Service link located under the Security heading for instructions.

How do I login to Canvas?
Visit Canvas at http://canvas.mercer.edu. Click the Mercer User Login button, and then log in using the same username and password used to access your MyMercer and Mercer accounts. By default, your username is your eight-digit Mercer ID Number, and your initial password will be sent to the secondary email listed in your student record.

How to Contact Mercer IT:
- Visit them online at http://it.mercer.edu
- Like and follow them on Twitter and Facebook for information on outages, updates, and other IT tips/tricks: @ITMercer
- IT Help Desk: helpdesk@mercer.edu | ithelp.mercer.edu | (478) 301-7000
1. What is the name of the Arts Center downtown that features artwork by professors and students at Mercer?

2. How many colleges and schools does Mercer provide programs for?

5. What are the names of Mercer’s two bear mascots?

7. Who was the first college Mercer played against in football?

8. What was Mercer University’s original name when it was established in 1833?

12. What is the Mercer Tradition that all First Year students experience in their UNV 101 class?

3. What was the cost of yearly tuition when Mercer first opened in 1833?

4. During what war was Mercer the only college to stay open in Georgia?

6. What recording studio, created in the 1960s, was helped getting started by Otis Redding and propelled into the popular music scene by the Allman Brothers?

9. Mercer would record its first win in football, beating ________, 12-6, in Macon.

10. ____ College, a Georgia Baptist women’s institution in Forsyth, merges with Mercer University (1986).

11. What was the original of Mercer’s mascot?
After you have completed this year's summer reading, take some time to reflect on the following questions as we approach Bear Beginnings. These selections will be discussed throughout the weekend, as well as in your UNV 101 section this semester.

For more information (and to access the readings) on this assignment, check out your MyMercer portal under “External Links → Summer Reading Assignment”.

**Question 1**
Sam Oni, Mercer ’67, interview by Eme Crawford and Andrew Silver
How did Oni continue to channel his pride for the University, despite the ongoing overwhelming barriers he faced?

**Question 2**
Maureen Walker, Mercer ’71, Psychologist and Senior Scholar at Wellesley Center for Women, interview by Andrew Silver
Why might there be “intense emotionality” when the majority comes to term with disintegration?

**Question 3**
Outside the Shadows: My Story (2016) by Raymond Partoland
How can you use your voice to effectively support others and create change?
Circle those buildings where you have classes and map your routes for a typical week.

How can you maximize your time between classes?

Are there multiple routes to help you get to where you need to be?
Use this page to document your first O-Group memories!
Mercer University COVID-19
PROTOCOLS

1

Individual Tests Positive:
- If ASYMPTOMATIC, remain in isolation until:
  Ten days after positive test if symptoms have not developed,
  or
  Tests negative: two negative tests at least 24 hours apart
- If SYMPTOMATIC, remain in isolation until:
  At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared,
  and
  At least 3 days (72 hours) without fever and with improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath),
  or
  Tests negative: two negative tests at least 24 hours apart, and resolution of fever without medication for fever, and with improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).

2

Individual has symptoms but has not been tested
- Should be promptly tested.
- Should be isolated as directed by Mercer Medicine pending outcome of test.

3

Individual has significant exposure to infected individuals (within six feet for 15 or more minutes) from 2 days prior to onset of symptoms until isolated
- Should wear masks whenever in presence of others
- Should physically distance from others. Six feet is recommended where feasible.
- Should be actively self-monitoring for symptoms.
- Should be tested if so desired or, if in judgment of physician, exposure so significant as to warrant testing.
- Pending outcome of test, should mask, distance, and monitor.

For Testing:
Call Mercer Medicine at 478.301.4111 or the Student Health Center 24/7 hotline at 478.301.7425 for a testing appointment.
Specimen collections need to be completed by Noon for 24-hour return of report. Specimen can be collected after Noon, but report will take up to 48 hours.

Spread The Joy, Not The Germs!

- Stay at least 6 feet from other people
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands
- When in public, wear a mask covering over your nose and mouth
- Do not touch your eyes, mouth, or nose
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Stay at home when you are sick, except to get medical care
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

Contact Us: aas.mercer.edu | 478.301.2078 | academicservices@mercer.edu | Facebook | Instagram | @merceraas