

## Freshman Orientation Copy

### What is Orientation?

The JOURNEY Orientation program is designed to make your transition to Southern Polytechnic State University as smooth as possible. You will have the opportunity to meet with your academic Dean and receive important scholastic information, learn more about student clubs and organizations, buy your textbooks, and get your Student ID card. You will also have the opportunity to meet other new students as well as upperclassmen that serve as Orientation Leaders for the JOURNEY program.

In addition, a variety of programs and activities will be presented to assist you as you begin your college career. You will also have the opportunity to take the Math Assessment Test that is required by our Math Department. Programs and social activities are planned in the evening, which will allow you to informally interact with your peers.

All of the programs offered during Orientation will benefit you during your stay at SPSU. It is expected that you will participate in all of the programs and that you will find the experience both educational and rewarding. Please come prepared to learn, meet lots of great people and have FUN!

### General Information

- Please come prepared for HOTLANTA—the metropolitan Atlanta area comes by the name honestly! Casual dress and comfortable walking shoes are the preferred attire. You might want to bring an umbrella just in case it rains.
- Some students see the opportunity to register in advance for classes as the best feature of the summer JOURNEY programs. You may want to attend the earliest JOURNEY session possible since students who register early are more likely to get preferred courses.
- For general questions about orientation, please call Kasey Helton at 678-915-4101. Questions about reservations should be directed to Amanda Brown-Conway at 678-915-5549.

### Dates

Session F-1	Wednesday – Thursday	June 18/19
Session F-2	Monday – Tuesday	July 14/15
Session F-3	Thursday –Friday	July 31/August 1
Session T-5	Monday	August 14* (morning)
Session T-6	Monday	August 14* (afternoon)

Your Orientation experience will take place over two days this summer. You may attend on June 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, or July 31<sup>st</sup> & August 1<sup>st</sup>. **You must attend both days of the Freshmen Orientation session you chose in order to complete necessary testing, academic advising and registering for classes.** Please note that there are activities scheduled late in the evening on the first day of each session (i.e., June 18<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>). Students are expected to stay for all of the events. It is strongly advised that you stay overnight in the residence halls both for convenience and to enhance your Orientation experience.

\*Sessions T-5 and T-6 are both one-day sessions and are designed for students who are admitted closer to the August 1<sup>st</sup> admission deadline. You are advised against waiting and signing up for these sessions, as they are abbreviated and more general in their focus to accommodate all students including Transfer and Non-traditional students.

## Special Interest Sessions

**Honors Program:** Students who have been admitted into the Honors Program are encouraged to attend Session F-1 for a special luncheon and Honors advising.

**Architecture Majors:** For students who plan on majoring in Architecture, there is a mandatory workshop for all incoming Architecture freshmen. The Architecture Workshop will begin on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> and conclude on August 1; you are advised to attend session F-2 Orientation. You should have received or will be receiving information directly from the Architecture department regarding the workshop. Please contact the Architecture department at 678-915-7253 for further information.

## Student Housing

Students are strongly encouraged to stay in campus housing during their JOURNEY Orientation session, but it is not required. Please keep in mind that space is limited and all rooms are double occupancy.

### What To Bring With You:

- \* sheets for a twin bed
- \* blanket (or a sleeping bag)
- \* pillow
- \* washcloth, soap & towel
- \* toiletries
- \* alarm clock
- \* change of clothes

**If you do not stay on campus, please plan your commute time accordingly so you arrive on time both days.**

## Math Assessment Test

Prior to registering for Southern Polytechnic's mathematics courses, all students who have not been awarded credit for both Southern Polytechnic courses, Math 1111 (College Algebra) and Math 1113 (Pre-Calculus), are required to take the Math Assessment Test (MAT). The exam will be administered at your Orientation program. If you do not have credit for Math 1111 and 1113 and have not taken the MAT, you will not be able to enroll in a mathematics course. The MAT scores are used to place you in an appropriate starting point in SPSU's mathematics sequence. The 90-minute test covers Algebra and Trigonometry. When you report for testing, please bring a photo ID (such as your driver's license) and two sharpened No. 2 pencils. You are not permitted to use a calculator while taking the MAT. The test may only be taken once.

If you are not sure about the mathematics credit you have received on the day the MAT is given, you should go ahead and take the test. A low score on the test will not remove credit that you have already been awarded.

A score of at least 3 on the Advanced Placement Calculus AB test is good for credit for Math 2253 (Calculus I). A score of at least 3 on the Advanced Placement Calculus BC test is good for credit for both Math 2253 (Calculus I), and Math 2254 (Calculus II). If you have achieved either of these scores, then you are not required to take the Math Assessment Test (MAT). Be sure that your scores have been forwarded to SPSU so that credit can be awarded.

The MAT will be offered on Day One of the two-day sessions and is part of the orientation schedule. It is also offered at 8am and 12pm on August 14<sup>th</sup> for those who chose to attend the T-5 or T-6 sessions.

## Students with Disabilities

Students are invited to contact the Coordinator of Disability Services prior to attending JOURNEY to determine what accommodations may be useful and available to them. Accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis and specific documentation of a disability is required. For further information, please call 678-915-7244. If a student needs accommodations while at JOURNEY, please make note of that on the reservation form.

## Parents and Guests

The JOURNEY Orientation program for parents is a two-day program that is held concurrently with the new student program. Some of the activities and programs include both parents and students; others are for parents only, to address their needs and concerns. While students will be in sessions all day, both days, parents do have a couple of blocks of free time to run errands and become familiar with the Marietta area.

Parents will also have the opportunity to interact with members of the faculty and administration. Additionally, parents will be able to meet other parents who may share similar concerns about having a son or daughter begin their collegiate career. Parents and/or family members are welcome to register for and attend JOURNEY.

Parents who attend the Parent programs may meet their student at approximately 3:00 p.m. in the Student Center Lobby on day two (June 19<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and August 1<sup>st</sup>) on the afternoon when their student's orientation session has ended. Students participating in additional workshops will proceed to their workshop sites upon completion of registration. Pick-up locations upon conclusion of the workshops are TBA.

## Parent/Guest Housing

Due to space limitations, on-campus accommodations are only available for students during the JOURNEY Orientation program. Hotels in the area include The Drury Inn (770-612-0900), the Hampton Inn (770-425-9977) and the Comfort Inn (770-952-3000). All hotels are located only minutes from campus.

Other local accommodations can be found via the Cobb County Convention and Visitor's Bureau web site at [www.cobbcvb.com](http://www.cobbcvb.com) or by calling 770-933-7228.

## Costs

The student fee for the JOURNEY program covers most meals, housing (if applicable), and administrative costs. Meals included in this program are lunch and dinner on Day One, and breakfast and lunch on Day Two. The parent/guest fee for the program pays for meals and administrative costs.

\*Students staying overnight for the Architecture Workshop will pay their additional housing charge through the fees assessed by those programs.

Student Staying Overnight	Sessions F-1, F-2, or F-3:	\$80
Student Not Staying Overnight:	Sessions F-1, F-2, or F-3:	\$75
Student (Housing not available):	Sessions T-5 or T-6	\$25
Parent/Family Member:	Sessions F-1, F-2, or F-3:	\$40 per person
Parent/Family Member:	Sessions T-5 or T-6	\$10 per person

## Reservation Process

To make a reservation, complete the form in the back cover of this booklet and mail it in the enclosed envelope. You may pay the program fee using a check or money order. **Please do not send cash through the mail.** Your reservation form must be received at least one week prior to the JOURNEY session date you have selected.

No reservations will be accepted without the accompanying fee. Make your check or money order payable to **SPSU JOURNEY**. The fee is nonrefundable unless the reservation is cancelled at least one week in advance. Your fee will be refunded minus a \$10 processing charge.

You must have a reservation to guarantee program admittance. No reservations will be accepted less than one week prior to your preferred date, unless special arrangements have been made. The earlier dates fill up quickly so send your reservation request now!

You will receive a confirmation packet confirming the session/dates you selected and providing additional program reminders. Please bring the confirmation letter with you on Day One of your program to ensure a smooth check-in.

If you have any questions or need clarification about the reservation process, please contact **Amanda Brown-Conway (678-915-5549)**, or you may email our office at [journey@spsu.edu](mailto:journey@spsu.edu).

## Items Not to Forget

- Extra cash (if you would like to buy something at the bookstore or snacks, etc.)
- Information for Parking Decal
  - Tag Number of Vehicle*
  - Valid Driver's License*
  - Make & Model of Vehicle*
- Housing & clothing items if staying on-campus
- Information for Student ID
  - Valid Driver's License or*
  - Passport*

The JOURNEY Orientation staff looks forward to working with you and getting your JOURNEY at SPSU off to a good start!