Expanded Session Descriptions
Fall Orientation Schedule

Thursday, August 15

Written & Oral Language Diagnostic Examinations (Mandatory) ★
All students whose first language is not English are required to take this exam unless they have been previously excused by the program coordinator of the English for International Students (EIS) Program. Only students scheduled to take the exam at this time should attend.

Sunday, August 18

POD Group activity; see POD leader for details

Monday, August 19

Honor Code Orientation ★
All new students must attend the Honor Code Orientation and sign the online Honor Code Agreement (after the Honor Code Orientation) no later than Friday, August 23.

Program Area Group Advising Sessions ★
Students and faculty will gather by program area of study to begin group academic advising. New students should go directly to the group advising session to which they have already been admitted or to the new program area if they plan to switch concentrations. Learn about requirements for your program area, classes you will take this fall, meet core faculty in your program area and begin to develop your fall schedule. Returning/second year student volunteers will join the academic advising sessions.

Master of Forestry (MF) Degree
- Forest Resource Management (FRM)

Master of Environmental Management (MEM) Degree
- Business and the Environment (BE)
- Coastal Environmental Management (CEM)
- Ecosystem Science and Conservation (ESC)
- Ecotoxicology and Environmental Health (EEH)
- Energy and Environment (EE)
- Environmental Economics and Policy (EEP)
- Water Resources Management (WRM)

Course Registration Session ★
Want to know how the course registration process will work? Have questions about taking courses on the audit basis? Getting permissions numbers? Critical information important to the course registration process will be shared.

Share your orientation photos with us using #WeAreDukeEnvironment!
Cool Down and Student-to-Student Resource Station
Stop by the student-to-student resource table managed by 2nd year student volunteers. Continuing student representatives will be available to answer questions and to share advice and peer-to-peer tips. Light refreshments provided.

Tuesday, August 20

Creating the Career You Want: An Introduction to Career & Professional Development at the Nicholas School ⭐
Want a great job after graduation? We’re here to partner with you to make that goal a reality! In this interactive presentation, we’ll offer insights and tools for how to keep your desired career outcomes at the forefront of your Nicholas School experience, make early and consistent investments in your career development, and take advantage of the many opportunities available to you while you invest in yourself as a Nicholas School student.

Information Technology Session
Representatives from the Nicholas School’s Information Technology office will be available during this time to assist students in getting their accounts set up and learning how to access important online and on-campus resources.

“Short Presentations”
Sessions listed in alphabetical order below

Actionators: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Learn about the Nicholas School’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, programming, events and initiatives

Bass Connections
Overview of a university-wide initiative that brings together faculty and students to explore real-world issues in interdisciplinary research teams.

Climate Change Science and Applications Certificate
A certificate documenting experience in both the natural science and social science aspects of climate change and in applications of such expertise to areas of societal concern such as energy provision, public health, risk planning and ecosystems. Session includes an overview of Climate Change Science and Applications Certificate, an outline of requirements and meet the faculty director

Community-Based Environmental Management Certificate
Students who plan to pursue the Community-Based Environmental Management certificate should plan to attend.
Duke Forest
The director of the Duke Forest will provide an introduction to the Duke Forest Teaching and Research Laboratory and the myriad opportunities it offers for students to enrich their academic, professional, and personal pursuits while at the Nicholas School.

Duke University Energy Initiative
Students who want to know more and/or learn about the university’s Energy Initiative should plan to attend.

Environmental Law and Policy Clinic
Students interested in learning more about the Environmental Law and Policy Clinic, how they can get involved in real-life cases, and the curriculum should plan to attend.

Geospatial Analysis Curriculum & Certificate
Students who plan to enroll in Fundamentals of GIS and Geospatial Analysis (ENVIRON 559) this fall should plan to attend this session. This course is the gateway to all geospatial courses offered by the Nicholas School, and the GIS certificate.

MEM/MBA Dual Degree Program
Students who are interested in pursuing a dual degree in Environmental Management and Business Administration should plan to attend.

Office of Development and Alumni Relations
Did you know the Office of Development & Alumni Relations (ODAR) is here for you, too? ODAR supports, leads, and partners with other Nicholas School and University departments and groups to enrich your student experience. Attend this session to learn about ODAR’s purpose, events, and programs to help you make the best of your time at the Nic School.

Pathways Programs
Efforts supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) allow each of us to grow and learn from others. During this session, students can learn more about the Nicholas School's efforts around DEI. Students will also learn about our K-5 mentoring program and other opportunities to engage with the community. All students are encouraged to attend!

Resource and Environmental Economics
Students who plan to enroll in Resource and Environmental Economics (ENVIRON 520 & 521) this fall should plan to attend this session. All BE, EEP, CEM, and EE students should plan to attend.

In addition to the certificate offerings covered above, NSOE students may also pursue certificate offerings in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and International Development Policy.
Wednesday, August 21

SERVICE PROJECT

Goodwill Community Foundation: In partnership with the Goodwill Community Foundation Global, a non-profit Durham organization that focuses on education, disability services, jobs, life enrichment and youth services, the Nicholas School of the Environment’s on-campus professional students will participate in a **volunteer and farm services project** on **Wednesday, August 21** during fall Orientation.

On the day of the service project, new students, POD leaders and staff volunteers will have an opportunity to choose between three primary service areas – jewelry processing, electronic recycling and farm services. The service project can accommodate 100+ students. Second year students/POD leaders, Nicholas School staff and faculty have been invited to participate. Transportation will be provided by the school. If you plan to participate in this service project, you will need to complete and submit the Duke Participation Agreement; more info to come. View safety guidelines.

Thursday, August 22

Global Connections Community Scavenger Hunt and Dinner

*We invite ALL of the Nicholas School Community to attend. All undergrad, Master’s and Ph.D students and all faculty and staff to celebrate our Global Connections.*

**Nicholas School Global Connections Community**
**Photo Scavenger Hunt & Dinner**

This event is open to ALL current Nicholas School students (undergrads, Master’s and PhDs), faculty and staff.

Please join us in welcoming each other to the Nicholas School, Duke University, the Durham Community, and to the start of a new academic year!

Following the photo scavenger hunt, the Nicholas School is hosting an **international Smörgåsbord dinner** on the Grainger Hall Patio!

**Photo Scavenger Hunt:** Meet in Grainger Hall, 1st Floor Lobby
**Dinner:** Immediately following
**Friday, August 23**

**Duke Forest Tour**
Meet for a guided tour of the Duke Forest. It is likely to be very hot. Students should dress comfortably, wear closed toed shoes, and bring a canteen. Transportation provided. Vans will leave promptly at 9:00am in front of Grainger Hall (9 Circuit Drive).

**SERVICE PROJECT**

**K-12 Pathway Programs:** The Nicholas School of the Environment hosts many pathway/pipeline (as well as mentoring) programs directed at K-12 pre-college students. These programs seek to engage and educate pre-college students in the STEM field. We invite a small group of students to help develop a lesson plan, for one of the pathway/pipeline programs, for K-5 students. The **pathway/pipeline service project** will occur on **Friday, August 23**. This project can accommodate up to 20-25 students. First come-first served. This project will occur on-campus.

This service activity involves developing a one hour lesson plan geared towards students aged K-5. The activity should be straightforward, group-oriented, address simple scientific concepts, and improve numeracy and/or literacy skills. A simple example would be counting tree rings: an activity improving numeracy skills which can easily be coupled to exploring why trees are important for an ecosystem. The designed lesson-plan will be used in the Nicholas School - Durham Public School (DPS) Mentoring Program, a weekly community and outreach initiative in which Nic students are paired with kids from DPS to encourage environmental awareness and expose kids to STEM.

**We Are Duke Environment Fair**
On the last day of Orientation Week, we will host the **We Are Duke Environment Fair**. We have invited student groups and student-facing NSOE departments and university partners to participate. The We Are Duke Environment Fair is a wonderful opportunity for **continuing students** to raise the visibility of their organization/club, **meet new students**, solicit new members and connect with students who share similar interests. For **staff and university partners**, the We Are Duke Environment Fair provides a chance to share information about how your department interacts with students most often.