

MIT Department of Architecture Graduate Orientation Guide

Quick Links:

- Atlas Center New Grad Student Checklist (must have Kerberos ID and install MIT Certificates to access): <https://atlas.mit.edu/newgrad/Dashboard.action>
- Register for classes: <http://student.mit.edu/cgi-docs/student.html>
- OGE & Graduate Student Council (GSC) Orientation: <https://oge.mit.edu/grad-orientation/> or Canvas site: <https://canvas.mit.edu/courses/5332>
What's here: GSC Orientation Calendar of Events
Student Health & Wellbeing
Vaccination info
ISO Virtual Forum (upcoming & past recordings)
MIT Spouses & Partners Connect
MIT Medical Health Plan webinar
Grad Housing
- Office of Graduate Education (OGE): <https://oge.mit.edu/>
Fellowship Tips: <https://oge.mit.edu/finances/fellowships/fellowship-tips/>
Guide for Students with Families: <https://gradfamilies.mit.edu/home>
- EET Site: [https://cmsw.mit.edu/english-language-studies/#:~:text=English%20Evaluation%20Test%20\(EET\)](https://cmsw.mit.edu/english-language-studies/#:~:text=English%20Evaluation%20Test%20(EET))
Exam Component: Aug 29
Scheduled Interviews: Aug 29 - 30
- Map of Campus: <http://whereis.mit.edu/>
- Map of Access Points to Buildings: <https://covidapps.mit.edu/sites/default/files/documents/MITCampusAccessMap.pdf>
- Accessibility Map: <http://web.mit.edu/campus-map/pdf/mit-accessibility-color-current.pdf>
- Getting Around Guide: <http://web.mit.edu/facilities/transportation/accessmit/index.html>
- Campus Food Map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/4/viewer?ll=42.36380712747882%2C-71.11578211756785&z=14&mid=1i0YNzpQzO2Zou13n9ZahvjL1L7feLFA5>

Checklist for Dept. of Architecture Incoming Students:

Before Registration Day:

- Review information about Registration on the department website here:
<https://architecture.mit.edu/registration>
- View Bulletin and Subject Descriptions:
 - Bulletin: <http://catalog.mit.edu/>
 - Subject Listing and Schedule: <http://student.mit.edu/catalog/index.cgi> and <https://architecture.mit.edu/classes>
- Look up and be familiar with:
 - WebSIS — the Registrar’s student information system: <http://student.mit.edu>
(must have Kerberos ID and install MIT Certificates to access personal information.)
 - Submit your campus address and emergency contact information:
<https://ist.mit.edu>
- Degree Requirements: <https://architecture.mit.edu/graduate-programs>
- Department of Architecture Class schedule: <https://architecture.mit.edu/classes>
(for best results, use the filters in the right hand toolbar to select 2023 + fall)
- Speak with your Registrations Officer (Advisor) to get their Registration Day office hours and location, and make an appointment
- International students only: check in at the International Students’ Office, E18-219.
<https://iso.mit.edu/>

On Registration Day — Tuesday, September 5

- Meet with your faculty advisor, review your course choices, and submit them online
(instructions: <https://registrar.mit.edu/registration-academics/registration-information/fall-registration>)
 - Your advisor will have access to approve your registration online unless you are on a Registration Hold. Most Reg Holds can be settled at the International Students Office (E18-219), the Medical Office (E23-177) or the Student Services Center (11-120).
- Once your advisor has approved your registration, don’t forget to submit your registration before the deadline (Friday, September 8)
- Anticipate when adding/dropping subjects the first few weeks of the term (once you have submitted your initial registration) that the add/drop form requires approval from your advisor and the instructor, and approvals take time to process.

Other Important Resources:

ARM Coalition: <https://studentlife.mit.edu/arm/arm-about-us>

Basic Living Expenses - Help with food, winter clothing, furniture, and household items:

<https://studentlife.mit.edu/arm/basic-living-expenses>

Budgeting/Planning: <https://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/1-week-of-meals-for-8/> or

<https://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/learning-to-spend-better/>

DoingWell at MIT: <https://doingwell.mit.edu/>

Grad Support: <https://oge.mit.edu/student-support-development/gradsupport/>

MIT Medical: <https://medical.mit.edu/>

Student Financial Services: <https://sfs.mit.edu/>

MIT Acronym Dictionary:

<https://wikis.mit.edu/confluence/display/ACRONYMS/Acronyms+Home>

A Note About September T (MBTA & Bus) Passes:

Unfortunately, until you become a registered student (during registration week) you won't be qualified for a discounted T-pass. However, you will be able to purchase a full-priced one for September.

- September T-passes are available at Atlas Service Center during the last 3 business days of August through walk-in guests only.
 - The extra T-passes are first come first serve basis and are in high demand. Please plan accordingly. Atlas Service Center (40 Ames St, E-17; 106) is open from 8am to 5 pm.
- Please enroll for October through your Atlas (atlas.mit.edu) as soon as you are eligible (deadline for ordering next month's pass is the 10th of the current month).
 - In order to purchase a T-pass you have to be in the T-pass program. It costs \$45 and payable by credit card only. They will have some semester passes to purchase also.

Suggested Activities for Afternoon/Evening Fun:

Self-Guided Campus Walking Tour:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1DxkSzaSO7-bZQKkjk07Uiy9kluxC2a&shorturl=1&ll=42.36119981852045%2C-71.08866674168722&z=16>

List Museum Public Art & Architecture Self-Guided Tours:

<https://listart.mit.edu/visit/tours-groups>

Free admission to museums and more: <https://arts.mit.edu/camit/arts-access/>

Free or discounted tickets & events through MITAC:

<https://mitac.universitytickets.com/w/sitepages/Home.aspx>

Art & Architecture Tours from Boston Public Library: <https://www.bpl.org/art-tours/>

100 Things to Do in Boston: <https://www.bostoncentral.com/>

Free Things to Do in Boston: <https://www.timeout.com/boston/things-to-do/best-free-things-to-do-in-boston>

MIT Department of Architecture Graduate Student Orientation Fall 2023

Day	Date	Time	Title	Location	Students	Notes
Pre-orientation Resources			GSC Orientation Canvas Page:	https://canvas.mit.edu/courses/5332/modules		
			GSC Central Orientation:	https://grad-orientation.mit.edu/welcome-incoming-grads		
			GSC Central Orientation Timeline:	https://oge.mit.edu/grad-orientation/timeline-recordings-resources/		
			Campus Food Map:	https://tinyurl.com/8y5es6mb		
			EET Exam Info:	https://cmsw.mit.edu/english-language-studies/#:~:text=English%20Eval	Incoming international	
Sunday	8/27	noon - 2pm	Grad Welcome Lunch with President Kornbluth	see main GSC orientation schedule	all incoming	
Monday	8/28	9am	Check-in & Welcome Session	Long Lounge (7-429)	all incoming	Start getting to know your classmates!
		10-10:30am	Head of Department Welcome	Long Lounge	all incoming	
		10:45am – 11:45pm	Introduction to Arch Student Services Staff & Understanding Your Degree Audit	Long Lounge	all incoming	Understanding how to navigate campus, what course numbers mean, how to understand your degree requirements and academic audit.
		11:45-12:00pm	Emergency Preparedness Overview	Long Lounge	all incoming	
		12:00-1:30pm	Lunch break		all incoming	https://studentlife.mit.edu/dining/dining-locations
		12:30-1:30pm	IDHR Responsible Employee - TA Training	https://tinyurl.com/bdhcxim4	ALL TAs	Attend in-person to get questions answered. Complete the mandatory online portion asynchronously. This module helps you understand the Institute Discrimination & Harassment Response Office (IDHR), your obligations as a Responsible Employee, and what to do if you are to become aware of any situations involving discrimination or harassment.
		1:30-2pm	Finances Overview			Doug and Alan will provide a basic overview of finances and aid options in the department
		2-3:30pm	SA+P Facilities and Shop Safety Overview	Long Lounge	all incoming (required)	Jim, Jen, and Chris will provide information about general shop safety and hazard communication. Sign up sheets for shop training posted after this talk.
Tuesday	8/29	8:30am-noon	EET Exam	zoom - exam/writing task, in person - Rm 26-100	all international	Part 1 (online) Exam: 8:30am-10am Part 2 (in person) Writing Task: 11am-noon Rm 26-100
		11-12:15	In-Shop Training Session - option 1	3-410	all intending to use shops	Sign up for one of the three in-shop training sessions. The sign-up sheet will be posted outside Room 3-410 after the August 28th shop safety session. This in-shop training is mandatory for all incoming Architecture students, including ACT students. An additional shop-specific training for the Mars Lab, E14-151, will be coordinated by the ACT staff at another time to be announced. This additional training is mandatory for ACT students and recommended for other Course 4 students.
		1:30-2:45pm	In-Shop Training Session - option 2	3-410	all intending to use shops	Sign up for one of the three in-shop training sessions. The sign-up sheet will be posted outside Room 3-410 after the August 28th shop safety session. This in-shop training is mandatory for all incoming Architecture students, including ACT students. An additional shop-specific training for the Mars Lab, E14-151, will be coordinated by the ACT staff at another time to be announced. This additional training is mandatory for ACT students and recommended for other Course 4 students.
		2-4pm	ACT Tour and Overview	Lobby E15	incoming ACT students	
		3-4:45pm	In-Shop Training Session - option 3	3-410	all intending to use shops	Sign up for one of the three in-shop training sessions. The sign-up sheet will be posted outside Room 3-410 after the August 28th shop safety session. This in-shop training is mandatory for all incoming Architecture students, including ACT students. An additional shop-specific training for the Mars Lab, E14-151, will be coordinated by the ACT staff at another time to be announced. This additional training is mandatory for ACT students and recommended for other Course 4 students.
		ARR afternoon	EET Exam: short interviews	in person	Incoming international	students schedule 10 min interviews
		evening	International Student Reception	see central GSC schedule	international students	
Wednesday	8/30	ARR morning	EET Exam interviews cont.	in person	Incoming international	

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		10am	GCS Introduction	Long Lounge	all incoming		
		10:30am	DEB Session & Upcoming Initiatives	Long Lounge	all incoming	Discussion about DEB resources, initiatives, brief overview of various support resources on campus	
		11am	Student Group Introductions	Long Lounge	all incoming	ASC, NOMAS, ArchRefs; find others at https://capd.mit.edu/channels/affinity-groups/	
		12-2pm	ACT Lunch and Arts Tour	E15-207	incoming ACT students	Picnic lunch on the Sailing Pavilion	
		12:30-2pm	Meet the Heads Social Lunch	Sailing Pavilion	all incoming		
		5-7pm	GSC Scavenger Hunt	see central GSC schedule	all incoming (optional)		
Thursday	8/31	9am-10am	SMArchS Orientation	Long Lounge	SMArchS - all	overview of SMArchS programs	
		10am	SMArchS AD Orientation & Welcome	Mezzanine	SMArchS AD		
		11am-noon	AKPIA - PhD & SMArchS Orientation & Welcome	10-390	SMArchS AKPIA		
		10am	COMP - PhD & SMArchS Orientation & Welcome	10-485	COMP - SMArchS & PhD		
		10-11am	SMArchS-URB Orientation & Welcome	STEAM Café tables	URBANISM		
		11am-noon	HTC - PhD & SMArchS Orientation & Welcome	3-305	HTC PhD + SMArchS		
		noon - 1pm	lunch break			https://studentlife.mit.edu/dining/dining-locations	
		noon - 1pm	ACT TA Training	E15-207	all ACT TAs		
		1-2:30pm	MArch Orientation	7-434	MArch		
		5pm	ASC Tour	meet inside Bld 7 Lobby	all	tour of essential dept & institute places. Will end at the GSC social at the Sailing Pavilion.	
		5-8pm	GSC Social	Sailing Pavilion (see central GSC schedule)	all (optional)		
Friday	9/1	9-10am	Certificate & Dual Degree Q&A Session	zoom		https://mit.zoom.us/j/97177850661	
		10-11am	Rotch Library and Visual Collections	7-238	all incoming (optional)		
		11:30am-2pm	Cambridge on the Cheap	meet in Lobby Bld 7	all incoming (optional)		
		3-4pm	STOA Computing Orientation	zoom	all incoming	https://mit.zoom.us/j/94696868755?from=addon	
		2:30-4:30pm	Association of Student Activities (ASA) Midway	see central GSC schedule	all (optional)		
Monday	9/4	LABOR DAY - HOLIDAY					
Tuesday	9/5	Registration Day					
			Advising One-on-One Meetings: Registration	arranged with your faculty advisor	all incoming		
		12-2pm	Grad Resource Fair	see central GSC schedule	all (optional)		
		12-1pm	SA+P Reg Day Lunch	Media Lab 6th Floor	All Students	Gather with all new students in the School of Architecture + Planning for a casual lunch & social time. Meet in Long Lounge at 12:15 to walk over to E14 together with other Arch students, if desired. RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/2cfc9s5n	
		2-4pm	Studio Previews	Long Lounge	All invited		
		5-8pm	GSC Incoming Icebreaker Social	see central GSC schedule	all (optional)		
		TBA	Graduate Students of Color Welcome	see central GSC schedule	all (optional)		
Wednesday	9/7	First Day of Classes					
		TBD	Arch Picnic - Hosted by NOMAS	TBD	all incoming + current	more info to come from NOMAS	
Thursday	9/8	First Day of Studio					
Friday	9/9	5pm	Registration Deadline			Ensure you've submitted your final registration on webis by 5pm to avoid a fee!	