

MIT Department of Architecture Graduate Student Orientation Fall 2025

Day	Date	Time	Title	Location	Students	Notes
Pre-orientation Resources		Orientation Canvas Page:	https://canvas.mit.edu/courses/5332			
		GSC Central Orientation Timeline:	https://oge.mit.edu/community-belonging/graduate-student-orientation/			
		OGE Grad Orientation Portal:	https://apply.mit.edu/portal/orientation-event-portal?tab=events			
		Campus Food Map:	https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/4/viewer?ll=42.36380712747882%2C-71.11578211756785&z=14&mid=1i0YNzpQzO2Zou13n9ZahvjL1L7feLFA5			
		EET Exam Info:	https://cmsw.mit.edu/english-language-studies/#:~:text=English%20Evaluation%20Test%20(EET)%20			
Monday	8/25	8am	Bag Drop	Architecture Head Office 7-337		
		9am	Check-in & Welcome Session	Long Lounge 7-429	all incoming	Start getting to know your classmates!
		9:30-10am	Head of Department Welcome	Long Lounge 7-429	all incoming	Welcome from the Dept Head
		10-11:30am	MArch Orientation	Stella 7-336	incoming MArch students	overview of MArch program and get to know each other
		10:00 - 11:30am	SMArchS Program Session	Long Lounge 7-429	incoming SMArchS	overview of SMArchS programs and get to know each other
		12-1pm	Lunch with Faculty Directors	Long Lounge & STEAM	all incoming	
		1-2pm	Introduction to Arch Student Services Staff & Understanding Your Degree Audit	Long Lounge 7-429	all incoming	Understanding how to navigate campus, what course numbers mean, how to understand your degree requirements and academic audit.
		2-4pm	Emergency Preparedness Overview & SA+P Facilities and Shop Safety Overview	Long Lounge 7-429	all incoming (required)	Jim Harrington, Director of Facilities will provide information about safety, security and emergency preparedness at the School of Architecture and Planning. Then, 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	8/26	9am-noon	EET Exam	exam/writing task, in person - Rm 10-250	all international	Part 1 Exam Part 2 Writing Task *Bring the following to the test: a charged laptop with MIT-enabled wi-fi & web browser (Chrome works best), earbuds/earphones, and your MIT ID.
		10:00-11:00am	ACT TA Training	E15-207	all ACT TAs	
		11-12:15	In-Shop Training Session - option 1	3-410	all intending to use shops - best option for domestic students	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 26th 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.
		1-2pm	IDHR Responsible Employee - TA Training	Zoom	ALL NEW TAs	just noting for scheduling purposes
		1-1:30pm	DEB Session & Upcoming Initiatives	Long Lounge	all incoming	discuss DEB resources, initiatives, brief overview of various support resources on campus
						ASC, NOMAS, ArchRefs, SAP China, Shift-W, Ben

		1:30-2:30pm	Student Group Introductions	Long Lounge	all incoming	(GSU)
		2-4pm	ACT Tour and Overview	Lobby E15	incoming ACT students	
		ARR afternoon	EET Exam: short interviews	in person	Incoming international	students schedule 10 min interviews
Wednesday	8/27	ARR morning	EET Exam interviews cont.	in person	Incoming international	students schedule 10 min interviews
		ALL DAY	Central Programming: Choose your own adventure sessions	various	all incoming	Learn about the Institute's various resources and offices. A variety of offices are invited to participate and students will be able to register for various sessions based on their interests. Sessions will be held all throughout the day. Information will be posted to the Orientation portal (see link above).
		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 25th 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.
		3-4:15pm	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 25th 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.
Thursday	8/28	All Day	Required Orientation Sessions	see central GSC schedule	all incoming	
		12 - 1pm	Welcome Lunch with President Kornbluth	see central GSC schedule	all incoming	
Friday	8/29	11-11:30am	Finances Overview	zoom	all incoming	Financial Aid Overview w/Doug & Jonasha
		11:30am- 12:30pm	STOA Computing Orientation	zoom	all incoming	The Systems and Technology Organization of Architecture (STOA) staff will provide an introduction to computing at MIT in the Department of Architecture. Topics will include best practices for computing at MIT, central IT resources, access to departmental technology resources, basic security practices, and remote access and collaboration tools.
		12:30-1pm	Dual Degree Q&A Session	zoom		All dual degrees
		1-1:30pm	UD Certificate & MCP Dual Degree Q&A Session	zoom		
		1:30-2pm	EECS Q&A Session	zoom		EECS specifically
		5-7pm	Social Meet Up/Happy Hour	N51 Wood Shop	all (optional)	Hang out in the wood shop with the shop instructors & enjoy your first happy hour of the term!
Monday	9/1	LABOR DAY - HOLIDAY				
Tuesday	9/2		Registration Day			
			Advising One-on-One Meetings: Registration	arranged with your faculty advisor	all incoming	
				see central GSC		Learn about the many offices and programs available

		1-3pm	Grad Resource Fair	schedule	all (optional)	to support your MIT experience — and collect swag!
		2-4pm	Studio Previews	Long Lounge	All invited	Get a sneak peak at what's happening in Core 1, Core 3, Option Studio, and workshops for the term. Studio lottery for option studios opens at the end for those out of Core.
Wednesday	9/3	First Day of Classes				
		12:30-2pm	Advising Lunch	Lobby 13	all students	come enjoy lunch with your advisor & fellow students
Thursday	9/4	First Day of Studio				
Friday	9/5	5pm	Registration Deadline - don't forget the final step!			
Saturday	9/6	Time TBD	Families event	see central GSC schedule		