Happy June, New Clarkies!

We hope you are enjoying the week so far. Below are a few weekly news updates and some information to help prepare you for the Fall 2021 semester.

Writing Placement

Don’t forget: Your writing placement essay is due this Friday, June 4. This process is for first-year students only. Transfer students do not need to complete the writing placement essay unless they did not take a writing course at their previous institution.

Upload Your COVID-19 Vaccine Documentation

COVID-19 vaccinations will be required for our students, faculty, and staff who plan to live, work, and study on campus this fall. The deadline to submit your vaccination information is July 15, but if you are fully vaccinated, you can upload your information now through this secure portal developed by Clark ITS (you will need to log in with your Clark credentials). The portal also will allow you to request an exemption for health or religious reasons, or other well-documented reasons. Email the Dean of Students office with any questions, or read our vaccination FAQs here.
Pre-Orientation Programs for Students of Color

- **Advancing Clark Excellence: The ACE Summer Institute (ACE)**
  The ACE Summer Institute prepares first-year students for the rigorous Clark experience. During the program, students complete two academic courses for credit, build a mentor network around leadership and academic relations, develop personal and social relationships with peers, and get to know the community climate of Clark. This program is open to **incoming first-year students** who are of ALANA descent (African-, Latinx, Asian/Desi-, Native/Indigenous-American), multiracial, Pacific Islander, or the first in their families to attend college. There is still time to apply!

- **Connections@Clark**
  Connections is a five-day leadership-themed program that gives students of color an opportunity to build community and be a change agent at Clark. This program is open to **incoming first-year and transfer students** who are either African-, Latinx-, Asian/Desi-, Native/Indigenous-American (ALANA), Pacific Islander, or multiracial. Email Peyton Wu with any questions.

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Bookstore/Campus Store

Please be aware that Clark does not have an on-campus bookstore. You will need to purchase all your course materials through our online partner, Akademos. When you log in with your Clark email and password, you will be able to see which courses you are registered for along with the required course materials. You can select new, used, rental, or e-text options when available. Orders can be shipped to your permanent home address or to your Clark mailbox (e-texts are delivered via email). Please remember to consider transit time when selecting your delivery address. Email Robin Dziczek with any questions.

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Office Spotlight: Multicultural and First-Generation Student Support

The Office of Multicultural and First Generation Student Support (MFGSS) assists students of ALANA (African-, Latinx-, Asian/Desi-, Native/ Indigenous- American), Pacific Islander, and multiracial descent, as well as first generation college students, in the development and implementation of their academic, leadership, and career goals. This office coordinates the ACE (Advancing Clark Excellence) Summer Institute for first-year students, Connections@Clark for incoming students of color, and provides advising and student success workshops.
MFGSS Director **Peyton Wu** earned their bachelor’s in history and a certificate in LGBTQ Studies at the University of Maryland College Park, and their master’s in student affairs in higher education from Miami University. Peyton is passionate about equity, inclusion, social justice, and leadership and identity development. Peyton’s other interests include traveling, reading, watching sports, and exploring and eating different types of food.

**Amina Gomez** is the administrative coordinator for MFGSS. She graduated from the College of Holy Cross in 2016, where she majored in English with a concentration in creative writing. Amina has a love for literature and a passion for social justice and equity. As a student, she was involved with identity-based organizations, student government, served on the Student Life Council and Diversity Leadership Team, and spent much of her extracurricular time as a multicultural peer educator. Through her work at Clark, she hopes to learn more about higher education and student affairs, and to engage with students as they share their experiences about identity. Amina’s other interests are movies, television, reading, and exploring.

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**Stay engaged and connected to your fellow Clarkies.**

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**Dean of Students Office**
950 Main Street, Worcester MA 01610
1 508 793 7423 • clarku.edu