



**WILLIAM JAMES
COLLEGE**

GRADUATE EDUCATION IN PSYCHOLOGY

Hello again incoming students,

We are very excited to have you join us on campus just one short month from now. Beyond welcoming you to our community, my team has the privilege to help you start successfully at William James.

This includes not just Orientation Week, but our Academic Prep Program, and some fun activities as well. So today, we wanted to give you a formal 'heads up' for a few emails, things you can sign up for, and dates to mark on your calendars.

First, you should have received the email sent last week that included a link to the Orientation schedule. If not, the schedule and a copy of that message can both be found [HERE](#).

Second, in about a week we'll be sending you information about our Academic Prep Program: Ready, Set, Go. This program has three parts, two of which are mandatory, and one of which is optional.

- 'Ready' – a series of mandatory online videos (four videos ranging in length from 5 to 15 minutes), that will be available starting in late July. **Students are required to watch these short videos and then take a quiz about their content.**
- 'Set' – an optional in-person program we are hosting on August 16th. This program is for students who want some extra preparation before starting classes. The program will be about understanding the structure of academic articles, in particular research articles, and will provide strategies for reading and writing academic papers. The sessions will run from 9:00 to 3:00. Information on how to register will be available in the next email which will be sent in a couple of weeks.
- 'Go' – this is the mandatory (for all but two programs which are noted on the schedule online) Academic Boot Camp that has already been made part of your schedule from 9:00 to 1:00 on Friday August 23rd as part of Orientation Week.

Third, we know that your individual programs will keep you very busy during Orientation, but I invite all of you to socialize that week as well. For the days that you are here all programs will be in the same tent for meals so please meet students in the other programs. As well, on Friday at the end of Academic Boot Camp we will have pizza, salad, and tons of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream to celebrate the end of a long week. At the same time in the tent we will also be working together on a community service project. Join us and your fellow classmates to make cards for hospitalized children to bring them some smiles and cheer.

Orientation is also a long week, and not everyone is here on the same day. So, to offer you another opportunity that is purely social we are hosting a Game Night at William James three weeks into the semester. On Thursday, September 12th you can meet classmates, play some board games, and have plenty of pizza! For this event we will ask for a RSVP so we can make sure we've got enough food and fun for everybody! A link to sign up will be made available later this summer.

Emails will be coming weekly from us with more details on everything listed above, included days, times, locations, and how to sign up when applicable.

Lastly, we understand that for some of you transitioning to graduate school, changing careers, moving to a new city, or any other number of things can be stressful. Our office is here to help. We are sure that your academic questions are getting answered by your respective departments. However, if there are any questions at all outside of that our office is able to help. Specifically during the summer, you can reach out to Meridith Apfelbaum (Assistant Director for Student Affairs) with any questions as you plan your start at William James. However please note, that any of us at any stage during your time at William James are happy to assist you.

We'll be in touch again soon. All the best,

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Joan Axelrod, Coordinator of the Academic Resource Center joan_axelrod@williamjames.edu

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Dean of Students Office

William James College

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