

2026 New Graduate Student Orientation Agenda

Thursday, August 20, 2026

8:00 AM	Light Breakfast and Check-in	Meinel 3 rd Floor Lobby
8:30 AM	Welcome from the Dean Brian Anderson, Dean of the Wyant Coll. of OpSci	Meinel 307
9:00 AM	Academic Programs Introductions Ruth Corcoran, Becky Fontaine, Jini Kandyil, John Koshel, Channel Lemon, Hillary Mathis, Michael Nofziger, Mark Rodriguez, Amber Soergel, and Gretchen Wirges	Meinel 307
9:15 AM	New Student Introductions	Meinel 307
10:00 AM	Curriculum, Degree Requirements & To Do List John Koshel, Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs Jini Kandyil, Senior Graduate Academic Advisor	Meinel 307
	Funding Overview Mark Rodriguez, Manager AP Finance & Operations	
11:30 AM	Lunch	Meinel 3 rd Floor Lobby
1:00 AM	Student Resources	Meinel 307
	Graduate Center Presentation Celeste Atkins, Director of Grad Cafe Amanda Bogden, Associate Director of Graduate Career Services , Graduate Center	Meinel 307
	Resume Site Overview Julissa Alvarez, Media Content Manager	
	Cubicles and Key Access Jini Kandyil, Senior Graduate Academic Advisor	
	Outreach Engagement & Lab Safety Training Hillary Mathis, Manager, Instructional Labs	
2:00 AM	Break	Meinel 3 rd Floor Lobby
2:15 AM	SOCK, OFA, & POW Presentations Solvay Blomquist, Sofia Centno, Lily McKennag, Josh Teague, Aileen Zhan	Meinel 307
2:30 PM	Graduate Student Panel Discussion	Meinel 307
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Graduate Poster Session of Group Overview	Meinel 3rd Floor Lobby

Friday, August 21, 2026

8:30 AM	Light Breakfast and Check-in	Meinel 3 rd Floor Lobby
9:00 AM	Professor Panel Yeran Bai, Assistant Professor of Optical Sciences Brandon Chalifoux, Assistant Professor of Optical Sciences	Meinel 307



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Wyant College of Optical Sciences

	Assistant Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Garrett Cole, Associate Professor of Optical Sciences Kyle Seyler, Assistant Professor of Optical Sciences	
10:30 – 4:30 PM	Open Labs and Faculty Office Hours	Various Locations in GCRB and Meinel
12:00 PM	Lunch with Faculty	Meinel 3rd Floor
2:00 – 3:30 PM	New Student Photos Julissa Alvarez, Media Content Manager	Meinel 3rd Floor Lobby