

**SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENTAL ORIENTATION  
AND MPA SOCIALIZATION SEMINAR  
Special Collections Libraries, Room 285  
(300 S. Hull Street Athens, Georgia 30602)**

**Attendance & Dress Code Policies**

**MPA students** are required to attend both in-person content on their assigned day and the online segments, and will receive 1 hour of academic credit in the fall semester, which is required for graduation. Your attendance will be noted at all sessions. The MPA Socialization Seminar is structured to orient new students to the MPA program, Department, University, and Athens community.

The graduate programs in the Department of Public Administration & Policy at UGA are professional degree programs; therefore, we expect everyone attending socialization seminar sessions to be dressed accordingly. If you have any questions regarding the attendance or dress code policies, please contact Rebecca Blakeney at [rebecca.blakeney@uga.edu](mailto:rebecca.blakeney@uga.edu).

**In-Person Content**

**Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> & Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 - 8:30 Professional Headshots with Photographer** outside room 285

**8:00 - 8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast** (provided), room 285

**8:30 - 9:00 Welcome Remarks**

*Dr. Bradley E. Wright, Department Head*

*Dr. Matthew Auer, Dean of School of Public and International Affairs* (video)

*Dr. Laura Meadows, Director of Carl Vinson Institute of Government* (video)

**9:00 - 10:00 Introduction and Public Service Value Discussion**

*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*

**10:00 - 10:30 Break**

**10:30 - 12:00 Orientation to the Program Followed by Q&A**

*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*

*Mr. Aaron Redman, Career Services and Recruitment Coordinator*

**12:00 - 1:00 Lunch** (provided)

- 1:00 - 2:00 Professional Skills**  
*Ms. Mara Shaw and Ms. Chrissy Marlowe, Carl Vinson Institute of Government Representatives*
- 2:00 - 2:30 Career Services**  
*Mr. Aaron Redman, Career Services and Recruitment Coordinator*
- 2:30 - 2:45 Break**
- 2:45 - 4:15 Community Leaders Panel (Thursday)**  
*Erin Barger, Envision Athens*  
*Broderick Flanigan, Flanigan's Portrait Studio & NE Georgia Business Alliance*  
*Alison McCullick, UGA Government Relations & St. Mary's Healthcare BOD*  
*James Scott, The Sparrow's Nest*  
*Blaine Williams, Athens-Clarke Co. Manager's Office*
- Alumni Panel (Friday)**  
*Matthew Pepper (2015), City of Oxford, Georgia*  
*Kirk Shook (2013), Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission*  
*Sean Walker (2018), Home Depot Foundation*  
*Sarah Courtney (2019), UGA Office of Research*
- 4:15 - 4:30 Orientation to Athens and Service Projects**  
*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*  
*Mr. Aaron Redman, Career Services and Recruitment Coordinator*
- 4:30 - 5:00 Q&A Session**  
*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*  
*Ms. Kristin Lawrence, Enrolled Student Services Coordinator*  
*Mr. Robert Hines, MPA Advisor*

## Online Content

Information regarding accessing the required online Socialization content will be delivered to you via email a little closer to the Socialization.

\*All incoming students will be advised for Fall classes on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>.