

**SCHEDULE FOR DEPARTMENTAL ORIENTATION  
AND MPA SOCIALIZATION SEMINAR  
PADP 6980**

**Miller Learning Center, Room 250  
(48 Baxter Street, Athens, Georgia)**

**Attendance & Dress Code Policies**

**MPA students** are required to attend all sessions and must enroll in PADP 6980 (1 credit hour) during the fall semester. The Socialization Seminar credit is required for graduation. Attendance will be taken at all sessions. The MPA Socialization Seminar is a three-day event 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 (706) 542-9660.

**DAY 1: Monday, August 8, 2022**

**8:00 - 8:30 Registration and Morning Refreshments** (provided), Room 250

*A photographer will be present to take professional head shots for all incoming MPA students. Please plan to arrive on time in order to complete your registration and picture before our 8:30 AM start.*

**8:30 - 9:15 Welcome Remarks**

*Dr. Matthew Auer, Dean of School of Public and International Affairs  
Dr. Bradley E. Wright, Department Head  
Brian Ulbricht, Georgia Students for Public Administration (GSPA)  
Will Brooks, International City/County Management Association (ICMA)  
Adriana Watson Young Non-Profit Professionals Network  
Rebekah Branch, Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Student Chapter*

**9:15 - 10:15 Introduction and Public Service Value Discussion**

*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*

**10:15 - 10:45 Break**

**10:45 - 12:00 Orientation to the Program Followed by Q&A**

*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director  
Kristin Lawrence, Enrolled Student Services Coordinator  
Brandon Solie, Career Services and Recruitment Assistant Director*

**12:00 - 1:15 Lunch** (provided), 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rotunda

Faculty and staff from the Department of Public Administration and Policy will join students for lunch.

- 1:15 - 1:45 Academic Honesty & Integrity**  
*Phillip Griffeth, Academic Honesty & Student Appeals*
- 1:45 - 2:30 Library and Online Resources**  
*Elizabeth White, Library*
- 2:30 - 2:45 Break** (Coffee Provided)
- 2:45 - 3:45 Book Discussion:**  
*How Should a Government Be? The New Levers of State Power*  
*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*
- 4:00 - 5:00 Community Leaders Panel**  
*Erin Barger, President/CEO, Foodbank of Northeast Georgia*  
*Mel Cochran Davis, former Assistant Director, Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services Department*  
*Dr. LaKeisha Gantt, Clarke County School District, Board President*  
*Aron Hall, Athens-Clarke County, Energy Program and Conservation Coordinator*  
*Tommy Valentine, Historic Athens, Executive Director*

## **DAY 2: Tuesday, August 9**

- 8:15 - 9:00 Morning Refreshments** (provided), Room 250

*The photographer will be available to take pictures of students unable to have their picture taken on Monday. A **group photo will be taken at 8:45 AM. Please be present to participate.***

- 9:00 - 10:00 Professional Skills**  
*Mara Shaw, Carl Vinson Institute of Government*  
*Chrissy Marlowe, Carl Vinson Institute of Government*
- 10:00 - 10:30 Career Services**  
*Brandon Solie, Career Services and Recruitment Assistant Director*
- 10:30 - 10:45 Break**
- 10:45 - 12:00 Alumni Panel**  
*Leslie Hale, Executive Director, MENTOR Georgia*  
*Erin Greenburg, Budget Manager, Georgia Student Finance Commission*  
*Charlene Marsh, Assistant to the City Manager, City of Norcross, GA*  
*Colleen Brouillette, Public Health Analyst, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*  
*Nick Derajtys, Budget Manager, Gwinnett County Government*
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch** (provided), 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rotunda

- 1:00 - 2:00 Engaging a Diverse Workforce and Public**  
*John Alvarez Turner, Interim Director, Office of Multicultural Services and Programs*  
*Narke Norton, Associate Director, Recruitment & Diversity Initiatives, Graduate School, UGA*  
*Dr. Cory Struthers, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Public Administration & Policy*
- 2:00 - 2:45 Health and Wellness**  
*Kelly Truesdale, University Health Center*
- 2:45 - 3:00 Break**
- 3:00 - 4:00 Preparing to Write**  
*Dr. Eric Zeemering*
- 4:00 - 4:15 Overview of MPA Mentor Initiative**  
*Kristen Shockley, Department of Psychology*  
*Sam Cannon, Advising*
- 4:15 - 4:30 Orientation to Athens Service Projects & Volunteering in the MPA Program**
- 4:00 - 5:00 Advising / Q&A**  
*Dr. Eric Zeemering, MPA Director*  
*Brandon Solie, Career Services and Recruitment Assistant Director*  
*Kristin Lawrence, Enrolled Student Services Coordinator*  
*Sam Cannon, Advising*

### **DAY 3: Saturday, August 13**

*Students will receive volunteer location instructions by email. See the email correspondence from Rebecca Blakeney for your location and volunteer hours.*