WELCOME TO THE
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON'S
On Campus Visit Day!
Welcome to campus!

President Andrew Hsu

Office of the President
Phone: 843.953.5500
E-mail: president@cofc.edu
Visit Day Schedule

9:30-10:30
welcome & schedule review

greetings from the faculty

Student Affairs overview

10:30-11:00 BREAK
parents remain in Sottile

safety & security

*students will be dismissed by rows and go with intern for student sessions

11:00-12:00
student sessions in Rita Liddy Hollings Science Center (58 Coming Street)

11:00-12:00 parent session in Sottile Theatre

conversations to have with your student

how to support your student academically

1:30
tours & afternoon sessions – check your schedule for session topic, time & location

going involved on campus
THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON IS A
four-year state-supported liberal arts & sciences institution

Curriculum consists of general education requirements and major courses:

- First-year experience (completed in the first year)
- English (writing)
- History
- Humanities
- Mathematics & logic
- Foreign language
- Natural science
- Social science

undergraduate students: 9300
graduate students: 1084
majors: 63 | minors: 82
Student Affairs

is dedicated to facilitating the cultural, social, emotional, physical, ethical and intellectual development of all students so that you may become responsible and effective individuals.

WE EXIST TO PROMOTE THE WHOLE STUDENT AND ENHANCE YOUR EDUCATION.
Student Affairs

What we do:

• Student involvement and engagement
• Student outreach and support
• Residential living experience
• Multicultural student programs and services
• Career center
• Center for civic engagement
• Student health services
Student Affairs

An important lesson for Orientation and your first weeks of each semester...
Three really important tips!

This is where you take notes!

1. Ask questions.

2. Connect at the College first (you will be more successful!).
   - Cougar Connect Platform
   - Weeks of Welcome

3. Communicate expectations within your network of support.
Student Affairs

We are always on call!

- Housing & residence life
- Dean of Students/student care team
- Office of Victim services
- Counseling
- Division leadership
- Access to 24/7 virtual urgent care through MUSC in addition to our Student Health Services
What we are partnering with students and families to accomplish...
Get in touch.

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Executive Vice President for Student Affairs

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Police, Fire, and EMS

Your safety is our top priority!
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IS STAFFED 24 HOURS A DAY...

year-round by trained professionals employed to serve the College of Charleston community. The department consists of campus police and security personnel, fire, safety and emergency medical services, and Security Technology Services.
The office is located at 89 St. Phillip Street across from McAlister Hall.

For emergencies, call 911 for help.

For non-emergency situations, contact us at 843.953.5609.
There are many ways that the department works to keep the campus community safe.

To ensure that the campus is made aware of emergencies, severe weather and timely warnings, the College of Charleston has established a mass notification system called **Cougar Alert**.
Cougar Alert.

In the event of an emergency, the campus community will receive alerts via text, email, phone and on the College’s Everbridge app. Students, faculty and staff are automatically enrolled in this program.

Parents and others who wish to receive Cougar Alerts can opt in to receive notifications by texting the word cougaralert to 333111.
The College has emergency call boxes positioned at key locations across campus.

These boxes provide direct emergency contact with public safety.
Public Safety also provides several services for the campus community.

01 Safety escorts
The Department offers safety escorts to members of the College of Charleston community as a safe alternative to walking alone at night. Public Safety officer escorts are offered 24 hours a day to get you to or from locations on campus.

02 cougar shuttle
The Shuttle operates seven nights a week from 11:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. during spring and fall semesters. This service provides free transportation on the Charleston peninsula to all students with a current Cougar Card.
Plan to have your bicycle on campus?

You are encouraged to register your bike with the Department of Public Safety. Registering your bike helps protect the bike and serves as a deterrent to would-be bike thieves. It also helps the police in identifying and returning a found or stolen bike to the owner.

The registration is a free service.
To find out more about these and other services, we invite you to visit the public safety website at publicsafety.cofc.edu
The Orientation Intern Team

Discovering our passion at College of Charleston
Some of you may feel like this...

**First Day of School**

**First Day of College**
Others may feel like this...
Conversation Topics

- Managing time (checking email & meeting deadlines)
- Using the resources on campus
- Going to class
- Choosing a major
- Budgeting money
- Academic expectations
- Midterm & final grades
Problems

- Most problems are temporary...give it time.
- Suggest options and campus resources.
  Let them resolve it on their own.
- Resist the urge to rescue your student.
Home Sweet Home

- Avoid major changes in first six weeks
- If change is unavoidable, talk to them about it
Letting Go

- Your student will be ok
- You will be ok
- Emotionally prepare yourself for the separation
Keep in touch, but not too much!
Parents as coaches: How to support your student academically
Our Communication Goal

Student

CofC

Parent
During New Student Orientation, your student learns that their schedule is “lousy.” You know that the best time to pick up better classes is early on the “drop for non-payment” date. Classes will go quickly, so students should log on early to make schedule changes...

**BUT your student is still asleep.**
You...

A. Log onto MyCharleston and make the schedule changes yourself (after all, you have your student’s CWID).

B. Wake your student up and hand them the list of the courses you compiled.

C. Wake your student up and tell them to log-on to MyCharleston to make the appropriate changes.

D. Do nothing.
STOP

Do nothing
You're worried...

You suspect that your student is failing a course at the midterm.
You...

A. Call anyone at the university that will talk to you. After all, you pay the bill!

B. Get your student’s roommate to tell you the grades.

C. Ask your student to give you access via the FERPA so you can discuss grades with your student’s academic advisor.

D. Ask your student to show you their grades.
It's time to register...

Your student’s course registration date for the next term is approaching and you know that your student has yet to meet with their academic advisor and complete their mandatory first year or transfer student advising appointment for this semester.
You...

A. Encourage your student to schedule an appointment with their academic advisor for as soon as possible.

B. You call the Academic Advising and Planning Center and attempt to schedule your student’s appointment on their behalf.

C. You act as academic advisor for your student and tell your student which courses to register for.

D. Do nothing.
Helping Your Student Decide...

- Choosing a Major at the College of Charleston
- Majors & Minors Fair
  Wednesday, September 29, 2021
  Cougar Mall
  Rain location: Stern
The Academic Advising Dialogue

- Establish goals
- Recognize challenges, competing demands
- Identify values, strengths, interests & abilities
- Discuss courses
- Develop action plan

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We advise.

Students make choices!

Students ultimately have responsibility for their own choices.
What happens next...

DURING ORIENTATION
- Students are in academic advising sessions with the advising staff.
- Students learn about general education, first year requirements, graduation and are introduced to the online degree audit system (Degree Works).
- Students complete a Registration Preparation Worksheet.

DURING THE ORIENTATION AFTERNOON
- Students register for fall courses.
- Students can make schedule changes during the summer and start of fall through the last day of drop-add.

DURING THE FALL SEMESTER
- Students should connect with the advisor early and often.
- Students can schedule an appointment online or by calling the Academic Advising & Planning Center.
Center for Student Learning

CSL provides academic support for all students at the College of Charleston.

What percentage of students do you think used the CSL services in the last academic year?
Labs & Tutoring

- Business
- Computer science
- Spanish
- Statistics & research methods for social sciences
- Math
- Natural sciences
- Writing

 ✓ Faculty recommended, CSL trained tutors.
 ✓ In-person and Zoom options (subject to change).
 ✓ Morning, afternoon, evening and limited weekend hours.
Study Skills Appointments

- One-on-one appointments with CSL professional staff or SMART Coach to assess study methods and habits
- Staff member and student work together to create an effective plan, including updated strategies, effective time and self-management skills, and goal setting techniques
Weekly Study Skills Workshops

- Time management
- Textbook reading
- Note taking
- Memory techniques
- Test taking
- Exam planning

- Offered multiple times each week
- Practical techniques & strategies
- Afternoon and evening sessions
- Presented online via Zoom & on campus
Supplemental Instruction

Peer-facilitated study groups linked with historically difficult courses (i.e., BIOL 111/112, CHEM 111/112, BIOL 201, BIOL 202, CHEM 232, PHIL 120, PSYC 213)

SI leader has successfully completed the course before, attends class again, takes notes, completes homework and offers three SI sessions per week

SI Leaders help students with WHAT to learn while focusing on HOW to learn

Students who consistently attend SI statistically make a half to whole letter grade better than those who don’t.
Questions?

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Getting Involved

at College of Charleston
Student Clubs & Organizations

More than 200 organizations represent the interests, beliefs & ideologies of our students.

- Academics
- Arts
- Theatre and drama
- Leadership
- Government and politics
- International interests
- Religious
- Community service
- Outdoor adventure
- Sports
- Special interest
Fraternity & Sorority Life

Three different Greek councils:
1. IFC - Fraternities
2. PanHellenic - Sororities
3. NPHC - Minority Fraternities & Sororities

Approximately 19% of students are involved in Greek Life
Campus Recreation Services

- George Street Fitness Center
- Group fitness classes
- Open recreation hours
- Wellness classes (yoga, Zumba, belly dance)
- Weight management
- Fitness & wellness workshops
- Personal training
- Outdoor adventure
- Intramural sports
Cougar Athletics

- NCAA Division I university in the Colonial Athletic Association
- 19 varsity sports teams
- Free admission with a Cougar Card
Student Media

- CisternYard Video
- CisternYard News
- CisternYard Radio
- The Yard
- Miscellany
- www.CisternYard.com
Cougar Activity Board

- Campus Programming Board
- Casino Night
- Movie Night
- Open Mic Nights
- Fall Festival

SO YOU WANT TO
Join CAB?
"Events for Students by Students"

WHO ARE WE?  Cougar Activities Board (CAB) is one of the largest event planning student organizations on campus

WHAT DO WE DO?  CAB provides FREE events, trips, and opportunities to CoF C students all year long

Why Join?
- Event planning experience
- Volunteer hours
- Free CoF C swag + snacks
- Meet new friends
- So much fun

Get Involved
Meetings every Thursday 6-7 PM Stern Room 201

@cofccab
@cabatcofc
@CofCCAB
Campus Activities

FALL
- Weeks of Welcome
- Convocation
- CAB Casino Night
- Cistern Fest Organization Fair
- Cougar Countdown - stress relief during exams

SPRING
- Homecoming
- Cougar Countdown
- Final Exam Jam
Community Activities

- Arts and cultural activities
- Farmers Market at Marion Square
- Second Sunday on King Street
- Southeastern Wildlife Expo (SEWE)
- Fashion Week
- Spoleto Festival - May/June annually
- Local beaches: Folly Beach, Isle of Palms, Sullivan's Island
- Community service activities - ongoing throughout the year (Center for Civic Engagement)
Afternoon Opportunities:

- Have lunch at the Liberty Street Fresh Food Company
- Take a campus tour
- Attend the Ask the Experts session
- Attend the study abroad information session
- Speak with a financial aid counselor
- Visit the bookstore on Calhoun Street and get your CofC Swag!
- Drop by Campus Services to pick up a Cougar Card
- Visit the residence halls
Need help during your visit?

- Ask an intern
- Visit the Office of New Student Programs

CALL: 843.953.2017
EMAIL: orientat@cofc.edu
Thank you for visiting campus today.
See you in August!