

Rizza, Salvatore A.

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 9:04 AM
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Subject: Parent/Family Update: August 24th
Attachments: ATT00001.txt; ATT00001.txt

Dear Parents and Families,

We hope this email finds you well!

First, we want to thank you all for your incredible support of your students as well as your patience during these incredibly challenging times.

With classes beginning on Wednesday, August 26th we wanted to provide a brief update and share resources. First, as the semester begins, please be sure to utilize the resources in the [Helpful Links](#) page. As your students will begin or continue to their academic experience, we look forward to engaging with them! As they have questions, concerns or need guidance, encourage them to contact offices, resources and individuals that are available to help them find success. Whether that is a professor, Resident Advisor, Peer Mentor, counselor or tutor, we are ALL HERE for our students.

In this communication you will find information regarding:

1. Resources
2. Email from the Office of the President
3. New Owl Welcome (For First-Year Students)
4. Course Delivery Formats
5. Fall 2020 Reopening Plan
6. Fitness and Recreation Update

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Sal

Resources

We would also like to provide a number of links which have really good information that answers many of the questions you may have.

Helpful Links- <https://inside.southernct.edu/parent-family/helpful-links> , these are a number of helpful links that we have gathered specifically for parents/families that will be helpful now and in the future.

Resources- <https://inside.southernct.edu/inside-southern>, these is another general page filled with links that may be helpful!

Fall 2020 Reopening- <https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>, this provides information on the reopening of campus for the fall semester.

Residence Life- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>, with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

Advising- <https://inside.southernct.edu/advising>, information regarding academic advising.

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza
Southern Connecticut State University
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement
Phone: (203) 392-5189
NODA Region IX Regional Coordinator

From the Office of the President to Students
August 21st

Dear Southern Community,

As you know, to prepare for the reopening of campus next week, we have put in place detailed plans to protect the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

As part of this planning, residential students were required to submit a negative COVID-19 test taken within the two weeks prior to moving on campus. During the first full week of classes, in partnership with Griffin Health, we will begin weekly testing of 5 to 10 percent of residential students and hall directors - this will continue until the on-ground portion of the semester concludes at Thanksgiving break.

It is inevitable that positive occurrences of COVID-19 will occur on campus – and in recent days, we have had two positive cases, one student and one student-employee.

When these cases were identified, we immediately engaged our contact tracing and cleaning protocols and have quarantined necessary students and staff. Both of the students are in isolation.

To protect individual privacy rights, I do not anticipate sending out a communitywide message every time that a positive case occurs on campus. But because these are the first cases to be identified as we prepare to launch the new academic year, I believe it is important to inform you and reiterate the protocols we have in place to handle these occurrences.

Transparency is critical, however, so once the weekly residential testing of residential students begins the week of August 31, we will be releasing data about positive COVID-19 cases through an online dashboard that will be available on our [Reopening 2020 website](#) and regularly updated.

Next week, we will also release the first in a series of Campus COVID-19 Updates, online bulletins that will contain the latest information about COVID-related policies and issues on campus. These bulletins will include a link to a JotForm where you will be able to submit any questions or concerns.

As I have stated earlier, following the health and safety protocols that we have put in place are a shared responsibility. As we begin the new semester, please ensure that you observe social distancing and wear a mask at all times outdoors and indoors (excluding your own office or cubicle).

We will continue to work closely with the state Department of Public Health and the New Haven Health Department to monitor spread beyond our campus and take all necessary mitigation steps.

I thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation as we follow these procedures, for the good of our community.

Stay well, and stay Southern Strong.

Sincerely,

Joe Bertolino
President

Email from Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement to first-year students

August 24th

(Note: we sent several emails to first-year students in the past weeks. This was the most recent.)

2 Days Away!

Fall 2020 classes begin in just two days!

Make sure you are ready by attending New Owl Welcome events. And remember, you are expected to participate in the finale!

New Owl Welcome

<https://www.southernct.edu/orientation>

All First-Year Students are expected to participate in the New Owl Welcome Finale' from 4pm- 7pm on Tuesday, August 25th.



AUGUST 17TH - AUGUST 25TH

NEW OWL WELCOME EVENTS

BEING SUCCESSFUL WITH KENDRA KOCHOL ON THE 19TH AT 12:30PM	TOURING SCSU WITH ROMEO RIVERA ON THE 20TH AT 4PM	LET'S TALK INVOLVEMENT WITH WILSON VALOIS ON THE 21ST AT 12:30PM	COMMUTER LIFE WITH DAN BARONSKI ON THE 24TH AT 12:30PM
--	---	--	--



New Owl Welcome Finale

Schedule:

Learning Community Meetings - 4pm or 5:30pm

These virtual meetings will be an opportunity to connect with your Inquiry or Honors Class with Learning Community this semester. These meetings will be held on Tuesday, August 25th from 4pm to 7pm.

New Owl Welcome Virtual Hangouts (Optional)

In this fast-paced program, you will have an opportunity to meet many other first-year students! Share your contact information and make new friends.

Monday, August 24th

2pm- 3pm

<https://airmeet.com/e/0c70a200-e348-11ea-a347-e724e2c51624>

Tuesday, August 25th

10am- 11am

<https://airmeet.com/e/e3d096b0-e348-11ea-bfe8-07bed0ce9c3a>

New Owl Welcome Finale

You are required to participate in the Finale’.

August 25th, 4pm- 7pm

4pm/5:30pm Learning Community Meetings

You are expected to attend!

(First-Year Students will receive an email with a webex link to meet at either 4pm or 5:30pm.)

During these Learning Community Meetings, first-year students will meet their Peer Mentors who will be supporting them in either their Inquiry or Honors course. These experienced student leaders will be resources to them throughout their first semester. And, just as importantly, they will meet the other students in their INQ or HON class!

6:30pm Greetings from President Joe!

You are expected to attend!

6:30pm

Click on this link > <https://southernct.webex.com/southernct/j.php?MTID=md3a754a74513d39ba63b52b7ae6c7efe>
President Joe wants to meet you! And you'll want to meet him! President Joe will welcome you and share some inspiration as you wrap up New Owl Welcome and you take flight into your first semester.

Click on this link > <https://southernct.webex.com/southernct/j.php?MTID=md3a754a74513d39ba63b52b7ae6c7efe>

Course Delivery Formats

<https://inside.southernct.edu/fall20courses>

This website is full of information on how courses will be delivered in the fall 2020. One of the questions is “how does a student access their on-line class?” Different instructors will use different platforms. It is important that students continue to check their Southern email as many instructors will email their students instructions/links on how to access their courses. Students should also access their Blackboard for information as well.

Fall 2020 Reopening

<https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>

“Based on significant guidance from public health experts and in accordance with Governor Lamont’s ReOpen CT Advisory Committee plan, it has been determined that Southern will reopen its physical campus to residential and commuter students for fall 2020, with protocols in place. Fall classes will begin on August 26, following a staggered move-in for residence hall students.”

This website (<https://inside.southernct.edu/reopening>) will continue to be updated and has all of the information regarding the university’s plan to reopen.

Recreation and Fitness Update

The Fitness Center (located on the 2nd floor of the Adanti Student Center) will reopen on **Monday, August 31st** and membership will be free for all students! We’ve been working hard to provide a safe environment for our SCSU community members to stay healthy, active, and fit this year! Follow us on Instagram [@SCSU_recfit](#) for program and facility updates as they become available.

Activate Membership

Download the ATLETO app.

Register with your Southern email and password.

Sign the waivers.

Book a 50-minute reservation (Reservations are available 2 days ahead of your workout).

Arrive for your reservation no more than 3-minutes before the start time.

Masks will be required at all times, even when working out.

Hours of Operation (subject to change)

Monday to Thursday - 9am to 7pm

Friday – 9am to 6pm

Saturday - Closed

Sunday – Closed

(Closed Labor Day)

**Doors Lock 30-minutes prior to closing.*

All policies will be posted in Owl Connect soon!
Contact us at fitness@southernct.edu if you have any questions.