CONGRATULATIONS!
Welcome to Villanova!

This booklet will help you prepare for your arrival on campus in August.

In these pages, you will find everything you need to know about our New Student Orientation program, which will introduce you to all aspects of University life: academic, social and spiritual. Orientation at Villanova is special because it’s developed and delivered by students, for students. It’s their mission to welcome you to the Villanova community and make you feel at home on campus, just as they do.

This publication has information about the Office for Residence Life, on-campus housing and campus services. You can also get a taste of academic life at Villanova and learn more about campus activities.

Please keep this booklet handy for questions that may arise throughout the summer. Should you have any concerns, please contact us.

Office for Residence Life:
(610) 519-4154
residencelife@villanova.edu

New Student Orientation:
(610) 519-4200
orientation@villanova.edu

Office of Student Life:
(610) 519-4550
studentlife@villanova.edu
Dear New Student,

The summer months are here, and your arrival on campus draws ever closer. As you prepare to begin your college experience, it is my pleasure to welcome you into the Villanova community.

What sets Villanova apart is our Catholic, Augustinian intellectual tradition, which is the cornerstone of an academic community where students learn to think critically, act compassionately and succeed while serving others. Villanova prepares students to become ethical leaders who create positive change everywhere life takes them.

Your time at the University will begin with Orientation, a nationally-recognized program designed for students by students that will help you meet new people and become familiar with campus. The four days of Orientation represent the first steps on your journey as a Villanovan, and I encourage you to take advantage of the program’s opportunities to discover what the University has to offer.

While the first year of college represents a significant transition for many, Villanova’s faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a caring, personalized learning environment. They will offer guidance when you face challenges and share your joy when you achieve successes. The relationships you build inside and outside of the classroom will enrich your experience here and keep you connected to Villanova long after you graduate.

Your classes may be hard, and some days will be long, but I’m confident that your time on campus will create lasting memories and prepare you to be a force for positive change in the world.

I look forward to seeing you soon on campus.

Sincerely,

Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD ’75
President
Villanova’s Orientation program introduces students to the broad concept of what it means to be a Villanovan both in and out of the classroom. The four-day program will have you participating in activities designed to familiarize you with both academic and student life, and address the different situations you may encounter as a new student—what to expect living on campus, the social atmosphere, and the academic challenges.

During Orientation, Academic Deans, Faculty, Student Life Administrators and upperclass students meet formally and informally with new students to answer questions, address concerns and highlight the wide variety of services and activities available at Villanova. These members of the Villanova community will serve as resources to you throughout your four years.

The Orientation staff is known for its enthusiasm, sincerity and commitment to a common goal: providing new students with the information, resources and direction they will need to begin their Villanova college careers in an informed, relaxed and enjoyable fashion. An orientation counselor, commonly referred to as an OC, is assigned to lead a group of 20 new students through the four-day program. There are also administrative assistants, or AAs, who help coordinate and facilitate the details of Orientation.

**Commuter Students**

Commuter students are expected to attend Orientation events from Thursday, August 21 through Sunday, August 24. Orientation is a fun-filled busy schedule and making a connection with your OC is a great start to your own success at Villanova. Your OC will be bringing you to your academic presentations and campus resource sessions throughout the four-day program and will distribute your Wildcard. Please make arrangements to travel to and from campus during the early mornings and late evenings of Orientation, so you can enjoy both the educational and social aspects of the program.

Commuters are also invited to sign up for the Leadership Learning Community. As one student observed, “The Leadership Learning Community showed me that being a commuter was not a barrier to making the most out of the college experience; it allowed me to meet other students, and find our way together through the college experience.” More details about the Learning Communities are on page 12.

Commuting Students may choose any of the meal plans offered by Dining Services, including plans specifically designed for commuters. You are able to use these meal plans in any of the 20 on-campus locations operated by Dining Services from 7:30 a.m. until 2 a.m. daily. Complete descriptions of the meal plans and dining locations are located on the Dining Services website (www.villanova.edu/services/dining). Once you have made your selection, log on to MyNova to complete your meal plan contract online. Meals will be provided by the University during Orientation, beginning with dinner on Thursday, August 21, through dinner on Sunday, August 24, so be sure to dine with your OC.

Parents of commuter students are also encouraged to attend the portions of Orientation that are specifically for parents on Thursday, August 21 to learn more about the University, its resources and the transitions facing new students.

---

“Coming into college, I was so worried about not feeling at home here. Villanova quickly became my new home after meeting so many welcoming and kind people who had similar values as me, and who were striving to better not only themselves, but the communities that they are a part of.”

—Sarah, Class of 2016
Transfer Student Orientation
Our priority in working with transfer students is to build your connection to the University and create a solid foundation of resources to help you succeed at Villanova. Participating in the Orientation program will give you an opportunity to meet other upperclassmen transfer students beginning their first year at Villanova, as well as find out how you can become involved on campus.

We recognize that as a transfer student you may have unique needs upon entering Villanova at a different stage in your college experience. More information about the options for Transfer students to participate fully in Orientation will be mailed to you in July.

Parent Orientation—Thursday August 21
Opening Day includes Parent Orientation in addition to events for new students. The morning schedule for parents includes:

- Parent Information Sessions
- Parent Resource Fair
- Department Open Houses
- Special Events

The afternoon of Parent Orientation consists of the following events which include your son or daughter:

- University Welcome
  Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, and the Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs and Student Life
- Meetings with the Academic Deans
- Meetings with Orientation Counselors
- Opening Mass including the traditional New Student Blessing from their parents
- Family Picnic and Farewell

Following the picnic, the remainder of the Orientation program is specifically designed for the new students to experience with their Orientation groups. More detailed information will be mailed to you in August and available on our website, orientation.villanova.edu.

MOVE-IN DAY

MOVE-IN DAY:
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20: 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

On Move-In Day, there will be an increased amount of traffic, as well as long waiting periods as we facilitate check-in for 1,600 new students. To expedite this process and ease the waiting period, all new students are assigned an arrival time:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Last Name</th>
<th>Assigned Arrival Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P, N, D, V</td>
<td>11-11:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C, G</td>
<td>11:30-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A, F, O, U, W, X, Z</td>
<td>12:00-12:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I, J, K, R, E, Y</td>
<td>12:30-1:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B, H, Q</td>
<td>1:00-1:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S, L</td>
<td>1:30-2:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M, T</td>
<td>2:00-2:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We ask for your cooperation with arriving during or after your assigned arrival time. Please anticipate experiencing a wait and prepare accordingly (water, snacks, reading material, etc). Check-in resumes at 7 p.m. for those who cannot arrive during the day and on Thursday August 21 from 9 a.m.–noon. More information about move-in can be found at www.orientation.villanova.edu.

Move-In Day: Wednesday, August 20: 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
Please plan to have all of your belongings labeled with your name, building and room assignment prior to arriving at your residence hall. You will unload your things onto the sidewalk outside your residence hall and move your car immediately to the main parking lots directly across from the field house. Parents will not be allowed to park their cars and leave them unattended in front of residence halls as this causes major traffic congestion and lengthy delays. Orientation staff members will be available until 6 p.m. to help residents unload their cars and move their belongings to their rooms.

Shipping Move-In Items to Villanova University
If you plan to ship trunks or packages of your personal belongings to Villanova prior to your arrival, you should ship them after August 1, addressed to yourself with residence hall and room assignment clearly indicated on the mailing label. (You will...
receive this information from Residence Life in late July.)

All trunks and packages are delivered to the University Mail Services located in Kennedy Hall. Trunks and packages delivered to campus by Friday, August 15 will be delivered by the Orientation staff to a secure location in the vicinity of your residence hall. The Residence Life staff will be able to direct you to the package pick-up location for your hall. Packages that arrive after August 15 must be picked up by the student personally from the student mailroom in Kennedy Hall. New students who are arriving early to campus may not be able to have access to their shipped packages prior to the scheduled move-in on August 20.

More information on shipping packages to campus, including when to send them, will be on the mailroom website this summer at www.mailroom.villanova.edu.

**Residence Hall Facts**
- The Villanova University housing system consists of 26 buildings:
  - 18 traditional residence halls
  - 8 apartment-style halls (reserved for upperclassmen)
- Villanova University houses approximately 4,400 undergraduate students on campus.
- First-year students may be housed in halls on all three areas of campus — main, south and west.
- Residence halls range in size from 30 to 540 residents. Rooms also vary in size and configuration.
- Freshman halls for the 2014–2015 school year are O’Dwyer, Simpson, Moriarty, Stanford, St. Monica, Katharine, McGuire, Caughlin and Good Counsel Halls. Students may also be housed in Delurey, Fedigan, Simpson, or St. Mary’s Halls, if necessary, to accommodate all housing needs.
- For residence hall descriptions, floor plans, pictures and room rates visit our website at: www.reslife.villanova.edu.
- Unless requested, your mattress will be a standard twin size.

**Housing Assignments**
If you have successfully completed your housing application, you will receive an email to your Villanova account in late July instructing you to visit www.housing.villanova.edu to view the details of your housing assignment and roommate information.

Your housing assignment will contain the following information:
- building and room assignment
- roommate’s name, address, telephone number and email
- VU mailbox number and combination

**Your RA**
Your Resident Assistant (RA) is one of the first individuals you will meet when you arrive on campus. He or she is an upperclass student who lives on your floor and is someone who you can go to for just about anything. He or she is your link to the Villanova University administration, a good source of advice on everything about Villanova, and also the person who can help you work out whatever issues arise in the hall. Your RA will also help the students on your floor get to know each other and develop a sense of community.

**Villanova’s Office for Residence Life**
Villanova’s Office for Residence Life strives to create a welcoming residential community and to maintain a comfortable and safe environment for students residing in our residence halls. Our staff oversees on-campus housing assignments and manages the day-to-day operations of our residence halls.
PARENTS, PLEASE EXPERIENCE A DINING HALL MEAL WHEN VISITING CAMPUS.

Entrance to our All-You-Care-to-Eat Concepts is FREE for parents (and siblings under 12 years of age) of meal plan participants.

Meal plan participants must be present to enjoy this discount.

Once this information is available, take some time to email or call your roommate or roommates. First, get to know them a little bit, and second, start thinking about more practical questions like which one of you is bringing items such as TV, refrigerator or microwave.

If you have not completed your housing contract, we cannot secure a housing assignment for you on campus.

Roommates
New residents are assigned roommates on the basis of gender, date of admission deposit, involvement in designated learning communities, and, where possible, preferences specified in the questionnaire that accompanies the housing contract. Residence Life will make a reasonable effort to accommodate requests to be assigned with a particular roommate, provided that interest in sharing a room is mutual, and each resident has designated the other as a preferred roommate when completing the housing contract. Sharing a room with a stranger, or even someone you already know, is a new experience for most college students. This can be one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of your life. This is not the time to make snap-judgments about one another. While you may or may not be best friends with your roommate, you should at least be good acquaintances who can live effectively with one another.

Practicing open communication and respecting each other are two of the most important ideas to keep in mind.

During the first few days on campus, your RA will help you complete a Roommate Living Agreement with your roommate to get things off to a good start. This agreement is designed to foster communication between roommates and iron out some common concerns and expectations before they become an issue.

Converted Triple Rooms
In order to honor the University’s three year housing guarantee, almost all incoming students reside in either a double room or a converted triple room (traditional double rooms with added furniture to accommodate three students). Students who reside in a converted triple room at the start of the semester will receive a discount of approximately $1,000 on the cost of their room per semester. A small percentage of students will reside in single rooms or rooms designed to accommodate three or four students and are not eligible for a discount. Incoming students are assigned to converted triple rooms in reverse date of admission deposit order, beginning with the latest dates of deposit and working backwards. We anticipate that as many as half of the incoming class will reside in converted triple rooms. While students may initially be anxious about residing in a converted triple room, we find that many of these residents choose to remain in their original rooms rather than leave their roommates if a double room should become available.

Students who wish to be considered for reassignment to a double room will need to complete a Room Change Request Card and bring it to the Residence Life Office located on the 2nd floor of Kennedy Hall. The room change request process begins on the first day of classes. You can get a Room Change Request Card from your RA or the Office for Residence Life. Restoring rooms to double occupancy is a priority for Residence Life, however we cannot predict when or if we may be able to offer students the opportunity to “de-triple.”
Meal Plans
Villanova Dining Services offers six meal plans for first-year students residing on campus. You are able to use these meal plans in any of the 20 on-campus locations operated by Dining Services from 7 a.m. until 2 a.m. daily.

Students living on campus in traditional residence halls are required to select their meal plan online through MyNova by June 20. Complete descriptions of the meal plans and dining locations are located on the Dining Services website: www.diningservices.villanova.edu.

Once you have made your selection, log on to MyNova to complete your meal plan contract online. Students who do not make a selection by June 20, will be automatically enrolled in the Unlimited Meal Plan.

Meals will be provided by the University during Orientation, beginning with dinner on Thursday, August 21, through dinner on Sunday, August 24, so be sure to dine with your Orientation Counselor.

If you have a question regarding Dining Services or the meal plans at Villanova, please visit the Dining Services website www.diningservices.villanova.edu or call the Meal Plan Coordinator at (610) 519-7937.

Laundry
Each residential area has a Wildcard-operated laundry facility that only accepts NovaBucks, not cash, as payment. There is a web-accessible laundry program that allows you, from your smart phone or computer, to see what washers and dryers are available in your residence hall laundry room. You can also request an email or text message be sent to you when a machine becomes available and place a 5 minute hold on a machine. For more information about laundry, visit www.villanova.edu/wildcard.

Mail
Residents will receive an on-campus mailbox located on the ground floor of Kennedy Hall. Mailbox numbers and combinations will be available with your housing assignment in late July via MyNova.

Care packages sent from family and friends to resident students are processed through and can be picked up at University Mail Services located in Kennedy Hall. Resident students will receive an email to their Villanova account notifying them of the parcel arrival. To assure packages are processed effectively, it is imperative the package is addressed correctly. All packages and letters to residents on South and Main campus should be addressed as follows:

**STUDENT NAME**
V.U. Box ####
Villanova University
Kennedy Hall
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085-1679

Telephone Service
There is no university-provided dial tone in any residence hall room.

Emergency phones are located on each floor of each residence hall. These phones allow students to place on-campus emergency calls to Public Safety and the Health Center, as well as other University offices. Off-campus local and long distance calls can also be made with the use of a prepaid calling card or by dialing a toll-free number. The emergency phone does not receive incoming calls.

Cable Television
Each residence hall room on campus has a cable television jack, which provides 70 basic cable channels. The cost for basic cable television service is included in the room charge. Each room should be equipped with a small cable box (digital adapter) that is required to access all channels. In the event that this adapter was removed by a previous resident, Comcast will be on campus distributing new adapters free of charge during move-in. Resident students will have the option to purchase premium cable packages that include HD, pay-per-view and premium cable channels directly from Comcast. Students who opt for this upgraded package will contract directly with Comcast and will be responsible for all payments. For information please call 1-855-638-2855.

Refrigerator/Microwave Rentals
While a student may choose to bring his or her own refrigerator and microwave, Microfridge units are available for rent for the academic year through an outside vendor. The Microfridge consists of a 3 cubic foot refrigerator/freezer and an attached .6 cubic foot microwave. This combined unit saves space and has one plug for all three components. Rental information is available at: www.reslife.villanova.edu. Please note: Only one refrigerator and microwave is permitted per room!

Linen and Carpet Program
Villanova University has teamed up with Our Campus Market to offer students the option of purchasing Linens, Area Rugs and Room Accessories. Linens and Room Accessories can be sent directly to your dorm.

“I loved living on campus freshman year because it helped me get to know other people in my class. From seeing people in the dining hall, to bonding activities on my floor, or even just hanging out on the grassy knoll, I got to know so many other freshmen and it made the transition so much easier.”

—Kasia, Class of 2015
PACKING UP!

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BRING

• Alarm Clock
• Bed Linens and Pillow
• Cleaning Supplies
• Desk Lamp (non-halogen)
• Desk Supplies
• First-Aid Supplies/Medications
• Floor Lamp (non-halogen)
• Hangers
• Heavy Duty Extension Cord—UL approved not rated less than 125 volts/15 amps
• Laundry Supplies
• Personal Toiletries
• Refrigerator and Microwave Oven (if you are not renting a Microfridge)
• Shower Caddy
• Surge Protector
• Towels/Washcloths
• Wastebasket
• Window Fan

PLEAS DO NOT BRING

• Air conditioning units
• Candles (decorative or functional, wick or no wick)
• Cinder blocks or any other item designed to raise the height of your bed
• Halogen lamps
• Hot Plates with exposed heating elements
• Pets or animals of any kind
• Platform beds or lofts
• Space heaters
• Toasters or toaster ovens
• Wall-mounted shelves or any other item that requires permanent fixture to walls or furniture

Nova Nation Fan Shirt

Show your Wildcat pride in the official Nova Nation Fan Shirt. It’s easy to reserve your FREE T-shirt. Simply log on to MyNova, click on Freshman 2014 on the Just For You tab, and choose ‘Nova Nation Fan Shirt’, type in your name, choose a T-shirt size and SUBMIT. The reservation deadline is August 1 and your shirt will be distributed to you during Orientation! Don’t miss out, become a part of Nova Nation!

Insurance for Personal Property

The University’s property insurance only covers property that is owned by the University. The University assumes no legal obligation to pay for loss of or damage to items of students’ personal property occurring on campus or in its buildings or storage areas. As a result, it is highly recommended that students insure their own personal property via their parents’ homeowners insurance or a renters/tenants insurance policy. It is important for parents to confirm with their homeowner’s insurance carrier that student’s property (including computers and other electronics) will be fully covered for loss while housed outside of the family dwelling.

Residence Hall Policies and Procedures

The Student Handbook (commonly known as “The Blue Book”) is a comprehensive resource for all Villanova University students. It provides, among other things, a complete overview of the Code of Student Conduct, and Residence Hall Policies and Procedures. No student should come to campus without first reviewing the Student Handbook!

Students are responsible for complying with all of the provisions in the Code of Conduct and all Residence Life Policies.

The Student Handbook can be found at www.villanova.edu/studentlife/dean.
The Wildcard
The Wildcard is the official identification card for Villanova University and allows you access to the meal plan, laundry systems and your Nova Bucks account. It also gives you access to:
- Residence Halls
- Print Allowance
- Vending and Laundry
- Access to athletic events and other student activities

In order to receive your Wildcard, you must submit an individual photo to the Wildcard office by July 10th. For information on submitting your photo, please visit www.villanova.edu/wildcard. Resident students will receive their Wildcard when they check into their residence hall and commuter students will receive their Wildcard from their Orientation Counselor. NO Wildcards will be handed out prior to your move in.

Your Nova Bucks account is a restricted spending account which allows you to enjoy the convenience of purchasing power all across campus and in the surrounding community without carrying cash or checks. Each time you use your Nova Bucks, the amount of your purchase will automatically be deducted from your account. Once you put the money into your account, the balance stays with you until you graduate, withdrawal or when you terminate your affiliation with the University. At that time, your balance will be refunded. You cannot make cash withdrawals for your Nova Bucks Account. Visit www.villanova.edu/wildcard for more information on how to make a deposit into your Nova Bucks account. Enjoy a 5% discount at the University Bookstore when you make your purchase using Nova Bucks.

Banking
For your convenience, Wells Fargo Bank offers several on-campus ATM/MAC machines. These are located on the ground floor of the Connelly Center, Bartley, Donahue, Dougherty and St. Mary’s Halls. There is also a Wells Fargo Bank located in Dougherty Hall. For more information or to open your account today, please contact the Wells Fargo Bank on campus at (610) 519-1527.

Parking
Freshman and sophomore resident students are not eligible for on-campus parking privileges. Commuter students are eligible for parking. All inquiries about parking should be directed to the Department of Public Safety, Parking Division at (610) 519-6990.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Welcomes the class of 2018

With more than 114,000 members worldwide, the Villanova University Alumni Association is your connection to Villanova for a lifetime. New Student Sendoffs will be held across the country this summer to welcome you to the Villanova family. These events are a great way for you to meet other Villanova families and alumni from your community. Watch your mail and email for more information, or visit the Alumni Association website at www.villanova.edu/sendoffs for a schedule of sendoff events.
**MyNova**

All students have access to MyNova, a portal containing course information, grades, email, campus news, and much more. This is your one-stop shop for course information, grades, email, campus news, and much more. Use your myNova user id and password to access this essential portal.

Be sure to download the VUMOBILE app, available in the Apple App Store or Android Apps on Google Play.

**UNIT**

UNIT is the informational technologies department on campus that is committed to providing services and solutions to the Villanova community. Computing requirements and technology that can be leveraged on campus are located at the Student Services site at [http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/unit/studentservices.html](http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/unit/studentservices.html). Students also have access to a variety of technology services and solutions on campus including a secure wireless network, public computer labs, campus print stations, and much more. All full-time undergraduate students may seek technical support at UNIT’s TechZone in Vasey 101, online chat at unit.villanova.edu, via email at support@villanova.edu, and at 610-519-7777.

**SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

**Campus Ministry:**

**Connections Retreat**

Connections is a three-day, two-night retreat for incoming freshmen that will be held June 27-29 at Villanova University. It is an opportunity for first-year students to make connections—with other first-year students and with the campus of Villanova. It will also be a chance to make connections with the things that matter through student-led discussions. For more information and details about registration, please visit: [www.villanova.edu/campusministry/spirituality](http://www.villanova.edu/campusministry/spirituality).

**Multicultural Affairs:**

**UNITAS Pre-orientation Weekend "A League of Our Own"**

July 11-13. UNITAS is a fun-filled educational weekend that is designed to help new students transition to college. Our mission is to help students become better acclimated to campus and ideally become future leaders here at Villanova. It serves as the beginning of long friendships and smooth transitions for all incoming students. The weekend registration closes on June 27 and there is a $100 registration fee.

Our Mission:

- To develop a positive sense of self.
- To develop the attitude and skills to be a successful college student.
- To be able to cope with developmental changes over the college years.
- To understand the impact of culture (family upbringing, race, ethnicity, gender, family income, community, religion, body type, mental or physical differences, sexual orientation, geographic location, age, and other social identifiers) on individuals, perceptions and values.
- To develop a sense of social ethics and responsibility.
- To create a network of social support in the Villanova Community including students, faculty, and staff.

For more info: [www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/multiculturalaffairs.html](http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/multiculturalaffairs.html)
Informations For Planning A Visit
Directions, travel and hotel information can be found at: www.parents.villanova.edu

Parents Handbook
Transitions, a parent's guide to Villanova, is a handbook designed to introduce parents to the University, its offices and services. In it you will find valuable information about the many opportunities on campus, typical challenges that new students face and the resources available to address those challenges.

You should have received a hard copy in the mail, but the handbook can also be viewed online at www.parents.villanova.edu under the heading “publications.” We encourage you to read it and continue to use it as a resource throughout your son’s or daughter’s time here.

Fresh@News
Villanova offers a free email newsletter for the parents and friends of the freshman class called Fresh@News.

AlcoholEdu for College
All incoming students must complete both the AlcoholEdu® for College and Haven online courses. These online programs are designed to prevent alcohol related consequences, and promote healthy and safe decision-making among college students. You will receive instructions in your Villanova email inbox on July 21 and are required to complete both courses by August 18. For more information, e-mail healthbytes@villanova.edu.

“Villanova is such an extraordinary school. The students and faculty are truly committed to learning, to each other, and to the world, and this enthusiasm extends far beyond the campus. Our family is delighted to be a part of the Villanova community.”
—Elizabeth, Class of 2015 Mom

One Book Villanova
is celebrating its 10th anniversary of bringing the community together through a common reading program. For the 2014-2015 academic year, we have selected The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore. You should read the book before arriving at Villanova, and reflect on the questions listed at the end of the book. This will help you prepare to discuss the book in an academic setting with a faculty member during New Student Orientation.
ACADEMIC LIFE AT VILLANOVA

INTERVIEW WITH CRAIG M. WHEELAND, PhD
Professor of Political Science and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

VU101: I think a lot of our new freshman students are both excited and a bit nervous about their first college classes. What would you say are some of the big differences between a college class and some of the classes they might have had in high school?

Dr. Wheeland: I can think of several important differences. College professors enjoy the discretion to design their courses. On the first day of class or by email you will receive a syllabus from each professor explaining course expectations, assignments and textbooks to buy for the course. College professors typically use fewer quizzes and exams than high school teachers. A midterm and final exam are typical here at Villanova. College professors expect a lot of writing as well especially in your Liberal Arts courses (all Villanova students take courses in the Liberal Arts, such as two Augustine and Culture Seminars).

The amount of time spent in class per week is less than in high school. Students typically enroll in five courses each semester that meet for a total of about 13 hours per week plus additional time for labs. Most of our courses meet either three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) or twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday). The classes that meet three times a week last 50 minutes, and the classes meeting twice per week last for 75 minutes each. Although you will not be in class as much as you experienced in high school, your professors will expect you to spend several hours preparing for each class. Expect to be busy reading assignments and doing projects. Finally, the focus on academic integrity varies from high school to high school. At Villanova we have an academic integrity code, and we expect students to follow the code. There are significant consequences for violating the code. I encourage you to visit our academic integrity gateway web site to learn more about our code and the resources we offer students to help them avoid violations. The gateway link is: https://library.villanova.edu/help/academicintegrity/.

VU101: How would you contrast Villanova’s faculty members with the teachers students had in high school?

Dr. Wheeland: Villanova professors share high school teachers a love of learning and an enthusiasm for working with young people. The main difference is that high school teachers rarely are expected to research and contribute to the subject matter they teach. Villanova faculty members are both scholars and teachers. The large majority of our faculty members have earned a PhD or other terminal degree. In addition to their teaching obligations, our faculty members are expected to do research and publish their work in order to contribute knowledge to their area of specialization. Think of our faculty as lifelong learners who teach courses that align with their research interests. The excitement faculty members have for their research will be evident in the discussions and lectures they offer in your classes. Our scientists and engineers are doing cutting-edge research. Our humanities professors are reading and analyzing texts in original languages. Other professors have practical experience in communication, political science, finance, marketing, nursing, engineering, public administration and other specialized subjects. Often quite a few of our new students will end up doing research with faculty members. (When you come to campus, walk through Mendel Hall sometime and you’ll see posters describing joint student-faculty research projects.)

VU101: That sounds a bit scary. Are Villanova faculty members interested in teaching as much as they are in their research?

Dr. Wheeland: Absolutely yes! We’ve all heard stories about some schools where the faculty members are so busy with their research that they aren’t very interested in teaching freshmen or undergraduates. Indeed some universities rely on graduate students to teach freshman courses. Villanova is different. Villanova puts a lot of emphasis on teaching, and our faculty members are rewarded for teaching well. Indeed, you’ll have the chance to take classes with faculty who are leading scholars in their fields. You will have direct access to them and not have to go through a graduate assistant as you would have to do at some universities. Our professors will meet with you to discuss your questions. They will evaluate your work. In some cases you may end up working with them on a project. I’m confident you will enjoy the experience.

VU101: What if the student doesn’t understand what the professor is talking about?

Dr. Wheeland: All of our professors have what we call “office hours,” which are listed in the syllabus. This is a time when the professor is in the office, available to talk to students. Students can also talk to the professor after class and ask for an appointment if the office hours are inconvenient. You can email your professors as well. Sometimes it takes a little courage to take that first step, but it is a worthwhile thing to do. Students should really make an effort to get to know their professors.

VU101: Do you have some pointers for our new students?

Dr. Wheeland: I encourage all students to take advantage of the numerous special events the academic departments and programs present on campus. We have lectures, films, roundtable discussions, symposia and other academic-type events that offer students a vibrant intellectual life on campus. A few of these events are included as requirements in some courses, but most are not, so you are free to choose to attend. You’ll learn so much during your time at Villanova if you take advantage of these opportunities. I also suggest that you choose courses and instructors based on how much you’ll learn rather than on how easy the course is to earn a good grade. The subject may be new and challenging, but also could add real value to your education. I encourage you to take the challenging course, work hard, worry less about the grade and focus on the knowledge you’ll gain. Finally, allow yourself time to explore ideas and career paths rather than feeling pressure to decide about your career in your very first semester. Some students know they want to be a nurse, engineer, biologist, accountant, psychologist, or middle-school teacher as soon as they arrive on campus. Many of our students are undecided or change their mind. Villanova provides you with the chance to pursue your interests and find your passion for work and service.

Great Places to Study on Campus
• Residence Hall Study Lounges
• Falvey Memorial Library’s Study Lounges (including the 24 hour study lounge)
• Connelly Center
• CEER patio
• Empty classrooms
• Bartley Exchange
• Holy Grounds

WWW.ORIENTATION.VILLANOVA.EDU
Learning Communities for first-year students create an innovative educational environment that integrates the academic, co-curricular and communal aspects of the first year of college. About one-third of the first year class is in a learning community, which includes living in a designated residence hall and taking the freshman humanities seminar class (required of all freshmen) with their hallmates. The communities are based on a particular theme, which is explored in the Humanities seminar and/or a one-credit workshop-style class taught in the hall.

**Learning Communities 2014–2015:**
- Leadership*
- Healthy Living
- Environmental Leadership
- Global Community
- Art and Culture
- Faith and Reason
- Creativity on the Page
- Caritas: Service Learning
- Truth and Purpose

*available for commuters

Space is limited so make sure to apply when completing your housing contract! For more information or to apply, go to www.villanova.edu/studentlife/learningcommunities.

“Joining the Leadership Learning Community was one of the best decisions I made before I came to Villanova. Being in a tight-knit community focused on living and learning together made all the difference my freshman year.”

—Sara, Class of 2015

**ACTIVITIES FORUM**

Wednesday, August 27 from 6–9 p.m. in the Pavilion

You will have the opportunity to gather information and talk to student leaders about their organizations. Stop by the Office of Student Development (214 Dougherty Hall) anytime to learn how to get involved and make the most of your college experience.
Health Services
The Student Health Center is open 24 hours a day when classes are in session and offers physician, nursing and ancillary services to all students. For more information about the health center, go to www.villanova.edu/studentlife/healthcenter or call (610) 519-4070.

In addition to the Student Health Center, Villanova provides a student health insurance plan for all undergraduate students. All undergraduate students are automatically enrolled in and charged for the plan, unless the student takes the necessary steps to establish that other health insurance exists. Information is sent home over the summer to guide you through the enrollment or the waiver process.

If you waive the University plan/coverage because you are maintaining health insurance coverage through your parents’ plan, you should call your health insurance company to understand the kinds of services included, and what you need to do to get out-of-area services covered. Make sure you have a copy of your health insurance card before coming to campus, and understand how to get a referral and use the prescription plan if applicable.

The Counseling Center and Office of Health Promotion are also helpful resources that work to promote the health and safety of all new students. These offices are highlighted during Orientation and continue to be a resource to students in various ways throughout the year.

Get Involved On Campus
Student organizations provide Villanovans with the opportunity to take on new challenges and develop valuable leadership skills. Being involved at Villanova also helps you to meet new friends since you will be working with peers who share similar interests. We encourage you to challenge yourself by getting involved and becoming an integral part of Villanova through leadership and service. Your academics are your primary concern while at Villanova, but make sure that you leave with a well-rounded education that includes involvement in the co-curricular aspects of college life.

We have many clubs and organizations within each of the following categories:
• Academic and Professional Organizations
• Athletic Organizations
• Cultural Organizations
• Honor Societies
• Media Organizations
• Music and Dance
• Peace and Justice Organizations
• Political Organizations
• Service Organizations
• Special Interest Organizations
• University Service Organizations

Please visit our website at www.villanova.edu/studentlife for a complete listing of student involvement opportunities.

“Getting involved is without a doubt the best thing I did with my time here at Villanova. Not only did I meet a lot of great people, but it shrunk the campus down to a size where I saw friendly faces around every corner starting from day one. That’s what makes Villanova home for me, the people I’ve met through the activities I’ve joined.”

—Willy, Class of 2015
Approximately one mile to the Villanova University Conference Center
ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2014–2015

FALL SEMESTER

August 25  • Classes Begin
August 29  • Last day for requesting Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
• Last day for dropping and/or adding classes
September 1 • Labor Day—No Classes
September 19-21 • Parents Weekend
October 10  • Mid-Term
October 13-19 • Semester Recess
October 20  • Classes Resume
October 22  • Grades Due (Noon)
October 24  • Advising Begins
November 12 • Last Day for Authorized Withdrawal without Academic Penalty (WX)
November 25 • Thanksgiving Recess begins after last class
December 1  • Classes Resume
December 11 • Final Day of Classes
December 12 • Reading Day
December 13-19 • Final Examinations (No exams on Sunday Dec. 14)

SPRING SEMESTER

January 12  • Classes Begin
January 16  • Last day for requesting Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
January 18 • Last day for dropping and/or adding
January 19 • Martin Luther King Day—No classes
February 27 • Mid-Term
March 2-8  • Semester Recess
March 9   • Classes Resume
March 11  • Grades Due (Noon)
March 13  • Advising Begins
April 1   • Last Day for Authorized Withdrawal without Academic Penalty (WX)
• Easter Recess begins after last class
April 7   • Classes Resume
April 30  • Final Day of Classes
May 1    • Reading Day
May 2-8  • Final Examinations (No exams on Sunday May 3)
## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:
(610) 519-

### Academics:
- College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: 4600
- School of Business: 4330
- College of Engineering: 4940
- College of Nursing: 4900
- Registrar’s Office: 4032

### Financial:
- Bursar’s Office: 4258
- Financial Assistance: 4010

### Campus Resources:
- Campus Ministry: 4080
- Counseling Center: 4050
- Dean of Students: 4200
- Dining Services: 4170
- Health Center: 4070
- International Student Adviser: 4095
- Multicultural Affairs: 4075
- Music Activities: 5050
- New Student Orientation: 4200
- Public Safety: 6979
- Residence Life: 4154
- Student Development: 4210
- Student Life: 4550
- Telecommunications: 7820
- UNIT (University Computing Services): 4400
- User Support: 7777
- Wildcard Office: 6202

---

**LOOK FOR OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER IN EARLY AUGUST!**

**IT WILL INCLUDE MORE DETAILS ABOUT...**

- Orientation Schedule of Events
- Your Orientation Group Info
- Your Assigned Move-In Time
- Opening Day Activities

**HAVE A QUESTION?**
Contact New Student Orientation:
(610) 519-4200
orientation@villanova.edu
www.orientation.villanova.edu
@NovaOrientation

**REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR VILLANOVA EMAIL FOR IMPORTANT UPDATES!**