

# ORIENTATION

616-331-2913

[www.gvsu.edu/transitions](http://www.gvsu.edu/transitions)

A comprehensive student orientation to Grand Valley is accomplished through a process consisting of several specialized programs.

## Step 1 Class Registration (Summer Orientation)

The process begins with the one-day class registration which enables students to complete testing, academic registration, and provides introductory information about Grand Valley. Students will meet with an academic advisor at this session who will tell them about Grand Valley's general education requirements, the requirements for their major, and review any advanced placement credits they may have earned. Faculty and staff will help students select courses for the upcoming fall and winter semesters and then assist them with registering for their classes via the web.

## Step 2 Transitions 2008 (Fall Orientation)

The second step of orientation is just prior to the start of the fall semester which focuses on making the transition to college life. As a complement to the Class Registration held in the spring/summer, Transitions 2008 continues to prepare new students in making the transition to university life at Grand Valley. This program will provide knowledge of campus, create a sense of community and enhance individual readiness. All new students, including residential, commuter, and transfer students should attend Transitions 2008. Students will register for this program on the web following their registration for classes during their spring/summer Class Registration.

This program features small groups of students led by an orientation leader. This peer-to-peer model utilizes student orientation leaders of diverse ethnic, racial and academic backgrounds. The leaders have had a variety of living situations and student organization involvement. A number of large common experiences, including the Fall Convocation, are held for the entire new student body. These experiences are followed up by a set of peer-to-peer

educational modules that are facilitated by the orientation leaders within their small groups. These modules include the following topics: Grand Valley Values, Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, Diversity, Downtown Campus, and Civic Engagement.

Additional special topic sessions are available for individual students to learn about various university issues and services. Transitions coincides with resident student move-in, enabling students to build a sense of community prior to the start of classes. Commuter students have the opportunity to meet new friends as well. This program provides new students with a foundation to begin their university careers.

Specific information about the schedule is available on the university web site at [www.gvsu.edu/transitions](http://www.gvsu.edu/transitions) with updated schedules and details. Transfer students may choose to attend a specialized program designed specifically for them on August 21.



**All students new to GVSU are expected to attend Transitions 2008. This orientation experience begins the evening of Thursday, August 21 and continues through Sunday, August 23.**