



# The University Service Center's First Gen Connect Newsletter

Welcome to BU!

July 2015

## First-Year Survival Tips

Coming to a new college can be a big transition for all first-year students, including first generation college students. As you're anticipating this new life chapter, there are ways you can prepare before even stepping foot in a classroom or a dorm.

- 1. Grow your technical skills:** from being able to type quickly and accurately to knowing how to navigate online research, spend time sharpening your technical aptitude before you get to campus. Explore [e-tools](#) used at BU, scrolling to "Collaborate . . .".
- 2. Polish your people skills:** from group projects to communicating with professors and employers, an ability to convey ideas clearly and work collaboratively will serve you well. Find out more about professional and career skills at the [Center for Career Development \(CCD\)](#).
- 3. Research ways to get involved:** volunteer through BU's [First Year Student Outreach Project \(FYSOP\)](#) or take the 1-credit course that explores students' [First Year Experience](#). Having a plan of action before arriving will help you select meaningful [activities](#) and help make sure you don't miss any important sign-up dates or meetings once school starts.
- 4. Know how to stay safe on campus:** practice common sense, be aware of your surroundings, and learn how your college handles safety issues. Read up on [campus safety tips](#).
- 5. Embrace time-management tools:** balancing the academic and social demands of college can be a challenge for even the most diligent students. There are plenty of digital tools designed for students; a little organization can go a long way in making sure you use time wisely. Once you're at BU, the [Educational Resource Center \(ERC\)](#) is your go-to for getting yourself in order.
- 6. Make the most out of orientation activities:** ask plenty of questions and be as outgoing as possible. Realize everyone's trying to make friends and adjust to a new school. Connect online with the [Class of 2019](#) but work just as hard to make strong connections in person.
- 7. Weigh getting a job in your first year:** a part-time job can alleviate budget strains, but also take time away from classes. Get a glimpse of some BU [job listings](#) through Student Employment.
- 8. Know where to go for academic help:** if you're having difficulty in class, or just want to speak with a professor one-on-one, visit your professor or academic advisor during their open office hours or take advantage of the ERC's [peer tutoring services](#).



## Spotlight

Check out our summer spotlight-  
[Gabriel Montresor \(CAS '17\)](#)

## Summer Orientation First Gen Connect

Join us as we celebrate you, BU's newest first generation college students! It was great to meet those of you who stopped by in June and we look forward to seeing the rest of you in July! Welcome visits are [most](#) Wednesdays (5:15-6:15pm) and Fridays (1:30-2:30pm).

## Important Dates

**August 29-30**  
New Student Move-In

**August 30**  
New Student Matriculation

**September 2**  
First Day of Fall Classes

**September 10**  
First Gen Connect Welcome Social



Like our [Facebook page](#) to stay up-to-date on First Gen Connect news, information, and events.

Have a question or problem? Contact us!  
**University Service Center**  
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Visit our [website](#) for events and workshops happening this academic year!