



We hope you are happy, healthy, and finding small ways to enjoy the last weeks of summer! Here at the Senior School, we are anxiously awaiting your arrival.

The [Reopening Plan](#) that was emailed out on July 31 addressed the fact that we will have a new daily schedule in the Senior School. That portion of the Reopening Plan from page 14 is reprinted below:

ACADEMIC DAY AND SCHEDULE

The Senior School will have a new academic schedule this year to minimize the number of classes and interactions students have per day and allow for smoother and more sustainable toggling to distance learning. The academic day will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. except on Wednesdays, which will run from 9:35 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. with time in the morning and afternoon for faculty meetings and professional development.

Each 12-week term will be divided into two six-week sessions, one Blue and one Gold. Each year-long and term classes will meet in either the Blue or Gold session but not both. Classes will meet every day on a Monday-through-Friday rotating schedule. Each day includes four 70-minute class periods (50 minutes on Wednesdays), and most students will take 2-3 classes per session. Students and parents will receive more details on the new academic schedule in August.

An email from Claire Logsdon was sent Aug. 7 with an attachment containing the list of the courses for the 2020-21 school year. You will also see information about which courses will be held in the Blue session and which courses will be held in the Gold session. In Term 1, the Blue session classes will meet from Sept. 1 through Oct. 8 and the Gold session classes will meet from Oct. 13 through Nov. 19.

Form III and new students will receive their full schedule with teacher, classroom and time block information at orientation on Aug. 30 and returning students will receive theirs on the first day of school, Sept. 1.

Please bear in mind that much care is put into each student's requests and every effort is made to accommodate them; however, it is unfortunately not always possible for every request to successfully fit into a schedule. If you would like to discuss your student's courses with someone in the Academic Office or would like to look at adding a course that was not requested in lieu of a course that did not fit, please contact the Academic Office after Monday, August 10. As we are trying to empower our students to take ownership over their experience at Shady Side, we hope they will reach out to us directly with concerns; we know this isn't always possible given summer schedules and travel, and we will happily work with parents when necessary.

Please note that textbooks **will not be available** for purchase at school. Some limited school supplies will be available for purchase at the SSA Café in the Glimcher Tech and Design Hub. Books can be purchased online at the SSA Bookstore (<https://bnck-12.com/shadysideacademy>) now. All orders over \$99 placed through August 21 ship free (excluding marketplace orders). Returning SSA families should use their account from the previous year and new SSA families will need to create an account. Students need to have the course list(s) and course IDs to order books through the online bookstore. **Students are expected to have all of their year-long and Term I books on the first day of school (Term II & III books can be ordered later in the year).** Please contact store@shadysideacademy.org with questions.

Finally, Sarah Casey joined the Academic Office in June as the new Registrar. Sarah is new to the office but not new to Shady Side Academy. She previously served as Business Office Manager and ran the SSA Spirit Store and Tuck Shop. We're excited to have her on our team, and she is eager to work with students if they have any questions about their schedule!

If you have questions about your schedule, please reach out to Sarah Casey or Claire Logsdon at the email addresses below. We hope your summer continues to go well, and we look forward to a great start to the 2020-21 school year!

All our best,

Claire Logsdon, Dean of Studies, clogsdon@shadysideacademy.org

Sarah Casey, Registrar, scasey@shadysideacademy.org