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First Year Newsletter

February 10, 2023



Jennifer Guinn Sellers, Ph.D.
Dean of the First Year Experience

Dear Class of 2026.5!

Welcome to Middlebury and the beginning of your college career. I am wishing you the very best as you dive into the fall semester. As a reminder, my name is Jennifer Guinn Sellers (please call me Jen!), I use she/her pronouns, and it is my pleasure to be the Dean of the First Year Experience. I must share that these first few weeks on campus are my favorite time of the Middlebury year. I love meeting all of you and hearing about what you are excited to learn. I also like to hear about the challenges you might be facing. Although these challenges often lead us to feel less than ideal in the moment, they are always an opportunity to grow in new and exciting ways. And if you just need a listening ear or want to say “hi”, I am here for that too! Put simply, I am a source of support and guidance as you navigate your first semester.

In our orientation session together, we discussed Middlebury’s

Community Standards and the relationship between shared values and our individual behaviors. In each of the coming weeks, I will be sending out tips for how you can practice the behaviors that define our shared values as you settle into your first semester. I will also be sharing information about other offices on campus that can support your value driven growth. The bonus is that by trying out these recommendations and connecting with these resources, you will also be contributing to your own success. After all, thriving communities are composed of thriving individuals living together with purpose!

For now, give yourself permission to take things in knowing that it takes everyone a while to learn about and settle into a new place. I wish you all the best as you actively engage in the orientation activities this week. And don't forget, you are always welcome to schedule an appointment with me by emailing or self-scheduling via my contact information below.

Warmly,
Jen



Community Standards

Important Dates

- Coverage begins for those enrolled in the College's Student Health Insurance Plan through Gallagher.
 - Be sure to download your new insurance card now!
- 2/12 Convocation
- 2/13 First Day of Classes
- 2/17-18 Winter Carnival
- 2/24 Last Day to Drop a Course Online
- 2/24-4/17 Students May Drop a Course with Permission



Registration Information and Instructions

Jennifer Guinn Sellers, Ph.D.

Dean of the First Year Experience

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[Self-schedule an appointment here!](#)

Contact me.

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