(There are two examinations given in August. All new graduate students must take the comprehensive exam. You may choose to attempt the qualifying examination — email phyadmin@syr.edu if you would like to take it. Second year students take the qualifying examination. Both examinations have two parts: one on Saturday, one on Sunday.)

**Saturday, August 17 & Sunday, August 18**
202/204 Physics Building
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Qualifying Exam (Paul Souder, Liviu Movileanu, Jen Schwarz)

**Saturday, August 17 & Sunday, August 18: ALL INCOMING STUDENTS, 202/204 Physics Building**
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Comprehensive Exam (Joey Paulsen)
Part I – Saturday; Part II – Sunday

**Monday, August 19**
*All new grad students are encouraged to attend the welcome breakfast and GSO presentation*
*All new TAs are required to attend the teaching panels & practical TA intros*

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Annual Pancake Breakfast
202-204 Physics Building
All graduate students, faculty, and staff are invited. Please come and meet our new graduate students in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Plenty of good food too! [Breakfast served 8:30am-9:30am] (Sam Sampere)

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. **Graduate School Professional and Career Development**
Simona Rosu
202 PB

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. All Graduate Students
202 Physics Building
Graduate Student Organization meeting and elections.
Patrick Miles

10:30 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. **Panel Discussion with Physics faculty on Teaching**
Joey Paulsen, Jack Laiho, Marina Artuso
202 PB

11:15 a.m. – 12 noon **Panel Discussion with Teaching Assistants**
Features of Good TA Work
Abhilash Yallappa-Dombara, Andrew Ballard, Kenny Ratliff, Ohana Rodrigues
202 PB

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch for graduate students
204 PB

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Practical Introduction to Leading Recitations and Labs
(please choose a session according to your TA assignment)

PHY211 – led by Merrill Asp (rm 202)
PHY212 – led by Ali Imran (rm 204)
PHY101 – led by Hangyi Wu (rm 110)
PHY221/222 – led by Maxx Swoger (rm B113)
AST101 – led by Scott Bassler (Holden Observatory classroom)
**Tuesday, August 20**

*All new grad students are encouraged to attend the library and professional development events and research overviews*

10:00 -10:45 a.m. **Introduction to Library Resources**
Syracuse University Librarian, Emily Hart

11:00 – 11:45 a.m. **Remarks by Academic Coordinator: Clinic, Registration, etc.**

Yudaisy Salomon Sargenton
- Clinic + TA/teaching rules and absence policy***
- Academic planning and registration info
- Adventure Course info
- Desk/Office/mailbox assignments!

12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch for new graduate students**

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Research Overviews by Physics Faculty (Poster Session)**
*point person*

- Gravitational Wave Astronomy – Ballmer, Brown, Saulson*
- High Energy Experiment – Artuso, Blusk*, Rudolph, Skwarnicki, Stone
- Theoretical Cosmology & Elementary Particle Physics – Catterall, Hubisz, Laiho, Watson*
- Biological Physics – Movileanu*
- Soft Matter Physics – Manning*, Middleton, Paulsen, Schwarz
- Condensed Matter Experiment – Plourde*, Schiff
- Neutrinos – Soderberg, Whittington
- Experimental Astrophysics – Vidali
- Medium Energy Physics – Souder

**2:30 pm – 3:30pm** informal tours of labs organized by research groups
**Wednesday, August 21 – Encouraged for ALL new graduate students**
*All new graduate students are required to attend the Chemical Hygiene Training*

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Initial Lab Safety Training  
**Required** – for all new graduate students, staff, faculty, adjuncts and others who have not yet participated in this training.

**Enjoy the rest of your day!**

**Thursday, August 22**

*Academic Advising is required for all new Graduate Students*

*All new graduate students are encouraged to attend the Adventure course event*

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  Adventure Course + Team Building  
600 Skytop Road, South Campus
Yudaisy Salomon Sargenton,  Heather Ketcham, graduate students?

12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  Lunch at ropes course

3:30 p.m.  Academic Advising  
202 PB
Required -- for all **new graduate students**, whether you have previously received academic advising or not. An overview of our academic program will be provided & the results of your comprehensive exam will be distributed.
Presented by the Director of Graduate Studies, Prof. Mitchell Soderberg.

**All new graduate students are encouraged to arrange their own advising meetings with their personal academic advisors on this Thursday morning after the presentation by Prof. Soderberg, or on Friday before registering for classes.**