Yale DIVINITY SCHOOL



Before the Fall Orientation

Thursday, August 22 – Tuesday, August 27, 2019



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HOW TO GET AROUND

Student IDs

The YDS Registrar will distribute your student identification cards on Tuesday, August 28. Until then, if for some reason your ID is requested (e.g. at Payne Whitney Gymnasium), you may give the person your NetID (three letters and two numbers), and they will confirm your beautiful face.

Exterior Doors at YDS

During BTFO on weekdays, all exterior doors on Sterling Divinity Quadrangle will be open from 7:30 AM until 6:00 PM. Outside of these hours, including weekends, an ID is required. Ask a BTFO leader or wait to sneak in behind someone! Divinity School apartments can only be accessed by residents.

Transportation

Yale offers a number of ways to get around campus and parts of New Haven for free or for very little, including a free shuttle, a free, escorted, nighttime safe ride (door-to-door), and an official bikeshare. For more information on transportation at Yale and in New Haven, greater Connecticut, and the Tri-State Area (New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut), visit https://to.yale.edu/. Pro tip: if you want to get picked up at the main side entrance to YDS, tell whomever (or enter it into your app) "Lot 11". This is particularly useful if you don't want to go on a wild goose chase for your DoorDash driver delivering your late-night munchies.

Parking

Parking on the YDS campus is open to all during BTFO. However, during the academic year, it is reserved for faculty, staff, and residents of the Divinity School apartments. Others may find non-resident zoned on-street parking on Canner and Saint Ronan Streets. Fold your side-view mirrors or risk it getting side-swiped!

Naming Conventions for Classrooms at YDS

Finding classrooms can be pretty confusing, even for the third year MDiv. All classrooms have numbers, and some also have names. It's best to pay attention to both, as people call them by one or the other. Generally, classrooms that begin with an 'N' are on the north side (i.e. parking lot side), and those that begin with an 'S' are on the south side (i.e. "downtown" side). '100' rooms are on the first floor and '200' rooms are on the second floor. If there are only two digits, those are in the rear buildings behind Marquand Chapel. Beware! You cannot walk directly between Marquand Chapel and the S200s. You must go down before you go up. Happy hunting!

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SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 20

3:00-5:00 PM

Grad Info Fair

McDougal Graduate Student Center (60 Sachem Street)

Not a formal part of BTFO, the Grad Info Fair is sponsored by the McDougal Graduate Student Center and is a opportunity to browse tables of university services departments, city merchants, banks, arts & cultural groups . . . and to get free samples, prizes, and snacks! It's also a chance to connect with other incoming graduate & professional school students!

Wednesday, August 21

3:00-4:30 PM

Orientation: Office of International Students & Scholars

421 Temple Street

The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) will be holding a mandatory orientation and immigration check-in for all international students. This session will not only cover important immigration information, but also provide you with information on getting settled into New Haven. Please bring your passport, I-20 or DS-2019, and visa stamp.

3:00-4:15 PM

Orientation: Andover Newton Seminary's Educational Program

Latourette (S223)

Andover Newton's mission statement reads as follows: "Deeply rooted in Christian faith, and radically open to what God is doing now, Andover Newton educates inspiring leaders for faith communities." This information session will help those who intend to enroll in Andover Newton Seminary's diploma program to understand the purpose of that program and the process through which students blend it with the Master of Divinity degree program. The session will also be a great way for one who is simply curious about the program to learn more about it and about Andover Newton.

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4:00-8:00 PM

Orientation: Berkeley Divinity School

Berkeley Center (363 Saint Ronan Street)

Berkeley Divinity School at Yale will host an orientation for all incoming Berkeley students at the Berkeley Center, a short block away from the YDS campus. At 4:00 PM there will be an orientation introducing incoming students to the Berkeley staff, student leaders, the worship schedule, academic curriculum as well as the ELM and Annand programs. There will be time for questions and conversation with returning students. At 6:00 PM, a community Eucharist will take place in St. Luke's Chapel. Immediately following, a community dinner will be hosted, to which returning students and incoming students are welcome.

4:30-5:30 PM

Reception: Andover Newton Students and Affiliated Faculty

Old Common Room Patio

Rain venue: Old Common Room

Andover Newton students, new and returning, will have the chance at this gathering to meet or reconnect with one another over light refreshments, while also learning more in an informal setting about Andover Newton.

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Thursday, August 22

8:00-8:30 AM Registration & Breakfast

Old Common Room, Old Refectory, & Rear Quads

Check in and get ready to start orientation! If you have any questions or need help when you arrive, look for the folks in the BTFO Staff t-shirts!

8:30-8:55 AM Welcome to Yale Divinity School

Old Refectory

Gather in the Old Refectory for welcome and introductions from:

- ★ Gregory Sterling, Dean of Yale Divinity School
- ★ Hopie Randall '11 MDiv, Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
- ★ Jennifer Herdt, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
- ★ Cathy George, Associate Dean and Director of Formation, Berkeley Divinity School
- ★ Sarah Drummond '93 BA, Founding Dean, Andover Newton Seminary
- ★ Martin Jean, Director of the Institute of Sacred Music
- ★ Emilie Casey '16 MDiv, '17 STM, Liturgical Minister for Marquand Chapel
- ★ Jessica Church '21 MDiv, President, YDS Student Government
- ★ Jeanne Peloso, Associate Dean of Student Affairs
- ★ Geronimo Desumala '21 MDiv, BTFO Coordinator

9:00-9:15 AM Introduction of the BTFO Staff

Old Refectory

9:15-10:15 AM A (Brief) History of YDS

Old Refectory

Take a virtual tour of the rich history of Yale Divinity School, shared by Sean McAvoy '12 MAR, former Staff Writer, Office of Development.

10:15-11:15 AM Small Group Break Out

YDS Campus

Spend some time getting to know members of your small group, and afterwards, explore the campus of YDS on a mini-tour led by your Small Group Leader!

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11:30 AM-12:00 PM

Chapel: Sung Worship

Marquand Chapel

Chapel is an important aspect of the YDS experience—all are welcome! Marquand Chapel worships every day that classes are in session at 11:30 AM. For a complete calendar of upcoming events, visit marquandchapel.yale.edu/calendar.

Jesus Opened their Minds (Lk 24:45)

Welcome from Nat Gumbs, Director of Chapel Music Homily by Emilie Casey, Interim Director of Marquand Chapel

12:00-1:30 PM Alumni Affairs Lunch

The Quad

Rain venue: Old Refectory

New Haven is known for its pizza! Join Alumni Relations (the sponsor of today's lunch!) and local alumni, for a wonderful sampling of the city's signature dish catered by Da Legna.

Black Church Studies Certificate Program will gather with Bill Mathis

In case of rain Second Floor Common Room

Catholic Lay Ministry Certificate Program will gather with Fr. Ryan Lerner

In case of rain Second Floor Refectory

Lutheran Studies Certificate Program will gather with Tim Keyl

In case of rain Jonathan Edwards Room (N126)

Methodist Studies Certificate Program will gather with Vicki Flippin

In case of rain Niebuhr Hall (N123)

Reformed Studies Certificate Program will gather with Maria La Sala

In case of rain James Pennington Room (S100)

STM Students will gather with Dean Jennifer Herdt

In case of rain Latourette Room (S223)

1:45-3:15 PM

Building a Community that Flourishes: Locating Ourselves

Old Refectory

The first of three, this session will be led by Jessica Church '21 MDiv and Geronimo Desumala '21 MDiv. As we start to build community among the 2019 YDS incoming class, it is important that we get to know others and ourselves. We'll begin by charting our personal journeys and then sharing our stories visually and verbally in small groups.

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3:15-3:45 PM

Introduction: Yale University Chaplain's Office

Old Refectory

Join us for an ice cream break with the Yale University Chaplains.

- ★ Sharon Kugler, University Chaplain
- ★ Ian Oliver, Senior Associate Chaplain for Protestant Life & Pastor of the University Church in Yale
- ★ Omer Bajwa, Director of Muslim Life
- ★ Ahsa Shipman, Director of Hindu Life
- ★ Maytal Saltiel, Associate University Chaplain
- ★ Jenny Peek '17 MDiv, Associate University Chaplain
- ★ Sumi Loundon Kim, Coordinator of Buddhist Life

4:00-6:00 PM

Get it Done!

Use this time as a self-guided, self-paced, self-directed introduction to key resources at Yale Divinity School. This is a choose-your-own adventure, but all of the following resources are ready and waiting for you.

Attend Portfolio Boot Camp: 4:00 – 5:00 PM in Niebuhr Hall (N123)

All incoming students are required to attend one session with a laptop. This is the first of three offered; two more are offered on Tuesday.

This session, led by Bill Goettler, Associate Dean for Ministerial and Social Leadership, will offer a brief introduction to the e-portfolio that every YDS student maintains. Bring your laptop and get started on the portfolio that will help you work with mentors during your time of study and beyond.

Buy your bookstore membership

YDS Bookstore

Stop by and meet Andrew Sowers '15 MAR in the bookstore and buy your membership (SBS), which gives you a discount!

6:00-7:00 PM

Community Dinner

The Quad

Rain venue: Old Refectory

All are welcome (incoming students, faculty, staff, spouses, partners, and families of all kinds) at this auspicious restart of a long-standing tradition at BTFO. Join us on the Sterling Divinity Quadrangle (a.k.a. The Quad) for a most festive event. Sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs.

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Friday, August 23

8:00 AM Berkeley Morning Eucharist

Berkeley Center (363 Saint Ronan Street)

All are welcome to attend this Berkeley Divinity School event! Every morning during BTFO, the Berkeley Center will be offering an opportunity to participate in Morning Prayer and Eucharist with the Berkeley Community. Everyone is welcome to take part.

8:30-9:30 AM Breakfast with the Dean

Old Refectory

Come join us for breakfast with Gregory Sterling, Dean of Yale Divinity School.

9:30-10:15 AM Campus Safety Talk with YPD

Old Refectory

Established in 1894, the Yale Police Department is the oldest campus police department in the United States. Assistant Chief Anthony Campbell '09 MDiv will be offering a presentation on the Yale Police Department and how we can all work to create and foster an environment of safety and wellbeing.

10:30-11:15 AM Small Group Breakout Session

11:30 AM-12:15 PM Chapel: Service of Word and Table (Eucharist)

Marquand Chapel

The Quad

Preaching: Chloë Starr, Associate Professor of Asian Christianity and Theology Presiding: Rev. William Mathis, Director of Black Church Studies

12:15-1:30 PM

Lunch hosted by Andover Newton Seminary & YDS Student Organization Fair

Rain venue: Old Refectory

Come and enjoy vegetarian and vegan cuisine from the local justice-oriented grocery store, The Edge of the Woods. Receive a warm welcome to YDS from leaders from Andover Newton Seminary and, if interested, have a chance to learn more about its programs. In addition, representatives from YDS/Yale University student organizations and cultural groups will also at tables for you to browse.

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1:30-3:00 PM

Building a Community that Flourishes: Negotiating Boundaries

Old Refectory

This second session will be led by Lisa Huck '88 MDiv, our Divinity School Title IX Coordinator, and Stephanie Spangler, Deputy Provost for Health Affairs & Academic Integrity, is the University Title IX Coordinator. While closeness is important, healthy communities also implement and embrace boundaries that create space for safe and healthy relationships. When we respect boundaries, we improve chances that all parties will flourish.

3:00-5:00 PM

Field Day on the Quad

The Quad

Incoming students, including students with families, are invited to join us for snacks and games outside. During the field day, there will be an event for families new to YDS, hosted by current students with their families and children. Bring your kids and let them have a playdate with their new friends while you meet fellow parents and learn the ins and outs of family life at Yale.

4:00-5:00 PM

Partner/Spouses Meet and Greet

Miller Hall (406 Prospect Street)

If you are coming to YDS with a spouse or partner, please bring them along and join us for cookies and lemonade, hosted by the Institute of Sacred Music at Miller Hall. This is an opportunity to meet current students and their spouses/partners and learn more about the YDS community.

5:00-7:00 PM

Friends and Family Dinner hosted by the Institute of Sacred Music Miller Hall (406 Prospect Street)

Rain venue: Old Refectory

Hop across Prospect Street for a casual outdoor feast and festivities hosted by the Institute of Sacred Music! Food will be sourced by La Cuisine, a Branford-based café committed to local and sustainably sourced ingredients. All are welcome for an evening under the trees—bring friends, families, and any questions about interdisciplinary study or participation in the arts at Yale. Make yourselves at home exploring our Common Room, spacious study areas, and our most recent art exhibition, *Defiant Spirits: Fernando Brito's Sinaloa*.

7:30 PM

Walk Down to Gryphon

Meet at the front of The Quad, on Prospect Street

Join some Small Group Leaders as they walk down to Gryphon, the home of Gryphon's Pub and the Graduate and Professional Student Center at Yale. Note: The bar is cash only, but there is an ATM on site.

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Saturday, August 24

In addition to the events below, there will also be opportunities for optional weekend programming, and we will announce the various activities throughout Thursday and Friday of BTFO. If you have any questions about these activities, please ask your Small Group Leaders for more information.

All Day Institute of Sacred Music Orientation Miller Hall (406 Prospect Street)

Please check with the ISM for more details.

1:30 PM Tours of Yale University Yale Visitor Center (149 Elm Street)

For more information, visit https://visitorcenter.yale.edu/tours.

7:00-9:00 PM S'mores at the Fire Pit DivFarm

Join us at the Divinity Farm fire pit for fellowship, fun, and s'mores (the all-time favorite, fireside American tradition of roasting marshmallows and sandwiching them between chocolate and graham crackers). We'll provide the s'mores; feel free to bring beverages and snacks, and a musical instrument if

you like!

Sunday, August 25

Looking for a place to worship? We will provide information on local congregations for those who wish to worship somewhere. Many of your Small Group Leaders and BTFO leadership team attend church locally and would be happy to take you!

1:30 PM Tours of Yale University 149 Elm Street

For more information, visit https://visitorcenter.yale.edu/tours.

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Monday, August 26

8:00 AM Berkeley Morning Eucharist

Berkeley Center (363 Saint Ronan Street)

All are welcome to attend this Berkeley Divinity School event! Every morning during BTFO, the Berkeley Center will be offering an opportunity to participate in Morning Prayer and Eucharist with the Berkeley Community. Everyone is welcome to take part.

8:30-9:00 AM Facilities Staff Recognition Breakfast

Old Refectory

YDS really wouldn't exist (and look sharp, feel welcoming, and run as smoothly!) without the hard work and dedication of our facilities staff. They'll be joining us for a meal and fellowship.

9:15-10:15 AM Navigating Toward Your Degree: Choosing Courses and Planning Your Path

MDiv: Old Refectory

MAR: Niebuhr Hall (N123)

Jennifer Herdt, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Lisa Huck '88 MDiv, YDS Director of Academic Services and Registrar, will host sessions on degree requirements, as well as discuss what is involved in taking courses in other schools at Yale, joint-degree programs, and other questions you may have in planning your degree program. The session will include a brief "how-to" discussion about the use of Yale Course Search and Online Course Selection in registration, as well as discuss important academic policies and deadlines. Martin Jean, Director of the Institute of Sacred Music will also present briefly on the offerings of ISM.

10:30-11:15 AM Joint Small Group Breakout Sessions

11:30 AM-12:00 PM Chapel: Worship at Labyrinth

Marquand Chapel

An outdoor service at Yale Divinity School's new labyrinth, located in southern courtyard; we'll gather in student-led prayer and song, asking God's blessing as we journey forward this academic year

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12:00-1:30 PM Lunch The Quad

Rain Venue: Old Refectory

Take more time to process the all the academic information, but this time with other students in your degree or concentration. The following groups will gather on the Quad: STM, MDiv, MAR Comprehensive.

MAR Concentrations

- ★ Asian Religions and World Christianity and Missions: Old Common Room
- ★ Black Religion in the African Diaspora, Latinx and Latin American Christianity, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: James Pennington Room (S100)
- ★ Ethics and Religion and Ecology: Niebuhr Hall (N123)
- ★ Hebrew Bible, New Testament and Second Temple Judaism: RSV (S200)
- ★ History of Christianity: Latourette (S223)
- ★ Liturgical Studies: Old Refectory
- ★ Philosophical Theory and Philosophy of Religion: Second Floor Common Room
- ★ Religion and the Arts: Great Hall (N100)
- ★ Theology: Jonathan Edwards Dining Room (N126)

Exchange Students will gather with Jan Hagens on the Quad In case of rain Conference Room N125B

Discover your academic advisor

We highly encourage you to use a little bit of this time to find out who your academic advisor is at the registrar's office. Take note of their office location and go on a stroll to look for it!

1:30-2:35 PM Building a Community that Flourishes: Power and Privilege

Old Refectory

This final session will be led by Kate Ott '00 MAR, Associate Professor of Christian Social Ethics at Drew University Theological School and Lynn Sullivan, Director of Community Equity. YDS is a diverse community that brings together people from all different backgrounds with varying levels of power and privilege. Understanding, acknowledging, and respecting these differences helps us cultivate radical collaboration with those around us.

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2:45-3:45 PM Joint Small Group Breakout Sessions

3:45-4:00 PM Closing Activity and Blessing The Quad

4:00 PM Ice Cream Social The Quad

Rain Venue: Second Floor Common Room

You did it! You officially made it through BTFO! Come join us out on the Quad for Ashley's Ice Cream and PopCentric to close out the final full day of BTFO programming. You deserve it!

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Tuesday, August 27

7:30-8:30 AM YDS Veterans Breakfast

Jonathan Edwards Dining Room (N126)

Veterans and active duty military students at YDS are invited to join SCO (and Registrar) Lisa Huck '88 MDiv for a light breakfast in their honor. There's no agenda, just a chance to introduce yourself and make connections. We will also be joined by Jack Beecher, Veteran & Military Liaison at Yale. Come and meet your fellow students and learn a bit about the community of veterans at YDS and Yale.

8:00 AM Berkeley Morning Eucharist

Berkeley Center (363 Saint Ronan Street)

All are welcome to attend this Berkeley Divinity School event! Every morning during BTFO, the Berkeley Center will be offering an opportunity to participate in Morning Prayer and Eucharist with the Berkeley Community. Everyone is welcome to take part.

8:30-10:30 AM Registration Breakfast Party

Second Floor Common Room

Registration itself will open at 9:00 AM, but from 8:30-9:00 Lisa Huck '88 MDiv will give a brief presentation about how to register for courses using Online Course Selection. Lisa will remain available throughout the morning until 10:30 AM to help you through the process and answer questions on all things registration-y! Both the party and the presentation are optional, so if you have questions, need a bit more explanation, or just like to do things in a group, come on by! Your long-awaited Yale identification cards will be handed out that during this time. Breakfast will be provided.

11:00 AM-2:30 PM Tours of the Library

Take a tour of the Divinity Library led by one of our knowledgeable and friendly librarians. The library will be an important academic and social space during your time at YDS. Discover the beautiful Trowbridge Reference Room and the iconic Day Missions Room, both of which are favorite study spaces. If you need something more solitary, check out the carrels along the ground floor. Your tour leader will point out the location of the printer, workstations, and scanners, and discuss the many services and resources provided by the library. You will get a demo of the "rolling" book stacks and see one of the few chapels located inside a library! Tours will start every half hour at the following times:

11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30

Assemble inside the front door of the library near the circulation desk and a librarian will greet you.

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11:00 AM-12:00 PM or 2:00-3:00 PM

Portfolio Boot Camp

Niebuhr Hall (N123)

All incoming students are required to attend one session with a laptop. These are the last two of three offered;

the previous being offered on Thursday, August 22.

This session, led by Bill Goettler, Associate Dean for Ministerial and Social Leadership, will offer a brief introduction to the e-portfolio that every YDS student maintains. Bring your laptop and get started on the portfolio that will help you work with mentors during your time of study and beyond.

4:00 PM Yale Divinity School Convocation

Marquand Chapel

The official, ceremonial start to the academic year, service is attended by all of the YDS community, including returning students, faculty, and staff. You are encouraged to dress a little less casually than normal. Some students have even been known to wear their national costume!

5:00 PM Reception

Old Refectory

Join the entire YDS community for hors d'oeuvres and beverages to celebrate your incoming class and the beginning of what will be a great academic year for all.

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HAVE A LITTLE FUN

We know we're throwing a lot at you during BTFO while you're also busy with life, unpacking, and endlessly twisting IKEA allen wrenches. Take some time to relax a bit whenever you can. Need a ride or someone to go on an adventure with? Post it on the 'Yale Divinity School 2019 Admits' Facebook page

Museums

Yale owned museums are free and totally awesome! Check them out here https://www.yale.edu/research-collections/museums-galleries.

Connecticut has beaches?!

Yes! There are many, including one big one: Connecticut's largest shoreline park, Hammonasset Beach State Park. It offers over two miles of beach to enjoy swimming, strolling along the boardwalk, or just relaxing in the sun and surf. It's located in the town of Madison, exactly 22.6 miles from YDS. Cars with Connecticut license plates park for free. So, befriend a *Connecticuter*!

Sports!

Connecticut isn't really known for national sports teams, with clear exception for the WNBA's Connecticut Sun! In the meantime, Yale College Athletics can be pretty fun to check out. Some sports teams will already be competing by BTFO (e.g. water polo). Visit http://www.yalebulldogs.com/ for the events schedule. *Boola Boola!*

TV is Educational

So maybe you just want to chill inside. That's cool. It's humid out. Did you know that Yale has free cable TV on campus, including access to HBO GO? Visit https://studenttechnology.yale.edu/guide/incoming-students and look for Yale Television. As a Yale student, you also get discounted subscriptions to things like Spotify Premium, Hulu, and Showtime. Visit https://www.spotify.com/us/student/ to sign up.

IKEA/Home Depot/Target/Grocery Runs

Okay, so we know you can't totally relax. So, you might as well make some fun out of it. Some Small Group Leaders (with cars!) are willing to make trips to IKEA, Home Depot, etc. Pay attention for these announcements. If you're willing to take your classmates, post it on Facebook! Pro tip: the Long Wharf taco trucks (totally legit and authentic says one Californian), are a mere hundreds of feet away from IKEA. Forget the meatballs. Don't forget to tip your driver . . . with tacos.

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NEED ASSISTANCE?

Blue Phones

Approximately 500+ exterior phones are strategically located throughout the campus and are readily identified at night by blue lights located above or near them. The phones are equipped with red emergency buttons for direct connection to the University Police for police, fire, or medical emergencies and many of the phones have keypad for dialing any campus number. For more information on public safety at Yale and in New Haven, visit https://your.yale.edu/community/public-safety.

Urgent Medical Needs

The Acute Care Department at Yale Health is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for those with serious or acute illnesses or injuries. All students receive Yale Health Basic Coverage services free of charge. This includes care in Student Health, Acute Care, and Mental Health & Counseling for students amongst other services. Acute illnesses or injuries require prompt care but will not generally cause loss of life or severe impairment if left untreated for a brief time. After hours and on weekends, call Acute Care at 203 432 0123 before coming in. Yale Health is located at 55 Lock Street. For more information, visit https://yalehealth.yale.edu/acute-care.

Pastoral Care

Moving and *making moves* in your life is, without a doubt, stressful and challenging. You are encouraged to ask for help whenever you need it. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the BTFO leadership team. Additionally, the Yale University Chaplain is a great resource for pastoral care. In addition to a great team of listeners and multi-religious spaces for relaxation, they have free ice cream!

Disability Related Accommodation or Service

The Yale Resource Office on Disabilities (ROD) works with all students. Registering with the ROD is a required first step for students who wish to request a disability related accommodation or service, including but not limited to sign language interpretation, adaptive computer technology, special transportation, and note takers. Even if they are unsure about their eligibility, students must contact the ROD and meet with the Director to discuss accommodation(s). Appropriate documentation is required and will be discussed with the student. For more information, visit https://rod.yale.edu/student-information.

Contact Numbers

Please don't hesitate to contact *Geronimo Desumala*, BTFO Coordinator, +1 510 331 3606, if you have any hint of a question or concern. If we don't have the answer, we'll find someone who does.

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