Dear New CALS Student,

Welcome to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS)! We are writing with important information to get you started. Please take time to view this page: http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/orientation/

Throughout June and early July, new students will be assigned to an academic advisor in their major. Many CALS advisors write to their new students over the summer, but if you have questions about your advisor assignment or your major, feel free to initiate contact with your department administrative advisor. http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/orientation/department-contacts

Course enrollment requests for new students runs from 9amEST July 11 to 4pm EST July 20, 2012. Visit the Student Center at http://studentcenter.cornell.edu to enter your enrollment requests starting July 11. If you are unable to access a computer during this time, you will have another opportunity in August.

The four steps below must be completed to ensure a successful enrollment:

1. Activate your NetID:
   http://newstudents.cornell.edu/transfer/netidemail.html
   (It is essential to activate your Cornell email. Advisors and the University will use your Cornell email to communicate with you throughout your undergraduate career.)

2. Log into DUST – your personal degree audit system - with your netID and password. On the left hand side and you’ll see a link, “New Students: Enter Bio Information”. This enables your department to make a relevant advisor match, and allows your advisor to better advise and mentor you. Your Bio is only available to you, your advisor and the department administrative advisor. In 500 words or less, please tell us:
   - What extracurricular activities do you enjoy?
   - What aspects of your CALS major interest you the most?
   - Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
   - How would you like your advisor to help you succeed?

3. Review schedule requirements:
   http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/course-enrollment/student-schedule/

4. Review the Physical Education requirement:
   http://pe.cornell.edu/physed/pe_req.html

5. Understand the course enrollment procedure: http://registrar.sas.cornell.edu//Student/coursenroll.html

Please see additional references on the following page. For questions about orientation, pre-enrollment, Advanced Placement credit and college graduation requirements, please contact the CALS Student Services Office (607.255.2257). We look forward to getting to know you!

Sincerely,

CALS Student Services
Additional references to guide you in selecting courses and creating a successful schedule:

→ **Major requirements:** [http://cals.cornell.edu/admissions/academics/majors/](http://cals.cornell.edu/admissions/academics/majors/)

→ **College distribution requirements:**
  [http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/degree-requirements/distribution/](http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/degree-requirements/distribution/)

→ **Writing Requirement:** 6 credits of written expression. This requirement can be completed in one or more of the following ways:
  - A First Year Writing Seminar (FWS). **Course enrollment is through a ballot process.** Refer to the Knight Institute website for information on FWS Enrollment [http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/fws/fws.htm](http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/fws/fws.htm)
  - AP credit for English Language or Literature (a score of 4 or 5 is needed)
  - Additional college-approved courses in Written/Oral expression [http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/degree-requirements/distribution/](http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/registrar/degree-requirements/distribution/)

→ **Explore DUST**, our student records system: [https://dust.cals.cornell.edu](https://dust.cals.cornell.edu). On this site you will find a variety of tools:
  - **Degree audit:** As course work is completed at Cornell and/or transfer credit is accepted, they will be listed under the college distribution requirements (not to be confused with major requirements). In your current view it is possible that you have been awarded AP credit and it has been applied to your degree audit. *Please note: To be awarded credit in a subject CALS must receive your official score report from the College Board and/or transcript from a University/College attended. If you are missing AP credit CALS has not received your scores/transcript. Please have them sent to CALS Student Services.*
  - **Courses for college distribution requirements:** This search engine identifies Cornell courses that fulfill college distribution requirements. Courses listed in green also fulfill CALS credits.
  - **Advisor information:** Once assigned, your advisor’s name and contact information will be listed here.

→ **Online course catalog** (Courses of Study) and the course roster:
  [http://www.cornell.edu/academics/courses.cfm](http://www.cornell.edu/academics/courses.cfm). Note courses that interest you and when they are offered (e.g. fall semester only/spring semester only).

→ **Placement exams:** If you are proficient in an academic subject, contact the respective department to schedule a placement exam during orientation (Foreign Language, Math, Chemistry). Intended for students who have not earned academic or AP credit in a subject.

→ **Bookmark this page of college resources:** [http://cals.cornell.edu/students](http://cals.cornell.edu/students)

→ **It’s never too early to start exploring career resources:** [http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/advising/career/](http://cals.cornell.edu/academics/advising/career/)