



Getting Ready for October

October brings the NWCCU campus visit on October 5 and 6, the course materials deadline on October 15, and the MUS Wellbeing Summit on October 19 and 20. Here is what to know and where to find details.



Review Spring 2027 Course Materials by October 15

Registration preparation for Spring 2027 is underway, and students will soon begin reviewing course offerings and planning schedules.

Accurate course material information helps students make informed decisions about enrollment and understand expectations before classes begin.

Please review your assigned courses and ensure course materials, OERs, library resources, or no-materials-required designations are current and accurate.

Please complete this review by October 15, 2026.

Instructions for course materials adoptions are linked below.

[Course Materials Adoption Instructions](#)

Graduation Application Is Now Fully Electronic

The Registrar's Office and the Graduate School have transitioned exclusively to the electronic graduation application. Students can access it through their GrizPortal.

Step-by-step instructions with screenshots are available on the Graduation webpage, linked below. Advisors and faculty are welcome to share the link with students who have questions about applying.

Questions? Contact the [Registrar's Office](#).

[Graduation website](#)

MUS Mental Health and Wellbeing Summit

The Montana University System invites Academic Affairs faculty, staff, and administrators to the 2026 Mental Health and Wellbeing Summit, Building Cultures of Care, October 19-20 at Great Falls College MSU. Registration is free and open to all.

The program includes a keynote on a public health approach to mental health and wellbeing, sessions on community culture, student success, and employee and personal wellbeing, and a facilitated working session for campus plan development. Academic employees shape the daily culture students experience, so the summit is also a chance to invest in your own wellbeing and contribute to your campus's Implementation Plan for the MUS Mental Health and Wellbeing Action Plan.

Visit the MUS Mental Health and Wellbeing Summit website, linked below, for registration details and the event agenda.

[MUS Mental Health and Wellbeing Summit website](#)

Tableau Trainings for Admins, AFOs, and Budget Analysts

Academic Affairs is continuing Tableau training sessions for college leadership and staff. Each session covers how to navigate Tableau, view reports available to your

role, and find data specific to your college or department, including dashboards related to Academic Portfolio Review.

Department Admins

- [September 29 - 9-10 am - Mansfield Library 283](#)
- [September 30 - 2 -3 pm - Teams](#)

Academic Finance Officers & Budget Analysts

- [October 7 - 9-10 am - Mansfield Library 283](#)
- [October 8 - 2 - 3 pm - Mansfield Library 283](#)





UM students, doctoral researchers make tSAR cover

Four University of Montana people, an undergraduate, two doctoral students, and a postdoctoral research associate, appear on the cover of the Society for American Archaeology's Archaeological Record, the organization's open-access magazine, in its September issue. The cover photo shows the FORAGER field team at K'etxelnáz, the Bridge River site.

Pictured left to right are Lucy Hicks (UM doctoral student), Ashley Hampton (UM postdoctoral research associate), Bill Powell (UM doctoral student), and Joshua Jack (Xwísten Representative and UM undergraduate).

The team's work is part of FORAGER, a six-year synergy grant from the European Research Council examining population growth and decline among Holocene forager societies across the Western and Eastern Baltic, northeast and northwest North America, and Eastern Japan. Led by UM Regents Professor Anna Prentiss, FORAGER is a partnership among the Universities of York, Cambridge, Lund, and Montana, along with the Xwísten and Anishinabe First Nations.

[Read more about the FORAGER project](#)



EVENTS

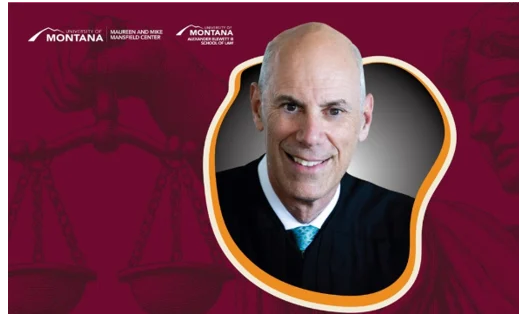


[Attend the LEAD Extra Credit Training](#)

LEAD Training: Extra Credit Assignments in Canvas

10:00 - 10:10 AM, Tuesday, Sept. 29, Virtual

Join a quick walkthrough of how to build and configure extra credit assignments in Canvas so they calculate correctly in the gradebook. Can't make it live? A recording will be available after the session.



RSVP for the Judge Boasberg Lecture

Judge Boasberg Lecture: Judicial Power Under the Constitution
7:00 PM, Monday, Sept. 28, ALI Auditorium

For this year's Constitution Day, the Alexander Blewett III School of Law and the Mansfield Center jointly present this lecture featuring the Honorable James E. "Jeb" Boasberg, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. All members of the campus community are welcome to attend.



RSVP for the Tenure and Promotion session

Tenure and Promotion Session
2:00 - 2:50 PM, Wednesday, Sept. 30, Education Bldg. 241

Join representatives from the Office of the Provost and an experienced dean and department chair as they share insights on the tenure and promotion process and tips for completing the Individual Performance Record (IPR). Designed with early career faculty in mind, this session will help you understand expectations and how to position yourself for success.



[Join the Trump-Xi Mansfield Dialogue](#)

Mansfield Dialogue: Post Trump-Xi Summit

12:00 PM, Thursday, Oct. 1, virtual

Join Dexter "Tiff" Roberts, Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council Global China Hub, publisher of the China Newsletter "Trade War," and adjunct professor of China and Taiwan politics at the University of Montana, for a conversation on US-China relations, Taiwan, and what comes next after the Trump-Xi summit. Hosted by the Mansfield Center.



[RSVP for the Global Homecoming Reception](#)

[View Event Details on GrizHub](#)

Global Homecoming Reception

4:00 - 5:30 PM, Friday, Oct. 2, Mansfield Library, 4th floor

Join the UM community for a reception celebrating alumni's global contributions. Open to faculty, staff, students, alumni, and their families, with light fare served. The event is co-sponsored by several global and international programs across campus, including the Baucus Institute and the Franke Global Leadership Initiative.



RSVP for the NWCCU Meet and Greet

NWCCU Meet and Greet

8:00 - 9:00 AM, Monday, Oct. 5, UC Ballroom

The University of Montana recently submitted its Year Three Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation Report on August 24, 2026. A peer evaluation team will be on campus October 5–6 as part of the review process. The report addresses UM's mission fulfillment, student achievement, and programmatic assessment, and was prepared with input from across the university.



Join the Sabbatical Session Online

Preparing to Apply for Sabbatical

2:00 - 2:50 PM, Friday, Oct. 9, Virtual

This session offers guidance on preparing a sabbatical application. Learn about the proposal review process and the sabbatical proposal evaluation rubric.

Representatives from the Office of the Provost and the Sabbatical Review Committee will be available to answer your questions.



SUBMISSIONS

Use the AA Newsletter Submission Form button below to share your content with the Academic Affairs sector. To be considered for next Monday's newsletter, submissions need to be received by Friday at 10:00 AM.

AA Newsletter Submission Form

University of Montana, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812

[Manage preferences](#)