

NSO Preceptorial FAQs

1) What are NSO Preceptorials?

- New Student Orientation Preceptorials are a series of informal, non-credit seminars on assorted topics which offer a unique way for first-year students to “Zoom in at Penn” and take a closer look at the cultural, social, and intellectual environment at Penn. This year, all NSO Preceptorials will take place in a virtual format.

2) When can NSO Preceptorials occur?

- All NSO Preceptorials will be held from August 25 to August 30, 2020. Any pre-recorded sessions can be made available to students as early as August 25.

3) Who can host Preceptorials during NSO?

- For NSO 2020, we are encouraging any members of the Penn community including faculty, staff, resource centers, departments, and student organizations to host Preceptorials.

4) How can I sign up to host NSO Preceptorials?

- Please fill out all the details you have about your NSO Preceptorial using this [form](#). Our office will be in touch with you regarding the next steps.

5) How many NSO Preceptorials can one organization host during NSO?

- During the New Student Orientation period from August 25 to August 30, 2020, we are allowing each organization, department, faculty, or staff member to host up to 3 Preceptorials except in special circumstances upon request. Please email andrea29@upenn.edu if you want to request to host more than 3 NSO Preceptorials.

6) What is the deadline to apply to host an NSO Preceptorial?

- Please fill out the form by August 12 at 11:59pm.

7) What topics can I do a Preceptorial on?

- We are open to a wide array of topics! You can discuss recent research, facilitate a conversation about a topic you are interested in, discuss resources that your department offers, or any other topic that is of interest to you.

8) If hosting a synchronous session, am I required to record the session?

- Since Penn students will be learning from various parts of the world this semester, many students may not conveniently be able to participate in NSO Preceptorials in a “live” format due to time zone conflicts. As a result, we are highly encouraging NSO Preceptorial hosts to simply click “record” at the start of their virtual sessions. After the session is over, we ask that you upload the video file to the Preceptorial Box Video Uploader provided by NSOAI. Our office can manage any necessary editing and then making the video available to students to watch at their convenience.
- If covering a sensitive topic, we recommend recording any “lecture-style” portions of the session and turning off the recording during any student conversation portions of the Preceptorial. If you are unable to record any portion of the session, please let

us know prior to the event so that we can properly communicate its limited availability to students.

9) If hosting an asynchronous session, can I have it available at multiple times during NSO?

- You can have your NSO Preceptorial become available as early as August 25 at 8:00am. The session will then be available for students to watch at any time during the New Student Orientation period.

10) How will students know about my NSO Preceptorial?

- The Office of New Student Orientation will manage all advertising of the NSO Preceptorials. Incoming students will be notified daily via email about all virtual events occurring each day during NSO.

11) Can I limit the number of students who can attend my session?

- For any pre-recorded sessions, an unlimited number of students can watch the NSO Preceptorials. For live sessions, this is entirely up to you. If you prefer to cap the number of attendees in your synchronous Preceptorial, please make a note of that number in the [form](#). Our office will manage the student registrations for your Preceptorial.

12) Can I host an in-person NSO Preceptorial?

- This year, The Office of New Student Orientation & Academic Initiatives is only sponsoring virtual events during the NSO period. Even if you have your own event that follows the [Penn Student Compact](#), our office cannot advertise your event.

13) I have more questions about NSO Preceptorials. What should I do?

- Please contact The Office of New Student Orientation & Academic Initiatives at provost-nso-ai@pobox.upenn.edu with any additional questions you have.