January 21, 2022- Start of Semester Reminders

ISSS Announcements:
- ISSS Operations and Services Starting Monday, 1/24
- DHS Registration Requirements Reminder
- Make Sure Your Demographic Data is Up to Date (DHS Reporting)
- New & Readmitted Students: Submit Your New Student Arrival Reporting EForm
- Reminder: University Spring 2022 Pre-Arrival Requirements (COVID-related)
- Library Workshops for International Students (Research & Citation)

Upcoming Events:
- "There are Two Languages In My Head": Strategies to Navigate English Academic Writing for International Students (Feb 3)
- The Basics of Writing in an American Classroom (Feb 4)
- Movie Night: Cruella (Jan 22)
- Job Opening: UAlbany Fund Virtual Information Session (Jan 25)

Travel Update for Land Ports of Entry: "WASHINGTON – Beginning on January 22, 2022, DHS will require non-U.S. individuals seeking to enter the United States via land ports of entry and ferry terminals at the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and provide related proof of vaccination, as COVID-19 cases continue to rise nationwide. These new restrictions will apply to non-U.S. individuals who are traveling for both essential and non-essential reasons. They will not apply to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents, or U.S. nationals."
Proof of full vaccination for COVID-19 was already required for travelers arriving by air. It is now also required for travelers arriving by land or ferry at the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders.

ISSS Operations and Services Starting Monday, 1/24

Please note: the University requires masks indoors for ALL individuals, including those who are fully vaccinated. If visiting the office in Science Library G-40 please wear your mask.

We are resuming normal semester services on Monday, January 24th:
Advising by Appointment - In-Person or on Zoom
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am-12:30pm EST
Appointments must be scheduled in advance through Calendly.
These spots are primarily available for students unable to attend walk-in advising in-person, but students do have the option to schedule an in-person meeting if they need to discuss a complicated issue which cannot be adequately address during walk-in advising hours (such as USCIS changes of status; complex work authorization issues; or other matters).

Walk-in Advising - In-Person or by Phone (518-591-8172)
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 12:30-4:00pm EST
No appointment needed, just drop in to SL G-40 or call 518-591-8172.
If you call, please be prepared to leave a voicemail with your name and call back number in case the advisor is currently seeing someone else.

Document Pick-Up
In-person pick-up of documents at the office (such as EAD cards) is available during normal business hours.

Document Submission is Still Electronic
Requests are made through EForms. Visit our Forms page to select the EForm you need, review instructions, and submit your request online.
Please note: the CPT request is currently a PDF file (not an EForm) which may be submitted over email to ISSS@albany.edu along with the accompanying required documents.

DHS Registration Requirements Reminder
F-1 and J-1 students must be registered full-time or on an approved reduced course load as a condition of maintaining F-1 and J-1 status. For undergraduate students 12 or more credits is full-time. For graduate students 9 or more credits is full-time.

Students may only drop below full-time registration if they have first been granted a reduced course load authorization by the ISSS office (review the reasons for a DHS reduced course load).

In order to help students maintain status, a bar will be put in place which will prevent F-1 or J-1 students from dropping below full-time registration credits. This means that you will not be allowed to drop a course after that time unless you were approved for a reduced course load by ISSS. If you qualify for a reduced course load but have not yet submitted a reduced course load authorization request please do so as soon as possible. Processing times can take up to 7-9 business days, and if you submit the request late you may accrue tuition liability as a result.

If you are trying to swap classes while maintaining full-time registration please add the new course you want first and then drop the course you no longer need.

The 0% liability for dropped semester length courses ends on January 30, 2022.

While DHS flexibilities with online course loads is continuing in Spring 2022, students who began their program after March 2020 are not eligible for a fully online schedule (with or without a reduced course load).
Make Sure Your Demographic Data is Up to Date (DHS Reporting)

F-1 and J-1 students must report updates to their physical address, phone number, and email within 10 days to maintain their status. This reporting is done through the Demographic section of MyUAlbany. Please check to make sure that your information is up to date.

If you are studying outside the U.S. this term, please complete the Out of Country Reporting EForm. Your SEVIS USA address should remain your most recent physical address in the U.S.

New & Readmitted Students: Submit Your New Student Arrival Reporting EForm

If you are a new or readmitted F-1 or J-1 student who entered the U.S. using an initial I-20 or DS-2019, you are required to submit a New Student Arrival Reporting EForm. If you have not submitted that EForm yet please do so as soon as possible.

New students: We would like to know your impressions of the Orientation Program for New International Students. Please provide us with feedback to help us improve our future programs. Please complete the evaluation. If you have any questions, you can contact International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at isss@albany.edu.

Reminder: University Spring 2022 Pre-Arrival Requirements
(COVID-related)

All students must follow the COVID-19 pre-arrival requirements on the University's website.

Follow the instructions based on your situation. Be sure to also review the sections on boosters, pre-arrival testing, and surveillance testing. These sections apply to all students regardless of their current vaccination status.

These requirements are subject to change, so please refer back to this website regularly.

Library Workshops for International Students (Research & Citation)

Workshop I: Introduction to Research Process (via Zoom)
Date and Time: January 28, Friday 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Topics: what is a research paper, steps in the research process, choosing a research topic, finding background information and articles, using library’s research databases, and hands-on exercises.

Workshop II: What is ‘plagiarism’ all about? How to avoid it? (via Zoom)
Date and Time: February 11, Friday 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Topics: in-text citations and bibliography; why acknowledge sources; when to cite; differences among quoting, summarizing, and paraphrasing; types of plagiarism; how to cite; tips for avoiding plagiarism; academic integrity; and group discussions.

Workshop III: Citation Practice (via Zoom)
Date and Time: February 18, Friday 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Topics: DOI (digital object identifier), ways of providing in-text citations, how to paraphrase.
Exercise: rewrite one passage taken from a book or a journal article in your own words and provide both in-text and full citations.
As Workshop II and Workshop III are closely related, students are strongly encouraged to attend Workshop II first.

To sign up for any of the workshop, please contact Dr. Yu-Hui Chen (ychen@albany.edu)

Upcoming Events
"There are Two Languages In My Head": Strategies to Navigate English Academic Writing for International Students (Feb 3)

As an international student, you have more than one language in your mind. How do you write well and communicate your ideas fluently?

Join PhD student Mary Dinh for this workshop on Thursday, February 3rd from 3-4:30pm on Zoom.

Log in with your UAlbany Zoom account: https://albany.zoom.us/j/99062445881?pwd=OVBRMytGZEQzMFNVSmDTeKlMOV2UT09

The Basics of Writing in an American Classroom (Feb 4)

As a follow up to Thursday’s session, join this session to learn some basic tips and resources for writing in an American classroom.

Join ISSS advisor Kayla O’Donnell for this workshop on Friday, February 4 from 3-4:30pm on Zoom.

Log in with your UAlbany Zoom account: https://albany.zoom.us/j/98119444963?pwd=VGtlRzlXWHM1eHY2ekxPZlhpNTBhZz09

Movie Night: Cruella (Jan 22)

Join the Programming Board for a showing of the movie Cruella! The event will be on Saturday January 22nd at 8pm in the CC Auditorium.

Job Opening: UAlbany Fund Virtual Information Session (Jan 25)
Need a job? Come to our UAlbany Fund virtual information session to learn more about working for the UAlbany Fund and to schedule an interview.

January 25 from 7-8pm on Zoom. Click "Read More."

Unsubscribe

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