Coffee with the Dean

Join the Dean of International Education for an informal social hour to bring together International students & scholars and UAlbany’s entire globally engaged community. Connect with other resources who may help you create or enhance your international experience!

Presented by the Center for International Education and Global Strategy

Wednesday, March 22
3:00 - 4:00 PM
Science Library Atrium
Join us for tea, coffee, and light refreshments at the **Dean's Coffee Hour on Wednesday, March 22nd at 3pm**. We will be located outside our office in the **Science Library**, stop by to say hello.

**ISSS Announcements**
- ISSS Orientation Assistant Application/ Other On-Campus Job Postings
- Limitations on Online Courses for F-1 and J-1 students for Fall Semester (& Summer for Students Graduating this Summer)
- OPT Information for May Graduates (+ Premium Processing Information Released)
- Resume Review Day- April 3rd (Save the Date Graduate Students!)
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Special Student Relief (SSR) Workshop-March 23
- Sprintax/Tax Filing Assistance Information- Sprintax Code Now Available
- Let's Talk

**Upcoming Events**
- Help for Turkey- Fundraising & Memorial Event (March 30)
- Personal Statement Writing (March 20)
- Stay at UAlbany for Grad School (March 21)
- Government and Non-Profit Job & Internship Fair (March 22)

**Advising by Appointment- In-Person or on Zoom**
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am-12:30pm
- [Schedule an appointment](#).

**Walk-in Advising (no appointment required)- In-Person or by Phone (518-591-8172)**
- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from **12:30-4:00pm**
- No appointment needed, just visit Science Library G-40 or call 518-591-8172

Reminder: Beware of scams! Law enforcement will never contact you to demand money and/or gift cards. Such an incident is a scam and you should hang up on the caller and not provide any personal and financial information. Please take the time to [review the information on our website about how to avoid frauds/scams](#).

**ISSS Orientation Assistant Application & Other On-Campus Job Postings**

ISSS is seeking Orientation Assistants to serve as peer mentors and coordinate activities during Fall 2023 International Orientation (August 14-August 20).

Applicants must plan to be physically present in Albany between August 14-August
20. If selected for the position you must be enrolled for Fall 2023 to be hired. Orientation Assistants will be paid $14.20 an hour for approximately 10-25 hours of work.

Applications are due by April 10, 2023. For more information and to apply click here.

Here are some other upcoming summer on-campus job postings:

- Cleaner: https://albany.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=159274
- Facility Operations Assistant 1: https://albany.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=159276
- Maintenance Assistant: https://albany.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=159277

Undergraduate students can also apply for on-campus research opportunities through CURCE

- Current CURCE opportunities
- Summer CURCE opportunities

Limitations on Online Courses for F-1 and J-1 students for Fall Semester (& Summer for Students Graduating this Summer)

Please check your email for any updates from your academic advisor about advanced registration for Fall 2023.

As students begin to register for summer and fall courses, please keep in mind that the DHS flexibility which allows F-1 and J-1 students to take more online courses than usual expires at the end of the Spring 2023 semester. That means that barring any continuation from DHS, after the Spring 2023 semester F-1 and J-1 students are more limited in how many fully online courses they can take during the Fall and Spring semester. These limitations do not apply to summer vacation if the student will be a continuing student this Fall 2023 semester, but if the student is graduating this summer term then online course limitations apply to them (because summer is the final term, not a vacation term). Please contact ISSS if you plan to graduate over summer to make sure that your course enrollment meets DHS requirements.
After the DHS guidance expires at the end of Spring semester the normal limitations will resume. No more than one online or distance education course (or 3 credits) may count toward the minimum number of credits needed for full-time enrollment during the semester. If the F-1 or J-1 student only needs one course to complete the program of study that course cannot be fully online.

For purposes of immigration reporting "fully online" courses refer to classes coded as fully online. In-person classed, hybrid/blended classes with an in-person component; and arranged classes with an in-person component do not count as "fully online" courses.

This means that undergraduate students who are enrolled full-time must take at least 9 credits that are not fully online. Graduate students who are enrolled full-time must take at least 6 credits that are not fully online. Students who are on an authorized reduced course load to enroll less than full-time must consult ISSS to ask whether they are eligible for any fully online classes, and if yes how many.

If you have any questions as you begin planning your course schedules after this semester please don't hesitate to reach out to ISSS@albany.edu

OPT Information for May Graduates (+ Premium Processing Information Released)

Students who are graduating and planning to apply for Post-Completion OPT Work Authorization should complete the following steps to apply:

1. Watch the Required OPT Workshop
2. Review all instructions on the OPT Request EForm website, including the Supplemental Forms and Instructions
3. Submit the EForm to ISSS to request a new I-20 recommending you for post-completion OPT
4. File with DHS-USCIS within 30 days of receiving the new I-20 from ISSS recommending you for post-completion OPT

USCIS Announces Premium Processing Launch dates

Online filing of Form I-907, Request for Premium Processing Service, is now also available to F-1 students in these categories. USCIS continues to accept the latest paper version of this form by mail.

Premium processing expansion for certain F-1 students will occur in phases, and students requesting premium processing should not file before these dates:

- **Beginning March 6**, USCIS will accept Form I-907 requests, filed either via paper form or online, for certain F-1 students who already have a pending Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, if they are filing under one of the following categories:
- (c)(3)(A) – Pre-Completion OPT;
- (c)(3)(B) – Post-Completion OPT; and
- (c)(3)(C) – 24-Month Extension of OPT for STEM students.

- **Beginning April 3**, USCIS will accept Form I-907 requests, filed either via paper form or online, for F-1 students in the above categories when filed together with Form I-765.

USCIS will reject premium processing requests for a pending Form I-765 if received before March 6, and will reject any premium processing request for an initial or concurrently filed Form I-765 that is received before April 3.

To file Form I-907 online, an applicant must first create a [USCIS online account](#), which provides a convenient and secure method to submit forms, pay fees, and track the status of any pending applications.

Students should note that:

- The premium processing fee is optional. The only required fee is for regular processing, which currently has a fee of $410 (for the I-765 form for OPT/STEM OPT)
- The premium processing fee is in addition to the regular $410 filing fee for the I-765. The current premium processing fee for F-1 students filing an I-765 is $1500. This means students opting for premium processing of the I-765 would need to pay $1500 in addition to the baseline fee of $410.

**Resume Review Day- April 3rd**

*(Save the Date, Graduate Students!)*

Stop by our special international student resume review day on Monday, April 3 from 1-4pm.

You will see a desk outside the ISSS office (Science Library G-40). Career Services professionals will be at the desk to help you review your resume. Please bring a copy of your resume with you. Both international undergraduate and graduate students are welcome.

Undergraduate students can also attend Undergraduate Resume Drop-in Hours from Monday – Friday, 10:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Science Library, G50!
If you are a student or scholar from a TPS eligible and/or a SSR eligible country and would like to learn more about the benefits, policies and procedures associated with these immigration categories, please join Immigration Attorneys Seth Leech and Cianna Freeman-Tolbert from Whiteman Osterman and Hanna LLP, and UAlbany ISSS staff to learn more.

**Thursday, March 23 from 5:00-6:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://albany.zoom.us/j/94873179693?from=addon](https://albany.zoom.us/j/94873179693?from=addon)
Sprintax/Tax Filing Assistance Information

ISSS has purchased Sprintax tax software to help international students and scholars file their 2022 federal tax return. There is no personal exemption for 2022. All non-residents must file a tax return if income was earned in 2022. To obtain a Sprintax code please complete this Google Form.

*If you were not employed but were in the U.S. during 2022 you still must complete and file a Form 8843.* Please contact ISSS with any questions.

**Sprintax Nonresident Tax Webinar**

In these tax webinars, international students, scholars and professionals will be run through everything they need to know about nonresident tax for the 2022 tax season. Topics will include who must file, tax residency, FICA, State returns, implications of misfiling as well as how to use Sprintax to prepare a compliant tax return.

- Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:00 AM EDT – Register here for recording
- Thursday, March 21st @ 10am EST – Register here
- Wednesday, April 5th @ 2pm EST – Register here
- Tuesday, April 11th @ 12pm EST – Register here
- Thursday, April 14th @ 12pm EST – Register here

**Let’s Talk**

The Let’s Talk service gives you access to a 15- to 20-minute consultation with a CAPS clinician at convenient locations on campus. The service is often used by students who:

- Aren’t sure about counseling and wonder what it’s like to talk to a counselor
- Aren’t interested in counseling but would like a counselor’s perspective
- Have a specific problem and would like to talk it through with someone
- Have a concern about a friend and want advice on what to do

Let’s Talk is available during the fall and spring semesters when classes are in session.

There may be a short wait while we talk to another student. If we have already reached capacity that day, please visit Let’s Talk another day or use the instructions above to schedule an appointment.

- **11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays** in the Arena Level Office A35 inside SEFCU Arena (Uptown Campus)
- **1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays** in University Library Office 94 inside the Educational Opportunity Program suite (Uptown Campus)
• 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Student Affairs Suite Room 114 at the School of Public Health (Health Sciences Campus)

**Note:** Let's Talk is not the appropriate CAPS service if you're experiencing an emergency or if any of the following apply to your situation:

• Thoughts of harming yourself or others, and/or a recent suicide attempt
• Engaging in dangerous or high-risk behaviors, such as impulsive behaviors or an increase in substance use
• Unusual thoughts and/or behaviors, such as hallucinations or loss of touch with reality
• Recent traumatic experience, such as an assault, accident or death of a loved one

In these cases, please refer to our [Emergencies page](#).

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**Upcoming Events**

**Help for Turkey- Fundraising & Memorial Event (March 30)**

**Personal Statement Writing (March 20)**

Monday, March 20 from 6:30-7:30pm Online

If you plan to continue your education beyond the bachelors, you should start the planning now! This workshop will cover how to write a strong personal statement on a graduate school application. Personal statements are often a major part of the graduate school application. Join us to learn more!
Thursday, March 30 from 7:00-9:30pm in the Campus Center West Auditorium

Please join us for this fundraising and memorial event for the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey.

Donations to the Turkiye Earthquake Relief Fund can be made at https://donate.tpfund.org/ualbany

Co-sponsored by the Turkish Student Association, IELP, CIEGS, NYS Writers Institute and the UAlbany Foundation.

Stay at UAlbany for Grad School (March 21)

Tuesday, March 21 from 12pm-1pm Online

Are you a current undergraduate student at UAlbany? Come join the Graduate Ambassadors to discuss our graduate programs!

Government and Non-Profit Job & Internship Fair (March 22)

The Government and Non-Profit Job & Internship Fair (Spr. 2023) will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, in the Campus Center Ballroom and Assembly Hall. The Government and Non-Profit Job & Internship Fair is for all students majoring in education, criminal justice, human services, political science, public health degree programs, and other related fields, and students interested in working in Education, Government, and Non-Profit fields.

Freshmen and sophomores, this is a great
opportunity for you to see just what a career fair is all about, and to start developing your networking skills. Juniors and seniors, there will be internship and full-time job opportunities for you to learn about. Hope to see you there!