ISSS Announcements:
- Sprintax Code: Taxes are due Monday, April 18
  Reminder: All students who were in the U.S. in 2021 must complete at least the Form 8843, even if you didn't have a job.
- Reminders About Online Course Limitations for F-1 and J-1 Students in Future Terms
- Spring into Wellbeing Week (April 15-24)
- How to Apply for OPT
- Fall 2022 International Orientation Assistant Application Closes April 24
- Buddy Program- Volunteers Needed for Fall 2022
- Asian Research Participants Needed

Upcoming Events:
- Intercultural Community Building Workshop Today (April 15)
- 8th Sorbonne Symposium (April 19 and April 20)
- Fall 2022 Bilingualism Courses
- University Welcome Leader Application

Sprintax Code: Taxes are due Monday, April 18
ISSS has purchased Sprintax tax software to help international students and scholars to file their 2021 federal tax return. There is no personal exemption for 2021. All non-residents must file a tax return if income was earned in 2021. Taxes are due Monday, April 18th. If you have not yet requested your Sprintax code today is the last day to do so.

To obtain a Sprintax tax code, please email isss@albany.edu. Please include the following information in your email: first & last name, student id number, and the name of your employer.

If you were not employed, please go to to obtain and complete form 8843. Form 8843 should be completed and mailed to the IRS if you were in the U.S. in 2021 but didn't have any income. For questions, please contact ISSS.

Reminders About Online Course Limitations for F-1 and J-1 Students in Future Terms

The DHS guidance allowing for flexibility with online course loads expires at the Spring 2022 semester. This means that multimodal and/or online course loads which may have been permitted between March 2020 and May 2022 are no longer permitted by immigration for F-1 and J-1 student visa holders. This also means that enrolling in an online course load which exceeds the normal legal limitations for F-1 and J-1 students can jeopardize your status and/or eligibility for benefits (including CPT, OPT, Academic Training, and other future petitions).

F-1 and J-1 students planning their Fall 2022 schedules should follow the normal online course limitation rules for the upcoming academic year:

- 'Online course' refers to courses with are 100% fully online. It does not refer to hybrid (mixed/blended) or arranged courses which are not 100% fully online and have an in-person component as part of the course
- No more than one fully online or distance education course (or 3 credits) may count towards the minimum number of credits needed for full-time enrollment during the
semester. If the student only needs one course to complete the program of study that course cannot be fully online.

- In other words, undergraduate students must take at least 9 credits (out of 12) that are not fully online and graduate students must take at least 6 credits (out of 9) that are not fully online.
- If you will be on an authorized reduced course load in Fall 2022 and will take an online course please check with ISSS about whether or not your schedule will meet the DHS requirements for maintaining status.

In the majority of cases, students not completing a thesis or dissertation are not eligible to graduate over summer or winter sessions because the majority of summer and winter classes are fully online. If you were considering a summer or winter session graduation please consult ISSS to ask if you are eligible to graduate at the end of summer or winter session.

As you are developing your future term schedules you are always welcome to reach out to ISSS if you have questions about whether or not you are taking too many online courses.

UAlbany is here to support your well-being as you head into the end of the semester. Check out our lineup of events and resources geared towards helping you think about well-being as a priority in your life!

ISSS will be hosting a well-being event geared towards international students. Join us for Achieving a Healthy Balance: Navigating Health and Wellness as an International Student on April 19 from 5-6:30pm on Zoom. Join Link: https://albany.zoom.us/j/97487341124?from=addon
How to Apply for OPT

Students who are graduating this Spring and planning to apply for Post-Completion OPT Work Authorization should complete the following steps as soon as possible to apply. Students graduating this summer can being filing in early May, depending on the I-20 program end date for their program.

**Step 1:** Watch the required OPT workshop.

**Step 2:** Review all instructions.

**Step 3:** Submit the EForm to ISSS with all required materials to request a new I-20 recommending OPT (see link in Step 2)

**Step 4:** File with DHS-USCIS after you receive the new I-20 recommending OPT from ISSS (see link in Step 2)

If you have questions please speak with an ISSS advisor.

USCIS processing times are currently estimated at **1.5-3 months**.

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**Fall 2022 International Orientation Assistant Application Closes April 24**

ISSS is seeking Orientation Assistants to act as peer mentors, guides, and to coordinate events and activities during Fall 2022 International Orientation and Welcome Week. A successful applicant must have a friendly, helpful, and understanding attitude toward new students and be able to work with a culturally diverse group of students.

We are planning in-person activities for the Fall 2022 Orientation in August. Applicants must plan to be physically present in Albany between August 14-August 21. If selected for the position you must be enrolled in Fall 2022 to be hired. Orientation Assistants will be paid $12.50 an hour for approximately 10-25 hours of work.
ISSS is seeking current students to volunteer to be a buddy to a new international student this Fall! To make friends, learn a new culture, and help a new member of our UAlbany international community sign-up here. Undergraduate students can also earn 1 credit of RSSW.
Asian Research Participants Needed

My name is Shangyun Zhou, and I am a Counseling Psychology doctoral student at the University at Albany, State University of New York. I hereby sincerely invite you to participate in my dissertation study, which studies several cultural factors that might be important in suicide prevention work in Asian college students in the US. This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board of the University at Albany (IRB study number: 22X064).

You are invited to participate in the study if you:

- Are 18 years or above
- Identify as Asian or Asian American/Pacific Islander (for example, Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese, Korean, Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Filipinx)
- Currently an enrolled student at the University at Albany/SUNY
- Does not have any thoughts or plans of hurting or killing yourself

Upon completing a valid survey, you have the option to enter a raffle for a $10 gift card (details available on the first page of the study link), and/or obtain extra credits for APSY 101 Introduction to Psychology. Your responses to the survey cannot be linked to your identity. If you are interested in participating in the study, please kindly click on the following survey link, which will further direct you to an informed consent page with more information regarding your participation: https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Z5t2Qz6ev076LQ


Study Name: **Suicide Prevention of Asian College Students**

Thank you so much for helping me with this research! Your participation will contribute greatly to the scientific knowledge base about suicide and suicide prevention, a crucial yet understudied subject pertaining to Asian college students in the US.

If you have further questions, please contact me (Shangyun Zhou, principal investigator) at szhou8@albany.edu, or my faculty advisor (Dr. Hung-Bin Sheu at hsheu@albany.edu).

Intercultural Community Building Workshop Today (April 15)  
8th Sorbonne Symposium (April 19 and April 20)
Within "We" There is an "I:" Intercultural Community Building and Healing Workshop

Friday, April 15 at 3:00-5:15pm in HU 354
Featured Speaker: Althea Tait

Before attending please read this text by Gayatri Spivak.

The process of evolving as an individual within a community is relational. Without relationships, we do not come to know ourselves fully at any stage in life. Yet what do we do when our implicit biases and unconscious blindspots produce microaggressions and macroaggressions that separate us and incur emotional costs for members of the community?

This workshop is geared towards participants having capacious dialogues about difference and learning pragmatic tools that empower one to cultivate a space of belongingness for each person.

8th Annual French-American Graduate Symposium with Sorbonne University’s Center for Theoretical Linguistics

Tuesday, April 19 at 2:30 – 4:15 pm
Wednesday, April 20 at 2:00 – 4:20 pm
Catskill 204

The symposium program is open to all faculty, staff and students who are interested in French, education, linguistics, communication, French studies, sociolinguistics and bilingualism. The event is co-directed by Dr. Istvan Kecskes (School of Education – ETAP) and Dr. Elise Mignot (Sorbonne University). Please see the attached program for detailed information about the presentations.

Fall 2022 Bilingualism Courses

University Welcome Leader Application
ETAP652B Bilingualism and Bilingual Education
This three-credit course is suitable for graduate students of all majors who are interested in bi/multilingualism and how it affects a person’s learning. The course provides an overview of bilingualism science and bilingual education including an emphasis on present trends and practices. A review of different aspects of bilingualism at both an individual and a societal level is included.
Please see the attached flyer and email Professor Kecskes at ikecskes@albany.edu

ETAP830 Doctoral Seminar: Translanguaging in the Multilingual Classroom
Fall 2022 Synchronous online: Mondays 4:30-7:20 PM
Instructor: Dr. Istvan Kecskes, Distinguished Professor of SUNY (ikecskes@albany.edu)
If you want to register for the class or have any questions about the course, please see attached flyer for more information or email Dr. Kecskes.
The goal of the seminar course (S/U) is to help students discover and explain the gap between the very positive theory and the not so positive practical applications that are full of struggle, uncertainties, undecided questions, problematic issues and lack of methodology.

The office of Student Activities and Orientation is happy to report that our Welcome Leader applications are now available. I am writing to see if you can please spread the word to students within your network whom you feel would be interested in this position. Applications are available on Handshake and due on Friday, April 22nd.

Read More

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