April 21, 2023

ISSS Announcements
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- Fit Fair (April 21)
- Argentine Tango Workshop (April 22)
- ASEAS Rising SEAS (April 22)
- Searching for Non-Academic Jobs (April 25)

Missed the Know Your Rights workshop? Watch the recording, Passcode: G#h@9Uaj. The workshop includes helpful tips for travel inside and outside the U.S., as well as what to do when interacting with law enforcement.

ISSS Change in Advising Hours Effective April 24

As many of you are already aware, ISSS staffing will change upon Tricia Tierney's departure from the University at the end of April. We thank Tricia for her many years of dedicated service to our team and to your student and scholar success.

In light of this staffing change please be informed of the following temporary adjustments to help streamline our availability and efficiency of operations. Supporting our students and scholars in
achieving their academic goals and maintaining compliance with federal regulations remain our core mission and our top priority.

With that in mind, effective **Monday, April 24:**

- Advising Appointments will be available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am-12:00pm. You may request to meet in-person or by Zoom. Students can **schedule appointments through Calendly** just as before.
- Walk-in Advising will be available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1:00-3:30pm in-person in Science Library G-40 or by phone (call 518-591-8172).
- Advisors will be not be available to meet with students outside of the listed walk-in hours or without an appointment. If you have an unforeseen emergency and need to request an exemption to these hours please email your request to [ISSS@albany.edu](mailto:ISSS@albany.edu). Please be sure to provide the necessary details of your situation so we can best assess your needs.
- Whenever possible try to send a single message or email with all relevant details about your situation included. Multiple follow ups make it harder for us to respond to students in a timely and efficient manner.

The following remains unchanged:

- The 5-7 business day turnaround for EForm requests
  - Please plan to submit requests early whenever possible
  - If a request is submitted with incomplete or missing documentation it may take longer
  - There is no expedite process; we rely on students to plan ahead and submit requests with enough time to allow 1 week processing before they need the document
- Students can still email questions to [ISSS@albany.edu](mailto:ISSS@albany.edu). Please allow 1-2 business days for a response.
- ISSS will be open this summer during the hours of 8am-4pm.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we continue to implement changes to best serve student and scholar needs while still adhering to all DHS reporting compliance requirements.
Interviewing Q&A- Today from 1-4pm

Have questions or concerns about interviewing in the U.S.? Want to know more about how to approach interview questions?

Interviewing Q&A
Friday, April 21
1-4pm
outside SL G-40

Speak with a Career & Professional Development advisor & get your interviewing questions & concerns answered

Have questions about interviewing for jobs and internships in the US? Stop by this Friday between 1-4pm outside Science Library G40. A Career and Professional Development advisor will be there to answer your questions, give insights into any concerns you have about interviewing, and address any doubts about the process. See you there!

Graduating this Summer? Please Read these Reminders

Summer session is considered an annual vacation term if a F-1 or J-1 student will enroll full-time at the University at Albany the next available semester (if you plan to graduate, see the paragraph below). During vacation terms students are not required to enroll in coursework,
though they may choose to enroll in any combination of courses during those vacation periods (as long as their registration meets all other University requirements).

**But when a student plans to graduate at the end of summer session summer is not a vacation term but rather a "final term."** A student graduating during summer must follow the same registration requirements they normally would during the fall and spring semesters to maintain F1 or J1 status and stay in the US (including eligibility to apply for post-completion OPT). This includes full-time enrollment (with at least 50% or more of the coursework taken at UAlbany) and a limitation on the number of fully online classes.

**If a student plans to graduate at the end of summer session the student must enroll full-time and not exceed the online course limitations.** Fifty percent (50%) or more of the coursework must be taken at the University at Albany. PhD students enrolled in 899 course registration during the preceding Spring term should contact ISSS for case-by-case assistance-summer enrollment in 899 is typically not required. **If you are graduating this summer and will not enroll full-time in your final term you must apply for a DHS reduced course load.**

Please contact [ISSS@albany.edu](mailto:ISSS@albany.edu) if you are graduating this summer and have questions about meeting your DHS registration requirements.

### OPT Information for Graduating Students

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
ETAP Classes (Helpful for International Graduate Students)

ETAP 631 LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION

Blended/Hybrid - Synchronous on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 7:20

Instructor: Dr. Istvan Kecskes, Distinguished Professor of SUNY

Some of the classes will be held on campus. But Zoom participation will be available in each class.

The course is meant for both master and doctoral students, especially international students. It explores the relationship between language and educational contexts, and how students shall navigate their language learning trajectories in such contexts. Please see the attached flyer for more details. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Kecskes: ikecskes@albany.edu

ETAP 830 CULTURE, COMMUNICATION, COGNITION

Doctoral seminar: Online (synchronous) on Mondays from 4:30 to 7:20

Instructor: Dr. Istvan Kecskes, Distinguished Professor of SUNY

The course explores the interplay between culture, communication, and cognition which is complex and multidirectional. The course can be especially valuable for international doctoral students as an elective course, specifically those in Sociology, Communication, Linguistics, Literacy, Language Literature, Cultural Studies, Anthropology, (International) Business, Communication, and Education (Instructional Design and Curriculum).

Please see the attached flyer for more details. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Kecskes: ikecskes@albany.edu
Upcoming Events

**Fit Fair (April 21)**
Friday, April 21 from 2-4pm in the Entry Plaza

Join Campus Recreation for our annual Fit Fair event! On and off campus organizations will be here to talk with students about fitness, health, and wellness. We will also have free shirts and giveaways!

**Argentine Tango Workshop (April 22)**
Saturday, April 22nd from 11am-12pm in Physical Education Building Dance Studio (3rd Floor)

Free lessons for beginners and beyond. No prior experience necessary. Please wear comfortable shoes that are easy to turn in. Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!!

**ASEAS Rising SEAS**
Saturday, April 22 from 7-10pm in Lecture Center 18

Welcome to our first annual Rising SEAS! The Association of Southeast Asian Students is thrilled to provide you with an immersive showcase that demonstrates the prevalence and importance of cultural diversity and climate change.

A portion of our ticket proceeds will be donated to Greenpeace International, an independent global campaigning network dedicated to fighting climate change around the world. Learn more about their organization here:

**Searching for Non-Academic Jobs (April 25)**
Tuesday, April 25 from 12-1pm online

Are you a PhD or master's student considering an “alternative” or non-
Rising SEAS is a performance showcase that aims to promote cultural diversity & spread awareness about climate change. BUY YOUR TICKETS HERE: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rising-seas-tickets-611427073837

academic career path? This workshop will cover the non-academic job search process, including sample résumés and cover letters.

Register to attend: bit.ly/GradCareerDev

Unsubscribe
1400 Washington Avenue SL G-40 Albany NY 12222

ISSS@albany.edu
https://www.albany.edu/iss

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