Want your photo to appear? Email it to ISSS@albany.edu

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1. Greetings!
This is the Weekly ISSS Newsletter that we send out every Friday. It includes very important updates that you must be aware of, as well as information about events happening on campus and in the area.

Are you a part of a student organization and want to see your event advertised to your fellow students? Please send the details and/or flyer to ISSS@albany.edu.
2. Important Announcements

ISSS Summer Hours- Get Your Requests in by May 21st!

Starting May 21st, ISSS (along with other administrative offices on campus) will be using Summer Hours. We will be open Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm. Walk-in advising will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10am-3pm.

Due to our annual professional conference, ISSS will not be available for walk-in advising (in person or via phone) the week of May 28th- June 1st. If you are planning to submit a request which is time sensitive, such as a travel signature, extension request, summer CPT request, transfer request, or OPT request, we ask that you please turn in these requests no later than Monday, May 21st to ensure processing before the week of May 28th. Document processing will be limited to unforeseen emergencies only the week of May 28th-June 1st. Please note that if you do not submit your request in a timely manner by May 21st this does not constitute an emergency; we ask that you please prepare your requests now. Normal processing (5-7 business days) will resume on June 4th.

ISSS Seeking Graduate Assistant for Fall 2018-Spring 2019 Academic Year

The International Student and Scholar Services Office is seeking applicants for a graduate student assistant position for the Fall 2018-Spring 2019 academic year. Preference is given to a student why will be available for paid training in mid-August. Benefits include a $12,000 stipend and health insurance.

To be eligible, a student must be a registered graduate student at UAlbany and expected to take a minimum of 6 credits in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019.

The work obligation is 20 hours per week during the appointed period. Work during vacation periods will be discussed with a supervisor. A work schedule will be agreed upon no later than the end of the first week of class each semester. Availability during summers to continue work as a student assistant is preferred.
GAs are responsible for a variety of tasks, including assisting ISSS with document processing requests; planning, facilitating and assisting with programs such as off-campus trips, International Education Week, Orientation, and Graduation Week special activities; creating the weekly newsletter; and supporting the international student community.

To apply, please email your resume and cover letter to ISSS@albany.edu and confirm that you intend to be a registered student (minimum 6 credits) for the Fall 18-Spring 19 academic year.

**Travel Signature Day- Friday 5/18 from 2-4pm**

Your I-20 or DS-2019 must be signed every year while you are a full-time student so that you can re-enter the United States after travel. Usually, ISSS requests 5-7 business days for travel signatures. But on our special travel signature days, you can get it signed on the spot.
Have you applied for OPT yet?

Students applying for OPT are required to attend one of the below mandatory workshop sessions. As of now, it is taking USCIS 90 days or longer from the date they receive your application to process the request. The USCIS estimated processing times for an OPT application range between 3-5 months. Students who are applying for CPT are strongly encouraged to attend a workshop as well. Below are the dates of workshops for Spring 2018. No pre-registration is needed for the workshops.

Friday, February 9th, 2:00-4:00, Science Library G-05
Friday, March 9th, 2:00-4:00, Science Library G-05
Friday, May 4th, 2:00-4:00, Science Library G-05
Thursday, May 10th, 2:00-4:00, Science Library G-05
Friday, May 18th, 2:00-4:00, Science Library G-05

Bring your I-20 or DS-2019.

Travel signatures are valid for one year for most full-time students. If you are uncertain if your signature is still valid, check with an ISSS advisor.
3. Other ISSS Updates and Events

**Academic Writing in English for International Graduate Students**

Course- Register for Next Semester!

Are you a graduate student who wants to sharpen your writing skills? Do you want to know more about writing standards regarding research papers? Do you want to learn how to commit to a research project writing?

ETAP 500 is designed specifically for international graduate students and their focus on writing in academic discourse settings. Students will have a chance to engage in a series of graduate-level writing projects such as argumentative essays, critical
reviews, and research papers. Students will receive a scaffolding guidance from the instructor and complete an actual research paper of their own interest at the end of the course.

For further information and registration number, do not hesitate to email the instructor of the class at lzalaltdinova@albany.edu, the secretary at bbrunner@albany.edu or ETAP advisors at etapcpn@albany.edu.

ETAP 500

ACADEMIC WRITING IN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Class Hours: Monday 01:15-04:05 PM  
Class number: 9020

Instructor: Liya Zalaltdinova
For permission numbers email the instructor at lzalaltdinova@albany.edu,  
the secretary at bbrunner@albany.edu or ETAP advisors at etapcpn@albany.edu.

Course Description

Designed specifically for international graduate students, this course introduces the conventions of academic literacy by engaging students in a series of graduate-level writing projects such as argumentative essays, critical reviews, and research papers. Students will first explore the processes of academic writing by analyzing and evaluating sample academic papers and scholarly articles, and then will move on to produce their own written work by employing strategies such as drafting and revising as well as providing and responding to constructive feedback.

Writing projects will also focus on the fundamental aspects of an academic research paper (e.g., introduction, literature review, and citing sources) enabling students to produce a research paper on their topics of interest.

Through assigned readings, classroom discussions, writing assignments, and peer reviews, students are expected to develop an awareness of writing for scholarly purposes and to gain confidence in providing feedback to other students’ written work.
Taxes Reminder: File your 8843 by June 15th.

ALL F-1 and J-1 students must submit an 8843 (even if you had no income) to the IRS by June 15, 2018.


For questions, please contact ISSS.

Research Assistantship for Native Arabic-Speaking Students

The Center for Technology in Government (CTG) is seeking two graduate assistants for a short-term opportunity during the late Spring and/or Summer 2018. Applicants must be native speakers in Arabic and full-time students at UAlbany. Students will be involved in an evaluation of e-government services provided in Arabic. The Research Assistant will collaborate in assessing website services, as well as the back office organizational structures. To apply, please send an email with your CV/resume indicating also your available during the evaluation time-frame to CTG Program Assistant Jillian Palmer at jmpalmer@ctg.albany.edu

Volunteer Translators Needed- Pashto, Dari, and Arabic Speakers

The Refugee Community Health Partnership program is seeking Arabic, Dari and Pashto speakers to volunteer to translate, particularly in work with refugee populations. Most volunteers are needed on Mondays between 9am-12:30pm. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to contact Carlie Thompson (c.thompson@ta-cr.org, 518-449-5155).

4. University at Albany Events

Click Here for a full list of upcoming UAlbany events!

**Origami and Coloring**

Friday, May 11 11am-4pm

Main Library Uptown Campus - First Floor South Side

Rid yourself of finals stress--creatively. Sponsored by the SA Division of Health and Sustainability.
NCAA Men’s Lacrosse vs Richmond  
Saturday May 12 @5pm  
Tom & Mary Casey Stadium (Bob Ford Field)  
No. 2 ranked UAlbany hosts Richmond in the First Round of the NCAA Men’s  
Lacrosse Championships.

End of Year Student Leader BBQ  
Monday, May 14 @ 12-2pm  
Join Vice President Mike Christakis as we bid farewell to another successful year! We  
want to thank you for all your hard work and dedication to your organizations and  
UAlbany with a BBQ and activities to help you unwind.

RSVP appreciated but not required. You will need to swipe for FREE meal ticket at the  
event.

ITS Class Microsoft Access 2013: Introduction & Concepts  
Tuesday May 15 @1:30pm  
Lecture Concourse Subbasement 30A  
The introductory session covers the concept of developing and using a database. We  
will explore the different components and explain what they do using an existing  
database.

Cookies and Coloring  
Wednesday, May 16 @  
Humanities 133  
Come join JSA’s language exchange! You can practice your Japanese speaking skills or  
your English speaking skills! Our weekly event is open to all UAlbany students of any  
language level. We hope to see you soon!

LGBTQ+ and Ally Lavender Celebration  
Thursday, May 17 @3-5pm  
Campus Center Ballroom
This annual event celebrates LGBTQ+ and Allied students having completed their Bachelors, Masters or Ph.D. A capstone experience like no other! This celebration marks the transition of our LGBTQ+ and Allied student scholars from the academic experience to the working world. Graduates that participate in our formal celebration are receiving their degree in the Spring, Summer or December of the same year and are encouraged to invite friends, allies and family to attend.

5. Capital District Events

**Historic Downtown Albany Food Tours**

Friday, May 11 @12:45 - 4pm

Taste of Troy Food Tours LLC, 25 Quackenbush Square Albany, NY 12207

$59 plus tax and ticketing fees

Put on your walking shoes for an entertaining and delicious way to experience Albany. New York's Capital City for 320+ years, is undergoing a culinary and craft brewing boom. You'll sip and sample from 6 restaurants that are spicing up Albany's food scene. Discover stunning architecture and cultural tidbits that will help you develop a fresh perspective on New York's capital city. Each Friday, we sprinkle in history, architecture and culture to kick off your weekend in the Capital District. Bring your appetite and your friends and family, to celebrate this great legacy city and let your culinary adventure begin!

A progressive meal, with an easy 1.5 mile walk, spread over 3.25 hours. Great way to start your weekend!

**70th Annual Tulip Festival**

May 12-13 | Free

Washington Park

(518) 434-2032

The [70th Annual Albany Tulip Festival](#) returns to Washington Park Mother's Day weekend, May 12 & 13 2018. The Tulip Festival is Albany's signature spring event featuring annual traditions rooted in the City's rich Dutch heritage. The event includes nearly one hundred artisans selling their handmade crafts, a fine arts show, delicious food, the KidZone family fun destination, two stages of world-class live entertainment and more than 140,000 tulips in 150 different varieties. It all takes place in historic
Washington Park, the 81-acre “crown jewel” of the City.

Get all the details here »

**Passion for Success Workshop**

Tuesday, May 15 6:30-8pm

[Apple Store, 1 Crossgates Road, Crossgates Mall, NY 12203](#)

$10

NWR & Apple join forces to provide support & technological advances to better your business' productivity. Passion for success is a business seminar we provide once a month that gives start ups, freelancers, entrepreneurs and businesses resources and information to help them make their passion into a career. Technology is very prevalent and essential to business management and productivity. Apple will be providing guests with tons of information about how technology can enhance their management skills with Siri, Calendar, Podcasts, Apple products to try, Reminder and other apps to help local entrepreneurs, freelancers and businesses!

Register to attend- nwralbany.org
When you arrive to the store, check in with any Apple employee and they will direct you to the area for the workshop!

**Tai Chi: An Introduction with Sheila**

Wednesday, May 16 @12:30-1:30pm

[Honest Weight Food Co-op, 100 Watervliet Avenue Albany, NY 12206](#)

Free

Enjoy this gentle Tai Chi practice to improve strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. Sheila Harrigan is certified in Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention by the Tai Chi for Health Institute. Class will be limited in size to 12 attendees. Register at hwfc.eventbrite.com

**Cheese Taste So Gouda**

Thursday, May 17, 2018 - 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

[Honest Weight Food Co-op, 100 Watervliet Avenue Albany, NY 12206](#)

Explore the changes in flavors described as caramelly, nutty, and buttery, plus, the texture of Gouda Cheeses, from Local Artisan Cheese Makers to the Netherlands.

What makes that crunch?
Enjoy tasting our Cheese Plates of 10 different Goudas, from young to aged, made with Cows, Sheep, or Goats Milk
Register at hwfc.eventbrite.com for this free event