A warm welcome to the International Student Class of 2021!

Another academic year has begun and we continue to be amazed at the growth and talents of the Trinity University international student population. Encompassing 7% of Trinity’s total student body, Trinity international students contribute to the exciting variety and diversity of life on Trinity’s campus. This fall, the ISSS office is proud to officially welcome the international student class of 2021!
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IMPORTANT NOTES

- **Get I-20 Travel Signature!**

  F-1 students, are you travelling outside of the US any time soon? Don’t forget to get a DSO travel signature from the ISSS Office on your I-20 every 12 months. The DSO signature on your I-20 must be valid when you enter the U.S. So, check the travel signature on page 2 of your I-20 today! If you have questions, please contact the ISSS!

- **OPT STEM and your major:**

  Want to work in the USA? If your major falls into the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) program list, you may apply for a 24-month OPT extension after the one 1-year of regular OPT. Please note that only MAJORS qualify for a STEM extension, NOT minors.

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**International Students, STEM Degrees and Optional Practical Training**

“STEM” stands for the academic disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It is most often seen when discussing various majors that are related to these academic disciplines. For example, Engineering Science is a major offered at Trinity and it is a STEM major because it falls within the STEM academic disciplines.

All international students who complete a degree program at Trinity have the opportunity to apply for one year of employment authorization through what is called optional practical training or OPT. International students who complete a STEM major may apply to extend their OPT employment authorization for two more years. The primary purpose of the additional two years is to provide two more opportunities to apply for the H-1B visa. Because the demand for H-1Bs exceeds the supply, the additional two years of OPT increases the probability of receiving an H-1B. Once students change from OPT to the H-1B, they can have work authorization for an additional six years.
Welcome Trinity University’s International Student Class of 2021!

This Fall, Trinity University welcomed a total number of 34 new international students to Trinity. The countries represented by these international students include:

- China
- India
- Mexico
- Australia
- Vietnam
- Ecuador
- New Zealand
- Honduras
- Taiwan
- South Korea
- Peru
- Canada
- Columbia
- Honduras
- Nepal
- Bolivia
- The Netherlands
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL ISSS/FTIS THANKSGIVING DINNER !!!

Date: Saturday, November 18
Location: in a nearby residence

Sign up for the dinner via this link -
https://goo.gl/forms/7Dd2ziqMmLIJQJl

If you plan to go by Trinity vans provided by ISSS, vans
• Leave Witt Center at 4:00 pm
• Leave the Scruggs’ by 7:00 pm
“One of the smartest things one can do is to be eager to continually discover, grow, learn, and improve. It’s astounding how seeing your culture through the eyes of another can completely change your perspective.”

- Anna Van Buskirk ’15 | Accounting & Music & Spanish

**TRINITY STUDENTS ARE Engaged with the World**

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**CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT WEEK 2017**

**MONDAY NOV. 13**
- Boren Scholarship Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Study Abroad Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Study Abroad First Steps Presentation
  12:30 p.m. | Coates Woodlawn Room
- International Education Awards Presentation
  3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | CSI Atrium
- International Education Awards Reception
  Following Awards Presentation | CSI Atrium

**TUESDAY NOV. 14**
- Study Abroad Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Peace Corps Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- ISSSS Comes to You at CUC
  10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Study Abroad First Steps Presentation
  3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby

**WEDNESDAY NOV. 15**
- Study Abroad Info Table
  10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- International Club
  10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Study Abroad Info Session for Engineers
  12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | CSI 256
- Int’l Student Internship Issues and CPT
  2:30 p.m. | Waxahachie (Coates 237)
- MAS: Mexico, Americas and Spain Info Table
  3 p.m. - 4 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- EAST: East Asian Studies at Trinity Info Table
  3 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby

**THURSDAY NOV. 16**
- U.S. Passport Agency Application Table *
  9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Traditional Chinese Cultural Performance
  11:20 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. | Ruth Taylor Recital Hall
- Study Abroad First Steps Presentation
  3:30 p.m. | Coates Woodlawn Room
- DIER: Cross-Cultural Interaction Poster Session
  3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Sophomore College Study Abroad Night
  6:30 p.m. | Northrup 040

**FRIDAY NOV. 17**
- Critical Language Scholarship Program Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Study Abroad Info Table
  10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Center Lobby
- Fight Culture Shock Day
  12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. | Coates Lobby
- OPT Workshop for International Students
  3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Woodlawn Room (Coates 239)

* Pick up your Passport application in the Study Abroad Office - Chapman 245

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**JAZZ 91.7**
International Programming
from Noon to 1 p.m. All Week

**Coates Library**
International Authors and Topics Display

**O’Shaughnessy Custom Framing**

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Photo Contest on display all week in the CSI Atrium
Monday, November 13
Presentation of Awards for Outstanding Achievement in International Education followed by the Reception
CSI Atrium, 3:30-5:00 pm

Tuesday, November 14
ISSS Comes to You at CUC
CUC Lobby 10:30-11:30 am, 3:30-4:30 pm

Wednesday, November 15
Understanding Internship Issues and Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
CUC 237 Waxahachie, 3:00-4:00 pm

Friday, November 17
Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshop
CUC 239 Woodlawn, 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday, November 16
DIER: Cross-Cultural Interaction Poster Session II
CUC Lobby, 3:30-4:50 pm

Friday, November 17
Fight Culture Shock Day!!
CUC 1st Floor Lounge, 12:30-2 pm

International Engagement Week (IEW) is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. It is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education.

A complete schedule of events is on the previous page.
IEW 2017

NOVEMBER 15 3:00-4:00PM
CUC 237 WAXAHACHIE

UNDERSTANDING INTERNSHIP ISSUES AND “CPT”

This workshop will guide you on:

- How to find an internship
- When to apply for CPT
- How to apply for CPT

Don’t be shy – come to our workshop and learn!

Ask us questions you have!

Sponsored by: ISSS and the Center for Experiential Learning and Career Success.

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facebook.com/trinityisss
IEW 2017

NOV 16 3:30-5:00PM
CUC LOBBY

DIER: FACILITATING CROSS-CULTURAL INTERACTION

INTL 1100 INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION CLASS

Come to see how our international students interact with people from different cultures and use the DIER method to analyze their experiences!

In these poster sessions you will:

- Learn about the DIER – a method to approach cultural differences.
- See how it can facilitate cross-cultural interaction.
- Learn how to understand and effectively interact with a culture that is different from your own.

WHAT IS THE DIER METHOD?

THE DIER METHOD IS A TOOL ONE CAN USE FOR CROSS-CULTURAL INTERACTION

STUDENTS’ PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

STUDENTS TALK ABOUT ENCOUNTERING A DIFFERENT CULTURE

COME AND VISIT THE POSTERS (WE HAVE CANDIES)!

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Facebook: facebook.com/trinityisss
DO YOU PLAN TO WORK IN THE U.S. AFTER GRADUATION? COME JOIN THE WORKSHOP!

This workshop will guide you on:

- What is OPT?
- When to apply for OPT?
- How to apply for OPT?
- What you need to do during OPT?
- What is a STEM Extension of OPT?
- How to apply for a STEM Extension?
- OPT/STEM Extension reporting requirements.

WHAT IS OPT
(OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING)?

F-1 STUDENT

12 MONTHS OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

THE EMPLOYMENT MUST BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO YOUR MAJOR OF STUDY

USCIS REGULATIONS

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NOVEMBER 18 1:30-2:30PM
CUC 239 WOODLAWN

OPT WORKSHOP
Sign-Up for a ride to the Social Security Administration (SSA) and Department of Public Safety (DPS)!

These trips are for international students who need to apply for a Texas State ID, Learners Permit or a Social Security Number.

**Fall 2017 Dates and Times:**
Trips to Social Security Administration:
10/6, 10/13, 10/27, 11/3
Trips to Department of Public Safety:
11/10, 11/17

Sign-up and read instruction for SSN and DPS Here:

https://docs.google.com/a/trinity.edu/forms/d/17A2mbSgWwN4Mvf-g0pK_anUIVCxUS5rPYvECm70K9hhk/viewform

Past Events

President’s Welcome Reception

August 17, 2017

International Students, their families and guests gathered from all over the world to attend the International Student Orientation (ISO). The ISO included a Welcome Reception hosted by President Danny Anderson and Mrs. Kimberly Anderson. This annual event, sponsored by the President’s Office and the ISSS Office, was a well–attended and thoroughly enjoyed event where new international students, their families, faculty, and staff from Trinity chatted about the upcoming semester.
The OPT Workshop is held once in the fall semester and twice in the spring semester. In the Workshop, international students learn about OPT regulations and the application procedure. OPT STEM Extension requirements and procedures are also discussed during the Workshop.
The purpose of the class is to assist new international students and American students educated abroad to successfully adjust to the U.S. and Trinity University culture. Some key issues covered include:

1) knowledge and skills to facilitate cultural learning and interaction;
2) responsibilities and benefits related to key F-1 SEVIS regulations and tax responsibilities;
3) develop skills to build and maintain a career network while at college;
4) develop academic writing skills with an emphasis on creating effective argumentative essay.

It also addresses a variety of topics related to the international student experience such as health care, student life, downloading and copyright issues, tax issues, alumni programs, student involvement, and other student resources at Trinity University.
In October staff and faculty from the CIE attended the NAFSA Region III conference for international educators. NAFSA is a professional development conference that provides information, training and networking opportunities for professionals who work in university international and study abroad offices. Over 300 persons from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas attended.

Nancy Erickson (center, holding the award), Assistant Director for Study Abroad received the "Lifetime Achievement Award for her 30 years of exemplary work in Study Abroad.

Bob Seese chaired a session that gave participants from varying political backgrounds the opportunity to use "Moral Foundations Theory" to discuss "hot button" political issues in international education.

Jessie Jiang served on the local arrangements team and presented at a session that assisted international students advisors more accurately pronounce the names of international students. She also presented a poster session on the "DIER Method of Cross-Cultural Learning and Interaction" developed by Dr. Bob Seese. Both Bob and Jessie presented at other sessions and served as the conference photographers.
## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### Fall 2017/Spring 2018

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<th>Date/Time</th>
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<td><strong>DPS/SSA Trips</strong> (Sign-up for a ride here: <a href="https://goo.gl/GuW19m">https://goo.gl/GuW19m</a>)</td>
<td>for SSN: October 6, 13, 27, November 3 for DPS: November 10 &amp; 17</td>
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<td>Instructions for applying SSN/DPS are on the Sign-up Form.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding Internship Issues and CPT (IEW event)</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday, November 15 3:00PM—4:00PM CUC 241 Tehuacana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPT Workshop</strong></td>
<td>Friday, September 22, 11:15PM-1:15PM CUC 241 Tehuacana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fight Culture Shock Day (IEW event)</strong></td>
<td>Friday, November 17 12:30PM—2:00 PM CUC Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSS Comes to You at CUC</strong></td>
<td>Tuesday, November 14 10:30-11:30 am, 3:30-4:30 pm CUC Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSS/FTIS Thanksgiving Dinner</strong></td>
<td>Saturday, November 18 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm Transportation will be provided to and from the Host’s residence. See page 4 for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ISSS Study Lounge</strong> (Come study, eat a snack, and have your I-20 signed!)</td>
<td>Reading Days and Final Exam Days December 6-14 Halsell, room 329, 8:00AM—5:00PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On Campus Employment Workshop International Women’s Day Celebration Tax Workshop for International Students</strong></td>
<td>TBA in spring semester</td>
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Catch more events in the previous pages!
Mission Statement

ISSS serves as Trinity University’s Department of Homeland Security-approved Designated School Officials to keep Trinity University in compliance with F-1 student federal regulations. In addition, it supports the academic mission of the university by serving international students, processing nonimmigrant H-1B petitions for temporary workers and by facilitating campus internationalization.

What We Do

- Support international students and scholars with maintaining their non-immigrant status in the U.S.
- Provide orientation for new students that begins prior to their arrival and continues with a first semester 10-week course, INTL 1100.
- Assist students in applying for a driver’s license & Social Security card.
- Strive to provide cultural adjustment support and assistance.
- Provide on-campus programming such as New International Student Orientation, Fight Culture Shock Day, International Education week, etc.

Contact Us

International Student & Scholar Services

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Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

The ISSS office is located in:
Halsell Center, Room 330
(3rd floor)

Webpage: gotu.us/iss

“Like” Us on Facebook for more updates: www.facebook.com/trinityisss

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Questions or Comments? email International Student & Scholar Services at iss@trinity.edu