A warm welcome to the International Student Class of 2022!

Trinity University international students population make up 6% 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 2022!
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Welcome Trinity University’s International Student Class of 2022!

This Fall, Trinity University welcomed a total number of 36 new international students to Trinity. The countries represented by these international students include:

Vietnam, China, Japan, Taiwan, Argentina, Ecuador, Columbia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Peru, Philippines, United Kingdom.

U.S. students who live abroad are also included in the number.
Important Immigration Policy Update

Unlawful Presence

On August 9, 2018, the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published a policy memorandum about how F-1 students accrue unlawful presence.

Unlawful presence is "presence in the U.S. after the expiration of the period of stay authorized by the Department of Homeland Security..."

Some of the following points are changes in previous DHS interpretations and are much stricter under the new law.

For all F1 students:

1. Accumulating 180 days of unlawful presence results in a 3-year bar from reentering the U.S.

2. Accumulating a year of unlawful presence leads results in a 10-year bar from reentering the U.S.

For OPT/STEM students:

3. On OPT you are permitted to have a total of 90 days of unemployment and less than 10 days of unemployment between jobs.

4. On STEM OPT you are permitted 60 days of unemployment (new) and less than 10 days of unemployment between jobs.

3. If you stay beyond the allowable time of unemployment provided during OPT or OPT/STEM you begin accumulating unlawful presence.

4. If your OPT application is denied, your unlawful presence time begins on the 61st day after your graduation, regardless of when you receive the denial notice.

5. If your OPT STEM application is denied, your unlawful presence time begins the day after your OPT 60-day grace period, regardless of when you receive the denial notice.

If you think you are or will be in any of the situations above, contact the ISSS as soon as possible.
**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 page 2 of your I-20 should be less than one year old when you return to 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 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.
"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

**Engaged with the World**

**CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT WEEK 2018**

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<th>MONDAY NOV. 12</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY NOV. 14</th>
<th>FRIDAY NOV. 16</th>
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<td><strong>Study Abroad Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Study Abroad Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Boren Scholarship Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>CPT/OPT Workshop for International Students</strong>&lt;br&gt;12:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Critical Language Scholarship Program Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Study Abroad First Steps Presentation</strong>&lt;br&gt;12:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>MAS: Mexico, Americas and Spain Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;3 p.m. - 4 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Taste of Culture at Trinity (TOCATE)</strong>&lt;br&gt;12:00 p.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Education Awards Presentation</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>EAST: East Asian Studies at Trinity Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;3 p.m. - 4 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Peace Corps Info Table</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>International Education Awards Reception</strong>&lt;br&gt;Following Awards Presentation in CSC</td>
<td><strong>Study Abroad First Steps Presentation</strong>&lt;br&gt;4:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Sophomore College Study Abroad Night</strong>&lt;br&gt;6:00 p.m.</td>
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**TUESDAY NOV. 13**

- **Study Abroad Info Table**<br>10 a.m. - 2 p.m.<br>- **Gilman Scholarship Info Table**<br>10 a.m. - 2 p.m.<br>- **Trinity in China Info Session**<br>3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.<br>(Te huacana)

**THURSDAY NOV. 15**

- **Study Abroad Info Table**<br>10 a.m. - 2 p.m.<br>- **Gilman Scholarship Info Table**<br>10 a.m. - 2 p.m.<br>- **Study Abroad First Steps Presentation**<br>3:00 p.m. | **Coates Center Lobby** |

**INTERNATIONAL JAZZ ON KRTU 91.7**
- Jazz de Mexico
- The Latin Jazz Band (Puerto Rico, Cuba, American)
- Comin’ Through Jazz (Brazil)
- Sweet Beats (Paris, America)

Check out the International Photo Contest at: facebook.com/TrinityStudyAbroad

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**JAZZ 91.7**
**Coates Library**
International Authors & Topics ready to be checked out.

**o*shaughnessy**
custom framing
Monday, November 12
Presentation of Awards for Outstanding Achievement in International Education followed by a Reception
CSC Lobby, 3:30-5:00 pm

Wednesday, November 14
Curricular Practical Training (CPT) and Optional Practical Training (OPT) Workshop
CUC 237 Tehuacana, 12:30-1:30 pm

Friday, November 16
Taste of Culture at Trinity!!
CUC Fiesta Room 12-2 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.
FREE and open to all Trinity students. Shuttle runs on select Saturdays (See dates below.), Seating is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.

**FALL 2018**
August 25
September 1, 15, 29
October 13, 27
November 10
December 1

**SPRING 2019**
January 19, 26
February 2, 16
March 2, 23
April 6, 27

*The Shopping Shuttle is seldom cancelled. If it is cancelled, we will announce it on Facebook.

**Departure** 2:00 p.m.
Trinity University Witt Center

**Pick-Up** 4:30 p.m.
Super Target at Park North Plaza
Shopping Center (Blanco at Loop 410)

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 2018 Dates and Times:**
Trips to Social Security Administration:
01/21, 10/19, 11/09

Trips to Department of Public Safety:
10/15, 11/02

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

https://docs.google.com/a/trinity.edu/forms/d/17A2mbSgWwN4Mvf-g0pK_anUlVCxU5rPYyECm70K9hhk/viewform

Past Events

New International Student Orientation 2018

Aug.14-18
International Students, their families and guests gathered from all over the world to attend the International Student Orientation (ISO). The ISO included an International Community Luncheon hosted by the Parent Orientation Committee and the Center for International Engagement. At this annual event, new international students, their families, faculty, and staff from Trinity met and discussed life at Trinity in the upcoming semester.
Past Events

November 12-16, 2018

International Education Week

(Call of International Engagement Week at Trinity University)

Awards for Outstanding Achievement in International Education 2018

Presented by

Faculty: Mario Gonzalez-Fuentes
Staff: Clara C. Wells
U.S. Student: L. Soleil Gaffner
International Student: Sajoy Saljit Pottian

Mario Gonzalez-Fuentes
is an Assistant Professor of Marketing in the Department of Business Administration. As part of his commitment to create global citizens and professionals, he actively participates in the organization of the Madrid Summer Internship Program and co-directs the Winter Vietnam Program at Trinity. For over a decade, he has taught at several European and American business schools and universities. He founded in 2009 the Strategic Research Center of EAE Business School, which has become a reference in the public dissemination of applied business research in Madrid, Spain.

Clara C. Wells
is the Director of Student Accounts in Student Financial Services. She recently spearheaded the use of Flywire at Trinity University. Flywire is a software program that greatly facilitates the payment from overseas of tuition and other expenses of international students enrolled at Trinity. She also presents at New International Student Orientation on key issues related to making payments to Trinity. Clara also collaborates with the ISSS on various international student financial issues.

L. Soleil Gaffner
is a senior majoring in Communications and Spanish in Soleil studied abroad in Trinity’s first Madrid program in fall 2017. While there she raised her level of Spanish to “Professional” and explored internship possibilities at the U.S. Embassy. The result of her efforts lead to her participation as a Consular Intern with the U.S. Embassy during the summer of 2018. She also served as the editor of a “trilogy” of opinion pieces related to Trinity international students in the Trinitonian.

Sajoy Saljit Pottian
is a senior majoring in geosciences and environmental sciences. His home country is Tanzania. In 2017 he participated in a faculty led program in China studying outcrops with Guizhou University Students. He currently serves as the president of the International Club and the African Student association and was a leader in Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Sajoy via dance has participated in Diwali, Mocha Life and Momentum. He also voluntarily served at the TOCAT (Taste of Culture at Trinity) during the International Education Week in 2016, 2017, and 2018.
Past Events

Taste of Culture at Trinity

11/16/2018
CSC Fiesta

12
THE ANNUAL ISSS/FTIS “Friendsgiving” DINNER

Saturday, November 17
in a nearby residence
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 cultures. Some key issues covered include:

1) important F-1 nonimmigrant regulations, other laws and the university honor code; 2) skills and knowledge when encountering other cultures; 3) an opportunity to use the Writing Center; 4) important campus resources such as: health care, student life, downloading and copyright issues, tax issues, student involvement, and other student resources at Trinity University.
# Calendar of Upcoming Events

## Fall 2018/Spring 2019

**DPS/SSA Trips**

(Sign-up for a ride here: [https://goo.gl/GuW19m](https://goo.gl/GuW19m))

- **SSN:** October 19, November 9, March 1, 22, April 12
- **DPS:** October 15, November 2, March 29, April 5

Instructions for applying SSN/DPS are on the Sign-up Form.

**OPT Workshop**

(IEW Event)

- **Wednesday, November 14, 12:30PM-1:30PM**
  - CUC 241 Tehuacana

**Taste of Culture at Trinity (IEW event)**

- **Friday, November 16**
  - 12:30PM—2:30 PM
  - Fiesta Room

**ISSS Comes to You at CSC**

- Every Friday afternoon 2-4:30 pm
- November 27 and 28
- December 4 & 5, 11 & 12
  - CSC 215H

**ISSS/FTIS Friendsgiving Dinner**

- **Saturday, November 17**
  - 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

**ISSS Study Lounge**

(Come study, eat a snack, and have your I-20 signed!)

- **Reading Days and Final Exam Days**
  - December 5-13
  - Halsell, room 329, 8:00AM—5:00PM

**On Campus Employment Workshop**

International Women’s Day Celebration

Tax Workshop for International Students

TBA in spring semester
### 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 employment workshops, tax workshops, Taste of Culture at Trinity, International Education week, etc.

### Contact Us

**International Student & Scholar Services**

One Trinity Place, Box #100  
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Phone: +1-210-999-7313  
Fax: +1-210-999-7305  
Skype: iss0101  
email: isss@trinity.edu  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday  
8:00am – 5:00pm

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

Webpage: gotu.us/issss  
“Like” Us on Facebook for more updates: www.facebook.com/trinityiss

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