



## To Stay or Not to Stay?



Dear ESL Students,

It is the time of year when you, our international students, make the decision to take spring ESL classes or not. Whether you are planning to return home or not, it is wise to think about the consequences of your decision in terms of your overall progress and the completion of your ESL requirement as well as that of your classmates.

Monika Kimball  
(ESL Program Director)

As you know, language learning needs to be reinforced on a daily basis and when you stop taking classes at the end of the winter term, most of you stop learning English until you return in September. All ESL instructors lament the fact that even though students have reached the next higher level of classes, much repetition is necessary in the fall, because students have simply forgotten what they had previously learned. Taking classes in spring does not eliminate the problem entirely, but it is certainly better than the four months pause between April and September. While it is understandable that you want to return home for the summer, please consider taking spring classes which end in mid June. It will still enable you to enjoy a long, much deserved vacation in the US or your home country.

In addition to these pedagogical concerns, your decision also affects your classmates who wish to take spring classes, but learn that they had to be cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Often these ESL students are quite upset, because they wish to finish their required classes but have to wait until fall.

If you decide to follow my advice, please make advising appointments as soon as possible. You may look online for course offerings or pick up a schedule book at the Registration window.

I wish you success on your final exams, and invite you to see me any time you have a concern.

Best regards,  
Professor Kimball

## Announcements

- The University will be closed to observe the Easter holiday on April 9 after 4 PM - April 12. There will be no classes held on these dates.
- Final exams for the Winter semester are scheduled for April 20 - April 25.
- The Winter semester officially ends on April 25.
- Graduation Mass will be held on May 2 at 4:00 p.m.
- Graduation Commencement will be held for students on Sunday, May 3 at 1:30 p.m.
- Spring/Summer classes begin on May 4.

## ISO Events



### Bowling Party (3/27)

Please join the bowling for fun!

### Highland Park Community Service (3/28, 4/25)

Make friends with Highland Park community.

### Coffee Time (4/14)

Recognition of volunteers and graduating students.

## International Students Office (ISO)

- Location: Academic Building Room 1207
- Website: <http://cms.madonna.edu/pages/admissions/international-students>
- Hours: Monday ~ Friday (9:00 a.m ~ 5:00 p.m)
- Phone: 734 - 432 - 5300 (ext. 4763)
- E-mail: [internationalstudent@madonna.edu](mailto:internationalstudent@madonna.edu)
- Director: Grace Philson (734 - 432 - 5791)  
[gphilson@madonna.edu](mailto:gphilson@madonna.edu)
- Advisor: Joy Cho (743 - 432 - 5763)  
[schoi@madonna.edu](mailto:schoi@madonna.edu)

## Motown Auto Show



The North American International Auto Show ran from January 11th through January 25th. It was open to the public on January 17th.

A group of international students and staff from International Students Office and the Residence Hall visited the show. Because of the current climate in the automotive industry, some manufacturers such as Nissan, Infiniti, Suzuki, Rolls-Royce, Ferrari, and Porsche did not attend. However, this made some room for two Chinese automakers, BYD and Brilliance.

New designs that will go into production for the model year 2010 were displayed, including the popular Toyota Camry mid-size sedan. Also shown to the public were the 2010 Ford Taurus, and the 2010 Fisker Karma, a plug-in hybrid luxury sports sedan. Compared to the previous year, there were more plug-in hybrids and purely electric vehicles on display. The Ford Fusion Hybrid sedan with a city fuel economy rating of 41 miles a gallon was the highlight of Ford's presentation. This is an impressive 8 miles a gallon more than its competitor, the Toyota Camry Hybrid.

At the basement of the COBO Center was a small track covered with greenery, where members of the public could test drive vehicles with low or zero emissions.

We had a great time seeing many displays of new and innovative designs of cars. Hopefully, the economic situation will improve next year so that more automakers will choose to participate and display their cars.

Written by Wai Hwa Fong (MBA)

## Coffee Time & Read-off



On February 12, the International Students Office hosted another spectacular Coffee Time, a time for food, fun, fellowship, and relaxation. The theme of Coffee Time in February was culture from Africa.

South America and Valentine's Day Read-Off. This event was even more special with the addition of the Madonna Writing Center students and staff. Gathered in the Take Five Lounge, students enjoyed the annual Valentine's Day Read-Off. Some dared to share some of their favorite poems and passages from around the world, while others explored the colorful national displays.

Each area of the displays was dedicated to country and was covered in interesting facts, jewelry, clothing, and trinkets representative of the area. As always everyone was able to sample a variety of delicious foods, before relaxing with friends. The merging of events between departments allowed students with very different interests to come together in one place. Ideas were shared and new friendships were made, and everyone is looking forward to the next fantastic event.



## American Holidays

### Memorial Day- Monday, May 25th

Memorial Day is observed every year on the last Monday in May. It was originally created to honor the nation's armed services soldiers and staff killed in wartime.



### Independence Day- Saturday, July 4th

Independence Day, also known as The Fourth of July, celebrates the birth of the United States of America by the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.



### Labor Day- Monday, September 7th

Labor Day is observed every year on the first Monday in September. It is an honorary tribute of the contributions made by workers in the United States.



## Question of the Month

Where can I find the documents needed for International Students?

All documents for incoming and current international students can be found in the International Students Office section of the Madonna University website. This includes forms regarding immigration and F-1 regulations, enrollment information, and other necessary documents for your years on campus. As always, if you have any questions please contact the staff at the International Students Office. We will be happy to help you any way we can.

More information can be found here:  
<http://cms.madonna.edu/pages/admissions/international-students/f-1-regulations>