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A big "Welcome" to our new students, and "Welcome Back" to our returning students!

This Fall we welcomed a new group of international Students to join our Madonna Community.

Our new students represent a variety of countries, like Saudi Arabia, China, Norway, Ghana, Libya, South Korea, Canada, The Congo, Ireland, Japan, Nigeria, Spain and Venezuela!

The International Orientation was held on September 5th, and we had a great turn out among both students and staff! A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make this orientation a success, from our presenters to our administrators to our student employees, new students, and to everyone who joined us for the welcome lunch!

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Orientation

Stay tuned in to the ISO newsletter to get updates on future events, ISO happenings, and to learn more about our international students with the Featured Student page!

Thank you! And Good Luck for the new school year!



International Students Office Newsletter—What is it?

For our new students, this is the first ISO newsletter you've received, but certainly not the last! The ISO newsletter is a monthly publication brought to you by the International Students Office. The purpose of the ISO newsletter is to keep you updated not only with events and activities happening within the ISO, but also events and activities happening around campus, as well as important dates and reminders.

Another function of the ISO newsletter is to give voice to our International community by featuring short biographies of our students and cultural articles on traditions and customs of our students' home countries.

Lastly, the ISO newsletter also contains articles on American traditions and customs that may be new or unfamiliar to students from other countries.

This newsletter is for you! If you would like to write for the ISO newsletter, (about you, your home country, about your experience in the U.S./at Madonna, or anything!), or if you would like to suggest an article for the ISO newsletter, please contact Amy in room 1209, or at aldickerson@madonna.edu

We would LOVE to hear from you!



Meet Your Professor Over Lunch!

If you check your email, you've probably already heard of the meet your professor program. (If you don't check your email, you should!) This is a fantastic new program for international students that allows them to get to know a faculty or staff member better by going out for lunch with him/her.

International students can participate by going to the International Students page on the Madonna Website and clicking on the "Meet Your Professor" link on the left side of the page, then following the instructions given. After you select a faculty or staff member from the participant list (does not have to be YOUR professor), contact them to set a date and time, then contact the ISO with your details. The ISO will pay for your lunch, as well as your professor's (\$10 limit/person).

Please contact Grace Philson in room 1207 if you would like to have lunch with one of our amazing Madonna staff members!

How to Contact the International Students Office:



www.facebook.com/ISO.mu

Or search: MU ISO

Grace Philson

Director, International Students

Room 1207

gphilson@madonna.edu

(734) 432-5791

Amy Dickerson

Advisor, International Students

Room 1209

aldickerson@madonna.edu

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September's Featured Student:



My name is Ian Christie, I am from Ireland. I am an under grad at the University of Ulster Magee in Northern Ireland studying Business Information Systems. I am part of the student exchange program at home known as SUSA (Study USA). Ever since the program was mentioned to me nearly 3 years ago I knew I had to be part of it. I was very excited about doing it and knew that it would help my development educationally and socially. I am married to Andrena, have 2 kids (Zach and Josh). I miss them every day. I know though that the sacrifice I am making will ultimately benefit my family. I arrived at Madonna on the 26th of August and will leave in May 2014 - I am here for 2 semesters.

I have had a wonderful experience since arriving on campus and intend making the most of my experience here. I have so far made many nice people, some I would consider friends and perhaps life long friends. I have got a job on campus, have been asked to get involved in some projects on campus which I am going to do. I am very much looking forward to my year ahead.

★☆☆★ Strange American Customs: Tipping ★☆☆★

One custom common to North America, but fairly uncommon to many other parts of the world is tipping. Tipping is the practice of leaving money (in addition to your bill) for someone working in a service job—like a waiter. Tipping can be very stressful for those who aren't used to it, so here is a basic guide to help you out!

Who gets tips?

Waiters: Unless otherwise stated, you should **always** tip a waiter! Waiters work for very low pay (lower than minimum wage) because they receive tips.

How much?

Standard tipping is 15% of your bill. Many people choose to tip more if they like their waiter and had a very pleasant experience and very good service. 20% is a good tip for good service. Anything higher is very generous! Anything lower than 15% is considered a little rude and shouldn't be done unless your waiter was awful! (Not liking your food isn't a reason to not tip!) It is VERY rude to not tip at all!



Who else gets tips?

Service Jobs: Generally this group includes hair/nail stylists, drivers, luggage handlers at airports and hotels, cleaning staff, room service, etc. In most cases tipping is optional, but appreciated.

How much?

People disagree. Unlike waiters, these jobs are not paid below minimum wage, so the tip amount is not generally a standard 15%, but usually a few dollars per service, depending on price, length of time, and satisfaction. A tip for a haircut/style, for example, might be anywhere between \$3 and \$15, depending on the service, how much you like it, and how generous you are!

At places that have tip jars (like coffee shops), tipping is not standard, but again, appreciated.

Usually the change left from your dollar will suffice as a tip.

If you still aren't sure about tipping, there are plenty of tips for tipping available online!



Try: www.tipping.org or www.tripadvisor.com (Search: tipping)

Mid-Autumn Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival (中秋节 in Chinese, Tết Trung Thu in Vietnamese) in China occurs on the 15th Day of the 8th Lunar month each year. This year, that day fell on September, 19th.

There are many legends attached to the origin of the moon festival, all of which revolve around the ancient moon goddess, Chang'e. Chang'e was cast out of the heavens and sent to Earth to live as a mortal with her husband. Her husband, striving for immortality, seeks out an elixir to make him immortal. Chang'e then swallows the elixir herself (in some versions she steals the elixir, in others she swallows it accidentally). Because she swallows the whole pill and not the half she was supposed to take, she floats up to the moon, where she lives forever with a lumberjack who was exiled there by the gods, and a rabbit who is also an apothecary.



There are many traditions attached to the Mid-Autumn Festival. In China it is a 3-day public holiday (often placed between weekends so people can take a 7-day holiday!). It is also celebrated in Vietnam, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

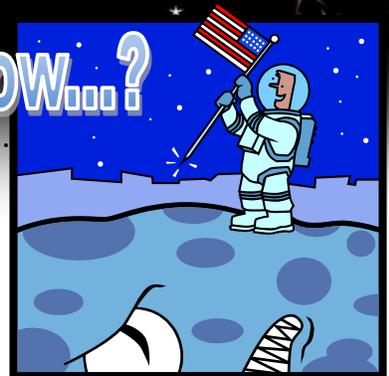
Although the ancient festival revolved around the practice of moon worship—the moon deity Chang'e (also written Chang-o) being closely related to rejuvenation, women, and fertility—the modern celebrations have changed over the years.

Family is still an important part of the holiday, with family members generally traveling to come together. Originally mooncakes were made during the festival, and the head of the household would separate the cake into the number family members, giving one piece to each person. This represented the uniting of families. Today, mooncakes are still an important part of the celebration, but they have become more commonplace as gifts, readily available in bakeries, and generally everyone gets their own.



Moon gazing is still an important part of the celebration, and many families enjoy looking at the full moon together. In some areas lion dances are performed, in others incense and lanterns are lit for Chang'e. In Vietnam children wear masks and lion dancers go door-to-door to wish luck upon the households.

Did you know...?



Chang'e was mentioned in a conversation between Houston and the Apollo 11 crew just before the first Moon landing in 1969:

Houston: *Among the large headlines concerning Apollo this morning, there's one asking that you watch for a lovely girl with a big rabbit. An ancient legend says a beautiful Chinese girl called Chang-o has been living there for 4,000 years. It seems she was banished to the Moon because she stole the pill of immortality from her husband. You might also look for her companion, a large Chinese rabbit, who is easy to spot since he is always standing on his hind feet in the shade of a cinnamon tree. The name of the rabbit is not reported.*

Buzz Aldrin: *Okay. We'll keep a close eye out for the bunny girl.*

Transcript from [nasa.gov](http://history.nasa.gov/ap11fj/audio/0951609.mp3). Listen to the audio here:
<http://history.nasa.gov/ap11fj/audio/0951609.mp3>
(minute 1:23)

**Each of China's Lunar Probes has been named after Chang'e (Chang'e 1 and Chang'e 2). Chang'e 3, a lunar rover, is due to launch in December 2013.



Learn Korean!

Chuseok Word Search

The Korean holiday *Chuseok* occurred on September 19th this year. This is a very important holiday for Koreans, as many return to their hometowns to visit with family and pay respects to their ancestors. Learn a little more about the Korean Chuseok traditions with the word search below!

Chuseok—The autumn harvest festival in Korea occurring on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month, during which people return to their home towns to visit with their families

Hangawi— Another name for Chuseok; Han meaning “big” and gawi means “the ides of August/Autumn”

Charye—(Ancestor Memorial Rights) ritualized system of displaying and consuming food



Seongmyo—Visiting ancestral graves

Belocho— Ritual clearing of weeds around the grave: a practice of duty and respect for your family

Ssireum— Traditional wrestling match during Chuseok festivities

Ganggangsullae— Traditional circle dance performed by women holding hands (in a circle) on the night of Chuseok

Hanbok— Traditional Korean Dress

Chuseokbim— purchasing new clothes for Chuseok



Q L V G P E E U G M P R J Z W
 U J E A L L K H Z E X F L A R
 Y H X H V U C O T O N I Z C E
 V N Y U Q A Q I B M Q P D J H
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 V S H W S E O N G M Y O Y G E
 S M Q G A O D E S W Z E I P Y
 A D E J X G G I S J A B P Y K
 G A N G G A N G S U L L A E W
 L Y V I D Q O A R D H S E O O
 N A H D C P D T H J U C K N A

Songpyoen— Steamed chewy rice cakes filled with sesame seed, beans, red beans, chestnuts, etc. An essential food for Chuseok!

Dongdongju— A traditional rice wine many people enjoy drinking on Chuseok.

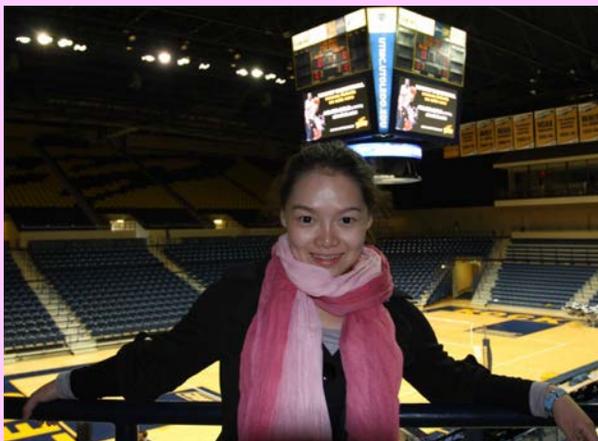


Meet the ISO Student Staff!

My name is Qiyu Chen, a senior student in the MBA program. This is my second year in Madonna University. I love ski and I love the winter in Michigan. I enjoy the life here.



Hi... I am Jae-Won Chang and from South Korea. I live in Paju city located in one hour away from capital of Seoul. I am a nursing student and senior. I am working for both ISO and residence hall. I really like to help people whenever they need.



Qi Mao, I came to Madonna University in 2012. Now, I am in MBA program "After every storm only meet rainbow"

Fang Fang comes from Shanghai, China and has been at Madonna for two years. She is majoring in marketing and hopes to work in advertising because she likes to be challenged.



SangGi Jung has been at Madonna for 2 years and is majoring in Human Resource Management and working at the International Students Office. SangGi is from South Korea—originally from Seoul, but most recently living in Namyangju.



My name is Yifeng Zeng. I have been Madonna University for one year. My major is international business, and I hope to be a successful businessman after I graduate from MU. In my free time, I love playing video games and reading some books. Now, I am working at ISO, I think I like the feeling when I can help other people.



How to maintain F-1 Status:

1. Maintain a valid passport, I-20, and I-94
2. Attend Madonna University
3. Pursue a full course of study and make progress towards completion
4. Apply for extensions of program before the program end date on the I-20
5. Follow USCIS procedures for changing from one program to another
6. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours while school is in session
7. Refrain from off-campus employment without authorization.
8. Report a change of address to USCIS within 10 days of the change on Form AR-11 Full-time study is defined as 12 credit hours a semester (9 if graduate). Only a maximum of 3 credits of online courses can be counted toward the full-time load.

If you have any questions about your visa status, please stop by the International Students Office: Room 1207 or 1209. The ISO has useful information on maintaining your visa, travel requirements, employment, applying for a social security card, and applying for a driver's license.



Upcoming Events:

Crusader 5k and Madonna Mile

Date: Saturday,
September 28

Time: 7:30 am

(registration for runners), 9:00 am
(race)

Location: Madonna Activities Center

Even if you aren't participating in the run you can cheer on your fellow students and staff! The race will begin at the Madonna Activities Center. There will be a 50/50 raffle. Race proceeds benefit the Madonna University Student Emergency Relief Fund.



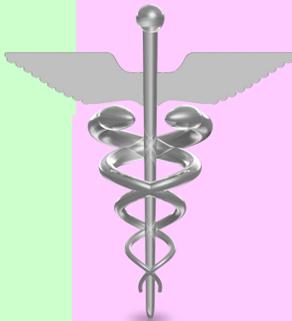
Academic Achievement Workshop

Date: Monday, September 30

Time: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: Room 1312

Topics will include admission requirements for nursing and pre-nursing programs. Strongly recommended for all considering or enrolled in the pre/nursing program.



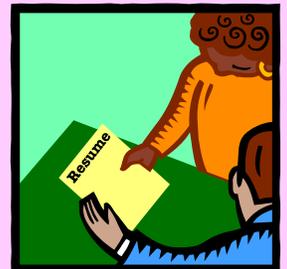
Employment and Resume Workshop

Date: Wednesday,
October 16

Time: 3:00 pm —
4:00 pm

Location: TBD

Interested in working on or off-campus? What do you need to do? How do you find job listings? What does a good resume look like? How do you prepare for a job fair? Join the ISO and Ms. Chris Brant from Career Services for a workshop to help you navigate the employment system!



Drinks and snacks will also be provided in celebration of all of our students with October birthdays!

