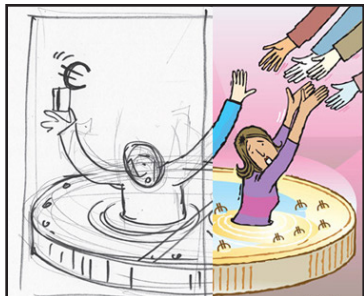




Advice from Veteran Students



The returning students of **Madonna University** would like to extend a warm welcome to the incoming students. The first year can easily be the hardest if you become lost and confused. We've all gone through the process that you are currently in, and we would like to give you a few tips on how to make

your time in the U.S. a rewarding experience. There are many things that we wish we could have known when we first walked onto campus. Hopefully with the following advice you can avoid some of the common mistakes we might have made.

1. Learn the area. This may sound like something that will come in time, but many students have learned the hard way that being unfamiliar with the area surrounding Madonna University can lead to some bad situations. Purposefully look at a map and familiarize yourself with landmarks and streets. It is better to know them now than to try to learn them during an emergency.

2. Find someone to depend on. Many students grow lonely after the first few months in a new place. Everything seems new and exciting now, but as you become busy you can easily find yourself isolated if you do not socialize.

3. Do not be afraid to ask for help. Asking for help does not mean that you can not do things on your own. Many things can be solved using your own knowledge, BUT the staff and veteran students may be able to give you a quick answer to something that confuses you. Not being afraid to ask will save you a lot of time in the future.

International Students Office [ISO]

- Location: Academic Building Room 1207
- Website: <http://www.madonna.edu/pages/IntlStudents.cfm>
- Hours: Monday - Friday [9:00AM - 5:00PM]
- Director: Grace Philson 734-432-5791, gphilson@madonna.edu
- Adviser: Joy Cho / 734-432-5753, scho@madonna.edu
- Jin Kwang Kim / 734-432-4763, jkim598@my.madonna.edu
- Myong Ki Chang / 734-432-4763, mchang@my.madonna.edu
- Qulette Jackson / 734-432-4763, qjackson@my.madonna.edu
- Han Mao / 734-432-4763, hmao@my.madonna.edu

Announcements

Please remember:

- The deadline to withdraw from Fall semester classes is November 13th, 2008.
- The University will be closed to observe the following holidays:
Thanksgiving- November 27th and 28th, 2008
Christmas and New Year- December 24, 2008 through January 1st, 2009.
- The Fall semester officially ends December 13th, 2008.
- Online registration for the Winter 2009 semester begins October 20th, 2008 and ends December 12th, 2008.
- On-site registration is also available in the Registrar's office from December 15th, 2008 until January 13th, 2009.
- Classes will begin on Wednesday, January 7th, 2009.

American Holidays



Election Day- Tuesday, November 4th

The Presidential election is held every four years in the first week of November. Americans are able to vote on critical issues affecting the American government, and select a new president and vice president of the United States.

Thanksgiving Day- Thursday, November 27th

This holiday occurs every year on the last Thursday of November. It is a historical day celebrating the cooperation between the first pioneers of America and the Native Americans.

Currently it is a day of fellowship between family and friends.



Christmas- Thursday, December 25th

This day is traditionally a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Many observe this day with a joyous gathering of family and with the exchange of gifts between loved ones.

New Year's Day- Thursday January 1st

This holiday is a time of reflection of the past year and celebrates the coming of a brand new year with endless possibilities.



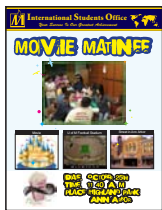
Fun Activities in the Fall



The Fall 2008 semester has been a busy one for international students. Classes, studying, jobs, and activities have dominated most students' schedules. Students have wisely used the events

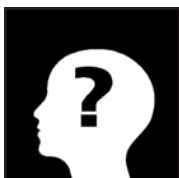
offered by the International Student's Office as a time of fun and relaxation. First the Korean Student Association held a fantastic BBQ party at Hines Park. The students lounged in the sun as the smell of delicious beef and potatoes circulated the picnic area. Traditional Korean games were played on the sidelines of a rowdy soccer scrimmage, and students truly had a time to forget a few of their worries.

As the leaves changed and October approached students were able to venture to a nearby apple orchard to enjoy the season. October 3rd was



a crisp fall day, perfect for the outing. After an official taste test, everyone filled their overflowing bags with over eight types of Michigan apples. Students wandered around the beautiful area, snapping pictures with Halloween pumpkins and straw scarecrows. The day wasn't officially over until all purchased fresh homemade donuts and apple cider for the ride home.

The fall semester wouldn't be complete without the fellowship and fun of the monthly coffee time. This month's theme was Asia, and the students did a wonderful job creating informative and interactive displays. The room was vibrant and colorful with many countries being represented. Homemade crafts, origami, traditional jewelry, henna, calligraphy and more could all be found in the West Colonnade Lounge. Students, faculty, and staff came out in full force to support the spectacular showing.



Questions of the Month

Question: What documents do I need to prepare before traveling outside the United States?

Answer: If you wish to travel outside the US, you need to make sure that the following documents are in good order before your trip. First, make sure that all information on your I-20 is correct and current, and have your I-20 endorsed by Ms. Grace Philson before leaving the U.S. Second, make sure that you have a valid US visa to allow you to return to the US. If your US visa has expired, you will need to apply for a new visa in your home country before returning to the US. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your registration record to prove that you are a student at Madonna University. Visit the International Students Office or call 734-432-5791 to have your questions answered.

How to Maintain F-1 Status

To maintain F-1 status, a student must:

1. Maintain a valid passport, I-20 and I-94
2. Attend the school you are authorized to attend.
3. Pursue a full course of study and make normal progress towards the completion of the course of study.
4. Apply for extensions of program before the expiration date on the current I-20.
5. Follow INS procedures for changing from one program or educational level to another (e.g., from B.A. degree to M.A. degree).
6. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours a week while school is in session.
7. Refrain from off-campus employment without authorization.
8. Report a change of address to INS within 10 days of the change on Form AR-11.

Full course of study is defined as follows:

- * Undergraduate programs: 12 credit hours per semester for the fall and winter semester.
- * Graduate programs: 9 credit hours per semester for the fall and winter semester.
- * Only 3 credits of on-line courses can be counted toward a full course of study.
- * Final single course in the final semester cannot be done as distance education.

ISO Events (Nov. - Dec.)



Movie Matinee

Date: 11/22, 12/27

Come join the International Student Office in Highland Park for an early movie.

Shopping day

Date: 11/22

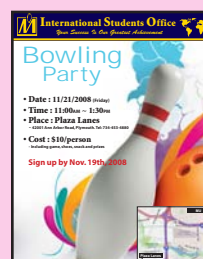
Getting low on groceries? Need to buy something for your dorm room? Well make a list and join us on our group shopping day, and get everything you need.



Bowling Party

Date: 11/7

Please join the bowling party for fun!



Coffee Time

Date: 11/14

It's that time again.

Every month the international students have a day of food and fun and this month's theme is International friendship! Having trouble meeting American friends? Make sure you come and get involved.

