University of Michigan Pre-departure Orientation
July 8 & 10
Meet Our Presenters

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Today we will focus on:

Campus Life & Support

Immigration

Orientation & Beyond

Q & A
U-M International Center

1500 Student Activities Building

Over 10,000 international students & scholars

From more than 130 countries

Annual Statistical Report

Immigration
Health Insurance
Events & Programs
2020-21
CAMPUS
MAIZE & BLUEPRINT

ADVANCING U-M EXCELLENCE, PROTECTING
OUR COMMUNITY

Our guide to living, learning and working together safely
Fall Semester Dates:
● August 31- November 20: Classes held in mix of online, hybrid and in-person modes
● November 20-29: Thanksgiving Break (no classes)
● November 30- Dec 8: Classes resume (all moved to online. No in-person coursework)
● December 10-18: Final exams and projects (online only)

Winter Semester Dates: *No Spring Break*
● January 19- April 20: Class held in mix of online, hybrid and in-person modes
● April 22-29: Final exams and projects
General Safety Guidelines/Procedures:

- University hopes to establish a set of "stackable" and interwoven interventions that will enhance health and safety for all members of our community. This includes wearing PPE, staying home when not feeling well, increasing case-tracking capabilities, and encouraging staff, students, and faculty to work from home as much as possible.

- Masks required indoors and when a distance of 6ft cannot be met - Students will receive a starter kit which includes a mask and hand sanitizer.

- On campus housing will be open. Lounges and common study areas may be closed and masks required in all public areas of residence hall. Dining in-person can be made by reservation, otherwise food will be take-out. Single rooms will be prioritized for those with medical conditions that make them high risk.

Fall announcement also available in Español, Português, and 简体中文.
Campus Life & Support
Michigan, Ann Arbor & Campus

Campus Map

Details About Each School and College
Ann Arbor Temperatures: Average by Month

- **Spring**: 7-22°C / 45-70°F
- **Summer**: 26-28°C / 80-83°F
- **Fall**: 9-23°C / 48-70°F
- **Winter**: -1-1.6°C / 30-35°F

**Average Snowfall (Dec-Feb):**
- 33-40.6 cm per month
  /13-16 inches per month

Ann Arbor Temperatures: Average by Month
IC welcome booklet
Public Transportation

1. U-M blue buses
   ● Free
   ● Connects central, north and south campus
   ● Routes
   ● COVID-19 Updates

2. The Ride
   ● Free when using Mcard
   ● Operates public transportation services in the greater Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area
   ● Routes & Schedules
   ● COVID-19 Updates

More Information
Arriving in Ann Arbor

- Nearest Airport: Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW)
- Transportation options from DTW to Ann Arbor
  - Michigan Flyer ($12/$15) *service temporarily suspended
  - Airbus * before & after U-M breaks ($4)
  - Uber, Lyft (around $40 -50 to Central Campus)
  - Taxi
  - Your own networks!

More Information
On-campus Housing

- **Undergraduate students:**
  - Residence halls
  - Use MCards to enter
  - Winter breaks & Summer breaks
  - [Apply Here](#)

- **Graduate students:**
  - Munger Suites (Central Campus)
  - Northwood Townhomes (North Campus)
  - 1st & 15th options for leases start day
  - June 30th as leases end day
  - [Apply Here](#)

[More information here](#)
Many students find housing through:
  ○ [U-M Beyond the Diag Website](#)
  ○ [Craigslist](#)
  ○ Facebook housing pages
  ○ Your network/Student orgs

[Student Legal Services](#) can review leases, and be aware of [rental scams](#).
Dining Halls

- University dining halls provide meals for a variety of needs: Kosher, vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, and halal.
- For Fall 2020, meals will be to-go, or students can make reservations for a table if they wish to dine-in.
- Students living in off-campus apartments can purchase meal plans.

Visit M|Dining here.
Banking

- The selection of bank is your personal choice
  - PNC, the official MCard bank
  - Regional banks, national banks, and international banks
  - Find banks that have ATM machines close to where you live
  - Set-up online & mobile banking
- It is okay to switch banks

Visit the IC’s banking webpage here.
See local banks comparison here.
Paying Tuition and Fees

- Bills are posted to your student's Wolverine Access portal monthly and an email is sent to the student.
- **Parents and Family Authorization**: set up a "Friend/Family Account" so they can also receive those messages through Wolverine Access.
- U-M accepts payments on student charges in the form of cash, check, or e-payment.
  - Optional Payment Plan: spread payment over 5 payments without interest.
  - Refer to [2020-2021 Payment Plan Brochure](#)
- International payments can be made through [Flywire](#)
Health and Wellness

**International Student Health Insurance Plan**
- Automatically enrolled
- Monthly payment posted on Wolverine Access
- Check the coverage highlights
- Dental care coverage

**University Health Services (UHS)**
- Walk-in visits and appointments available
- Most services are free or have low fees
- Can request interpretation when scheduling

**U-M Hospitals - Michigan Medicine**: ranked #5 best hospitals in USA and #15 in the world by Newsweek
- International Student Health Insurance plan is accepted.
- **Translation services** available
Health and Wellness

**Immunizations**
- Not required by U-M or U.S. government
- Recommended to protect your health and the health of others
- Can get immunizations at UHS for a fee

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
- Free counseling services
- Counselors speak a variety of languages
- Offers events and group supports
- SilverCloud Online mental health tool

**Recreational Sports**
- There are gym facilities, group sessions, and personal trainings, intramural and club sports available
Safety

Housing Safety & Security

● Lock your door

Department of Public Safety and Security (DPSS)

○ U-M Emergency Alert
  ■ Emergency text/email alerts (bad weather, power outages, school closings, safety concerns)
  ■ Sign up through Wolverine access

○ Save this phone number: (734)763-1131
○ Blue Light Phones

In an emergency, dial 9-1-1
Safety

**After-hour Rides**
- Free, require MCard
- Available between 8 pm to 2 am

**Register Devices**
- Register valuable devices through DPSS
- You will receive stickers to paste on your devices
- To report the theft of property on campus, call the Police Department at (734) 763-1131 or report a crime online.

**Scams**
- Be alert to emails or calls that ask for money
- Call the International Center or the U-M Police Department (734-763-1131).
Academic Resources

- Libraries
- Faculty Office Hours
- Advising Centers
- English Language Supports
  - Sweetland Writing Center
  - English Language Institute
  - Language Resources Center
  - Conversation Partners
  - Conversation Circles
U.S. Classroom Expectations

- Relaxed Atmosphere
- Technology Friendly
- Student Centered
- Critical Thinking
- Students Freely Express Opinions
- Active Learning
  - In class discussion/debate
  - Presentation
  - Role-playing
  - Team-work
  - Papers
  - Case study
Immigration
Applying for your U.S. Visa

Pay the I-901 SEVIS fee
Complete the DS-160 form online
Pay the visa application fee
Make an appointment with the Consulate

U.S. Visa Application Website
Tips: Applying for Your U.S. Visa

● Apply for your visa as early as possible
● Students may be issued F-1 visas up to 120 days before the I-20 program start date
● Be prepared to demonstrate your intent to return home after you complete your academic program
● The following will provide a list of generally required documents for your visa application
  ○ U.S. Department of State F-1 visa application information
  ○ U.S. Department of State J-1 visa application information
Preparing for Your Arrival

- Check your I-94 online to be sure you were admitted to the U.S. in the correct immigration status
- Plan to attend all of the international student orientation
- Confirm when your mandatory check-in will be, and be sure to be there at the start of the check-in if it is in person
- Make arrangements for transportation to campus before you arrive.
Preparing for Your Arrival:

- Make arrangements to transfer money to the U.S. after you arrive and open a bank account.
- Any amount/combination of money (cash, money order, travelers’ checks) over $10,000 must be declared in an advance on a U.S. Customs and Border Protection Declaration Form 6059B.
- Make temporary housing arrangements before you arrive, if you plan to arrive before you can enter your dorm room or apartment.
Maintaining Your Immigration Status:

- Maintain good academic standing and make progress towards degree program requirements
- Enroll full-time during academic year (Fall & Winter semesters)
- Undergraduate = 12 credits per term; Graduate = 8 credits per term; Graduate students with GSI/GSRA appointments = 6 credits per term
  *May count more than 3 credits of online classes towards minimum enrollment this Fall
- Maintain valid passport and I-20
- Maintain health insurance coverage
- May work on-campus up to 20 hours each week during academic year
- May work more than 20 hours each week during breaks/vacation period
- May not work off campus without proper work authorization
FAQs for Newly Admitted Students

● Immigration Documents (Visas, I-20s, etc.)
● Travel
● Late Arrivals/Deferrals
● Planning for Fall Term 2020
Orientation & Beyond
United States/Midwest Culture

- Midwest Americans are friendly, but they like to keep private life private. Don’t be surprised if it takes a while to make close friendships.
  - Smiling, saying good morning/hello, but no conversation following
  - Don’t ask: age, weight, sexual orientation, relationship status, political views, income level, etc. when initially meeting people.
- U-M is diverse. You will get to know people from all over the world and from many backgrounds.
- You usually need to be invited over; potlucks are typical.
- Expect to “line up” in the USA when waiting for service.
- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI): gender pronouns, accessibility, etc.
Common Challenges

- Homesickness
- Loss of support systems
- Lack of meaningful relationships
- Language difficulties
- U.S. immigration regulatory restrictions
- New approaches to learning
- Changing sense of identity
- Unrealistic expectations from family & self
- Financial problems
- Difficulties in home country
- New ways of doing things
Taiwanese Student Association (TWSA) - undergraduate students
Michigan Taiwanese Student Association (MTSA) - graduate students
Michigan International Student Society - undergraduate students
Malaysian Students Association
Vietnamese Student Association

Graduate Rackham International (GRIN) - Rackham graduate students
Chinese Student & Scholar Association (CSSA)
Indian Student Association (ISA)
Korean Student Association (KSA)
Thai Student Association
Saudi Students Association

.. and many more! Search on MaizePages to find organizations!
Campus Involvement

Maize Pages
- Find any student organization
  - Search by type of organization
  - Search by name
- Discover events happening nearby
- Track your involvement in clubs

Check with your departments about their own student organizations!

International Center Student Council
- Identify and examine issues affecting international students
- Organize several events throughout the year.
Campus Involvement

**FestiFall and NorthFest**
- Explore hundreds of student organizations
- Happens on Central and North Campus
- Free giveaways, games, and activities
- Best way to start finding your community

**Happening @ Michigan**
- Search for any event happening on campus
- Calendar view of events
- Dozens of events listed for every day
Career Resources

Career Services Offices:
- University Career Center (for all students)
- LSA Opportunity Hub (Literature, Science, and Art undergraduate students)
- Career Services in other Schools & Colleges

International Center:
- Finding internships in and outside the U.S.
- Understanding U.S. Workplace Culture
- International Alumni Career Panel
- International Career Pathways

Tips:
- Be proactive
- Build cross-cultural knowledge
- Volunteering
- Learn practical skills
Orientation

Graduate Students:
- Rackham Fall Virtual Welcome
- Your school or department may offer an orientation. Speak with your academic department about its specific orientation.

Undergraduate Students:
- Wolverine Online Orientation
International Center Summer Orientation

**Workshops:**
- Address practical needs: banking, transportation, driving, car, health care, legal issues...
- Academic support: library basics, cultural differences in the classroom, communicating with academic advisers...
- Health and wellness: health services, managing stress, making friends, getting involved..
- Employment: finding a job on campus, tax forms

**Ask Me!:** a virtual meeting designed to support new international students

**Virtual Chats with Orientation Peer Advisers**
● International Picnic
● American Football 101
● Lunch and Learn Series
● Meet, Eat, and American Life (MEAL) @ Michigan
● International Student Lunch Conversation
● Birthday Celebration
● International Coffee Hour
● Taste of Culture Series
● Cultural Excursions
● Immigration Workshops
● Career Workshops
● Income Tax Preparation
● Education Abroad Advising
● Graduation Reception

*Check your umich email for important information and announcements.
Helpful Links

General Information:
- International Student Welcome Booklet
- Areas of Student Life
- Packing List
- U-M Lingo

Health, Wellness, & Safety:
- Michigan Medicine
- University Health Services
- Recreational Sports
- Division of Public Safety and Security

Academic Resources:
- Libraries
- Sweetland Writing Center
- English Language Institute
- Language Resources Center
- FAQ for LSA Undergraduate Students
- FAQ for Engineering Undergraduate Students

Career Resources:
- University Career Center
- Career Services Offices

Transportation:
- IC transportation page
- U-M Logistics, Transports & Parking
- The Rides routes & schedules
- Detroit Connector
- Michigan Flyer (Airport)
- Zipcar, Enterprise

Housing:
- On-campus housing
- Off-campus housing
- Craigslist
-安娜堡華人網
- Rental Scams
- Legal Services
- M | Dining
- Storage Services

Community:
- International House Ann Arbor
- International Neighbors
- Michigan Language Center

Campus Involvements:
- Maize Pages
- International Center Student Council
- Happening @ Michigan

Phone Apps:
- Michigan App
- DPSS Safety App
- 21 Apps to help you conquer your first year at U-M

Important U.S. Federal and Privacy Laws:
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA):

COVID-19 Updates:
- Public Affairs
- International Center
- FAQs for Newly Admitted Students
FEEDBACK SURVEY

Please complete the evaluation survey by clicking here or scan the QR code
Safe Travels & See you in Ann Arbor!

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