Introductions

• OIS Staff: Joy Werka, Mona Foroughi, Anita Deer, Sabrina Williams

• Graduate School: Linda Clugstone and Midori Maloney

• Dr. David Berkowitz, Dean of Graduate Studies and Director of Office of International Engagement

• Dr. Yeqing Bao, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Associate Director of Office of International Engagement

• Staff from English Language Program

• Student groups

• Volunteers
Agenda for the morning

• WELCOME
• Meet your fellow students
• Presentations from campus partners and OIS
• Orientation schedule
• Answering your questions
• LUNCH
• Connect/network
Roll Call of Nations
Huntsville

- https://vimeo.com/97377704
Student Life at UAH

• Student Success
• Student Engagement
• Athletics
Transportation

• UAH Shuttle Bus

• City Shuttle Bus: [Website Link]

[Website Link]: http://www.hsvcity.com/Public Tran/public_trans.php
Health and Well Being

- Student Health Center
- Health Insurance
  https://youtu.be/h8iD5WCn45w
- Counselling Center
- Fitness Center
Get to know your classmates
What you need to know

• Immigration
• Safety
• Campus Business
  – Bursar Office, Registration in classes, Charger Central (change of address)
• TECH – Banner, Canvas, UAH email, UAlert
F1/J1 Essentials

• Register full time
  – Fall/spring semesters
  – Undergraduate 12 hours, graduate 9 hours
  – Credits at degree level towards your major
  – Do not drop a class without our permission

\[\text{an to be ‘out of status’}\]
Keep Immigration Documents Valid

• Passport should have at least 6 months validity
• I-20 cannot expire before you finish – extension needs to be done before end date
• See an advisor with questions
I-20 OR DS-2019

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

SURNAME: Smith
GIVEN NAME: John

PREFERRED NAME: John Doe-Smith
PASSPORT NAME: John Doe-Smith

COUNTRY OF BIRTH: United Kingdom
ADMISSION NUMBER: 0151846

DATE OF BIRTH: 01 JANUARY 1990
FORM ISSUE REASON: INITIAL ADMISSION

INITIAL ADMISSION: 01 JANUARY 1990

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL NAME: UVa School for Advanced SEVIS Studies
SCHOOL ADDRESS: 9300 Nancy Lane, P.O. Washington, MD 20744
SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL: Online Student Services
SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE: 11-24768

PROGRAM OF STUDY

EDUCATION LEVEL: Bachelor's, General 05.0501
NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH: 05.0501

PROGRAM START DATE: 02 SEPT 2022
PROGRAM END DATE: 31 MAY 2024

FINANCIALS

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR 9 MONTHS

SCHOOL FEES $23,000
LIVING EXPENSES $6,000
EXPENSES OF DEPENDENTS (1) $3,000
OTHER $0

TOTAL $32,000

STUDENT FUNDING FOR 9 MONTHS

SPECIAL FUNDS PERCIPAL FUNDS $3,000
SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP $29,000
FUNDS FROM ANOTHER SOURCE $0

TOTAL $32,000

REMARKS


SCHOOL ATTTESTATION

I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I have read and agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of my admission and those of any extension of stay. I certify that all information provided on this form reflects accurately to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I am, or remain in the United States temporarily, and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full program of study at the school named above. I also authorize the named school to release any information from my records verified by DHS pursuant to 8 CFR 214.3(g) to determine my nonimmigrant status. Parent or guardian, and student, must sign if student is under 18.

SCHOOL OFFICIAL: #NAME# #SIGNATURE#

DATE: #DATE#

SIGNATURE OF ADMINISTRATOR: #SIGNATURE#

DATE: 01 JANUARY 1990

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: #NAME#

ADDRESS (city/state/province/country): #ADDRESS#

ICE Form I-20 A-B (12/2016)
F1 or J1 visa

• Stamp affixed in passport
• Does not determine length of stay in U.S.
• If it expires when outside of the U.S., you must renew visa in order to return to the U.S.
• A visa cannot be issued inside the United States
I-94 arrival/departure record

• Print off and turn in within 2 weeks of arrival to ISSS
• You can use our printer/computer
• You need this for Bank Account, Social Security Administration – Driver’s License or State ID card
Get I-94 Information

The following information is required to retrieve your I-94 information. Enter the information as it appears on the travel document you used to enter the United States.

This website provides information maintained in CBP systems. The information returned may not reflect applications submitted to or benefits received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Last/Surname:  
First (Given) Name:  
Birth Date:  
Year (YYYY):  
Month:  
Day (DD):  
Passport Number:  
Country of Issuance:  

Note: For security reasons, we recommend that you close your browser after you have finished retrieving your I-94 number.

Privacy Act Statement
Pursuant to 5 U.S.C § 552(a)(3), this Privacy Act Statement serves to inform you of the following concerning the collection of the information on this form.


PURPOSE: The information that you submit when attempting to access this website will be used to retrieve your arrival and departure records from the Non-immigrant Information System (NIIS) collected during the preceding five years. CBP will retain the information you submit when attempting to access your records through this website for 3 months for audit and system performance purposes. NIIS maintains information for entry screening and admissibility determination purposes for nonimmigrant visitors to the United States. NIIS also serves to track the period of admissibility of nonimmigrant aliens and maintain a central repository of contact information for these aliens. It captures arrival and departure information to identify travel patterns, arrivals without departure, and nonimmigrant aliens overstaying their admissible terms in the United States. The timely and accurate capturing of this data is necessary for monitoring compliance with U.S. law.

ROUTINE USE: The information you submit for purposes of accessing this website will not be shared with any entities or persons outside of DHS. The information maintained in NIIS may be shared with other authorities to assist in determining your eligibility for a requested benefit, future admissibility, and in accordance with the approved routine uses described in the associated systems of records notice.

DISCLOSURE: The information you provide for purposes of accessing this website is voluntary. However, failure to provide all or any part of the information requested by DHS, or the provision of inaccurate information, may result in denial of access to this website.

For inquiries or questions regarding your I-94, please click here.

Accessibility | Privacy Policy
Passport

- At least 6 months validity
- Keep in safe place
- Suggest a state ID
Reporting changes and employment

• Change in address – charger central or BANNER – anytime you move submit the new address
• Advisors need to know any changes in major, financial sponsor, visa status
• TRAVEL SIGNATURE PROCESS
On campus employment

• 20 hour per week limit
• GTA/GRA is on campus employment
• On campus job application once have position offer needs a signature from an advisor to proceed – and help with SSN
Off Campus Employment

• Off campus work is very limited – see an advisor for details
  – Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
  – Optional Practical Training (OPT)
  – Severe Economic Hardship (SEH)

• No restaurant jobs or other unauthorized off campus employment!
Who to trust?

• SEE AN ADVISOR
• Don’t ask friends, professors, or the internet
• DSO role on campus and with immigration
• Study in the States or other government websites (USCIS, DHS)
Contact us

• If you feel like you are out of status – see us ASAP - If you fall out of status – you must depart the U.S.

• Walk-in advising, call or email

• 256-824-6055, isss@uah.edu, Monday and Friday 10-12, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 1:30 - 4
Stay informed

- Read your UAH email regularly
- Weekly announcements
- Reminder to file tax return in Spring
- Important deadlines
- Job opportunities
- Trips and Social Events
What you need to know

• Immigration
• Safety
• Campus Business
  – Bursar Office, Registration in classes, Charger Central (change of address)
• TECH – Banner, Canvas, UAH email, UAlert
Culture Shock

• Culture Shock: the feeling of disorientation experienced by someone who is suddenly subjected to an unfamiliar culture, way of life, or set of attitudes.

• Counseling Center
  Wilson Hall 329. 256.824.6203

• ISSS
  Student Services Building 218
  256.824.6055
BREAK
Staying Safe on Campus and in the U.S.

What you need to know
First things First

- UAH is a safe campus and Huntsville is a safe community
- You will find people to be friendly, helpful and courteous
Campus safety- Risk Reduction Tips

• Be aware of your surroundings
Walking on Campus During the Day

• Walk in groups when possible
• Avoid isolated or dark areas
• Travel with confidence and a purpose
• Do not wear earphones while walking or jogging
• Use crosswalks and stop lights to cross major intersections
Walking on Campus after Dark

• Walk in groups after dark
• Walk in well-lit and easily visible areas.
• When going out, consider letting someone know where you are, who you will be with, and when you will return.
• Be alert and keep your cellphone and keys easily accessible
• Before exiting a building or car, look around the area for anything suspicious.
• Try to avoid working or studying alone in a campus building at night.
• Know the locations of emergency telephones.
Personal Safety Tips

• If you are being followed, go to the nearest area of safety and if possible, use your cell phone to call 911.
• If confronted by a situation, try to remain calm.
• If it is safe to do so, try to get a detailed description of suspects or suspicious persons and/or their vehicle(s).
• Do not use ATMS (automated bank teller machines) alone, at night, or when someone suspicious is nearby.
• Avoid strangers; you do not have to stop and talk to them.
• Stay alert, and plan ahead for “What if…?”
Important Phone Numbers

• Emergency and Non-Emergency Phone Numbers
  • EMERGENCY: **911** from *any* phone
  • EMERGENCY: **6911** from Campus phones
  • EMERGENCY: **256.824.6911** from *any* phone
  • Non-Emergency UAH Police Number: 256.824.6596
• Voice messages to cell, home and office phones
• Text messages to cell phones
• Email messages
• **UAH Facebook page** and **UAH Police Facebook page**
• UAH Twitter Feeds
  (@UAH_UAlert and @UAHuntsville)
Residential Safety

- Do not prop open exterior doors.
- When entering a building with access control in place, do not allow strangers to enter behind you.
- Always lock your door when you leave, sleep or work late.
- Participate in all safety drills.
- Make sure your apartment has lights, locks, and alarms as needed.
- Be on the look out for people who don’t belong.
- If you see someone you consider suspicious or out of place, **call UAH Police or 911 if you are off campus immediately.**
Protecting your Identity and Property

- Register your bicycle with the UAH Police Department.
- Record the serial numbers of your belongings. Engrave or permanently mark items with a unique identifying number.
- Keep your car locked. Store items out of sight or in your room/office.
- Coats, backpacks, and purses should remain with you or be locked up.
- Be careful with “name brand” items and leaving things in common areas.
- Do not share your personal information with people who do not need it.
- Protect your passwords, computer credentials and credit card information.
Cultural Safety Tip #1

- The U.S. has strict laws concerning the use of alcohol, especially regarding drinking alcohol while driving and underage drinking.
Alcohol Laws to be aware of

• Possession of alcoholic beverages by a person who is under age 21 is illegal.
• Using a fake ID or misrepresenting your age is also illegal and punishable by law.
• Purchasing alcoholic beverages for a person under the age of 21 is illegal.
• Driving while under the influence of alcohol is illegal and can result in jail time and loss of legal status in the United States.
Cultural Safety Tip #2

• DRUGS ARE NOT LEGAL AT BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL LEVEL.
• Marijuana is not legal in the state of Alabama.
• Possession of ANY illegal drug or controlled substance is not legal.
No smoking on campus

• UAH is a tobacco and vapor-free campus!

• Tobacco products include cigarettes, pipes, chewing tobacco, and vaporizers or e-cigarettes.

• It applies to all university-owned buildings and vehicles, all outside property including parking and recreational areas, and all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities.
Cultural Safety Tip #3

Understanding the role of Police in the United States.

- Police are responsible for safeguarding the public and upholding local and federal laws.
- Police are considered to be a community resource.
- Police are called for domestic issues and things that may be considered personal or family matters in your home country.
General Safety Tips for International Students

- Be careful when biking or walking outside of campus
- Do not hitchhike in the U.S.
- Do not excessively rely on other international students.
- Do not drive without a license
- No smoking in buildings or in dorm rooms
- Do not go to the Emergency Room for non-emergencies
- Exercise caution when using alcohol
Tips for interactions with the police if you are stopped or pulled over

- Think carefully about your words, movement, body language, and emotions.
- Keep your hands where the police can see them and do not exit your vehicle unless you are instructed to do so.
- Don’t touch any police officer.
- Bribery is illegal in the U.S.
- International Students have the same rights as American citizens for police matters.
- Contact a UAH DSO if you have been arrested.
Schedule for the week

• English Language Placement Test (select students – you should have been notified by email)
• ID card (after this session with your volunteer leaders)
• Health Center – TB and immunizations (today/tomorrow)
• Registration in Classes (holds removed this afternoon)
• Next orientation – undergrad/ ILC (check your schedule or ask someone)
• First day of class – tuition due by 5pm
• Week of Welcome website:

Sunday, January 8

- WOW Kick Off Event: Laser Tag and Dive-In Movie
- 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm, University Fitness Center
Tuesday, January 10

• Rise & Dine
  9:00 - 10:00AM
  Graduate School and International Services, with Multicultural Affairs
  Student Services Building, Room 218 and 222
Tuesday, January 10

• Student Organization Fair
7:00 – 8:30pm
Charger Union
Download UAH campus life app
BEFORE YOU LEAVE

• A completed SEVIS check in form – with local Huntsville address (temporary address is okay)
• Optional letter for AL Credit Union
• GTA/GRAs letter for Social Security Number
• How to retrieve CBP I-94 (Arrival/Departure) record
• Ensure you have your original immigration documents (and those of any dependents)
Student Organizations

• ISO
• CSSA
• And more
## Registrar’s Calendar

### UAH SPRING SEMESTER 2017

#### JANUARY

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- January 2: Holiday, University closed
- January 3: University Reopens
- January 4: Classes begin
- January 9: Midterm exam Schedule announced
- January 13: Last day to withdraw without special approval
- January 16: MLK holiday, University closed
- January 20: Last day to drop courses without academic penalty
- January 30: Last day to drop for Pro-Full
- February 1: Application deadline for undergraduate Summer credit and Spring credit
- February 6: Last day to change fall to spring
- February 9 - 13: Spring credit
- February 17: Add deadline
- March 13 - 17: Spring credit
- April 6: Last day to withdraw from course(s) and receive grade of W
- April 21: Last day to submit Thrus. of Appeal to Graduate School
- April 26: Last day to withdraw a course with a grade of F
- April 27: Last day to withdraw from course(s) with a grade of F
- May 5: Last day to submit the final grades to the Registrar
- May 27: Final exam
- May 2 - 7: Commencement, Class 1534

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### SPRING 2017 FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

#### CLASSES MEET

| TR | 8:00 am to 9:00 am |
| TR | 11:10 am to 12:10 pm |
| TR | 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm |
| TR | 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm |
| TR | 5:40 pm to 6:40 pm |

| MVF | 9:10 am to 10:10 am |
| MVF | 10:20 am to 11:20 am |
| MVF | 11:30 am to 12:30 pm |
| MVF | 12:40 pm to 1:40 pm |

| MW | 9:30 am to 10:30 am |
| MW | 10:45 am to 11:45 am |
| MW | 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm |

| MW | 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm |
| MW | 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm |
| MW | 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm |
| MW | 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm |

#### EXAM PERIOD

| TR | 8:00 am to 10:30 am |
| TR | 11:10 am to 12:30 pm |
| TR | 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm |
| TR | 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm |

| MVF | 9:10 am to 10:10 am |
| MVF | 10:20 am to 11:20 am |
| MVF | 11:30 am to 12:30 pm |
| MVF | 12:40 pm to 1:40 pm |

| MW | 9:30 am to 10:30 am |
| MW | 10:45 am to 11:45 am |
| MW | 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm |

| MW | 1:15 pm to 2:15 pm |
| MW | 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm |
| MW | 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm |
| MW | 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm |

| May 1, Monday | 8:00 am to 10:30 am |
| May 1, Monday | 11:10 am to 12:30 pm |
| May 1, Monday | 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm |

| May 2, Tuesday | 8:00 am to 10:30 am |
| May 2, Tuesday | 11:10 am to 12:30 pm |
| May 2, Tuesday | 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm |

| May 3, Wednesday | 8:00 am to 10:30 am |
| May 3, Wednesday | 11:10 am to 12:30 pm |
| May 3, Wednesday | 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm |

#### Classes that meet only one evening a week have 15 scheduled sessions.

Final exams will be the last class day.

Note: Changes to the schedule may be necessary due to unforeseen events. All final grades will be submitted to the Registrar by May 27. The final examination schedule is subject to change. Students are advised to check their class schedules frequently.

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**Registrar’s Office**

**The University of Alabama in Huntsville**