



# Introductions

- OIE Staff
  - Joy Werka
  - Anita Rathz
  - Grad Studies -Linda Clugstone
  - Mona Foroughi
  - Sabrina Williams
- Dr. David Berkowitz, Dean of Graduate Studies
- Dr. Andrea Word, Director of ILC Program
- TJ Brecciaroli, Interim Dean of Students
- Student groups
- Volunteers

# Agenda for the morning

- WELCOME
- Meet your fellow students
- Presentations from campus partners and OIE
- Orientation schedule
- Answering your questions
- LUNCH
- Connect/network



# Roll Call of Nations



# Huntsville

- <https://vimeo.com/97377704>





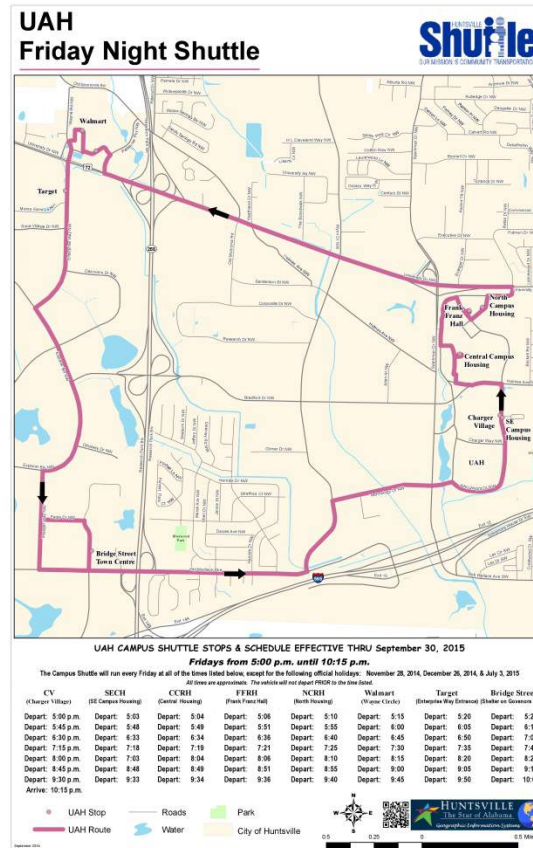
# Student Life at UAH

- Student Success
- Student Engagement
- Athletics



# Transportation

- UAH Shuttle Bus



- City Shuttle Bus:

[http://www.hsvcity.com/PublicTran/public\\_trans.php](http://www.hsvcity.com/PublicTran/public_trans.php)

# Health and Well Being

- Health Insurance
- Counselling Center
- Fitness Center





# CULTURAL BINGO

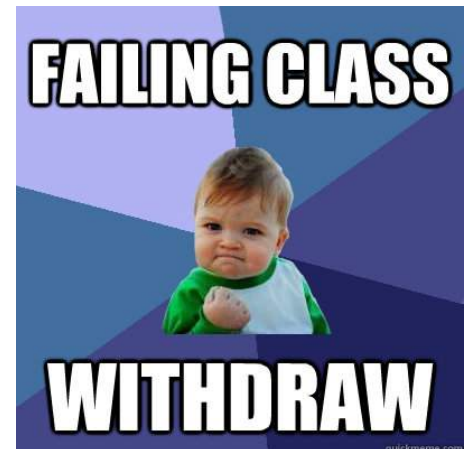


# What you need to know

- 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
    - What does it mean 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

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status  
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>SURNAME/PRIMARY NAME</b><br>Doe Smith       | <b>GIVEN NAME</b><br>John                       | <b>CLASS</b><br><br><b>F-1</b><br><br><b>ACADEMIC AND LANGUAGE</b> |
| <b>PREFERRED NAME</b><br>John Doe-Smith        | <b>PASSPORT NAME</b>                            |  |
| <b>COUNTRY OF BIRTH</b><br>UNITED KINGDOM      | <b>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP</b><br>UNITED KINGDOM |  |
| <b>DATE OF BIRTH</b><br>01 JANUARY 1980        | <b>ADMISSION NUMBER</b>                         |  |
| <b>FORM ISSUE REASON</b><br>INITIAL ATTENDANCE | <b>LEGACY NAME</b><br>John Doe-Smith            |  |

**SCHOOL INFORMATION**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>SCHOOL NAME</b><br>SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies<br>SEVP School for Advanced SEVIS Studies | <b>SCHOOL ADDRESS</b><br>9002 Nancy Lane, Ft. Washington, MD 20744      |
| <b>SCHOOL OFFICIAL TO CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL</b><br>Helene Robertson<br>PDSO                             | <b>SCHOOL CODE AND APPROVAL DATE</b><br>BAL214F4444000<br>03 APRIL 2015 |

**PROGRAM OF STUDY**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>EDUCATION LEVEL</b><br>DOCTORATE            | <b>MAJOR 1</b><br>Economics, General 45.0601   | <b>MAJOR 2</b><br>None 00.0000                            |
| <b>NORMAL PROGRAM LENGTH</b><br>72 Months      | <b>PROGRAM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY</b><br>Required | <b>ENGLISH PROFICIENCY NOTES</b><br>Student is proficient |
| <b>PROGRAM START DATE</b><br>01 SEPTEMBER 2015 | <b>PROGRAM END DATE</b><br>31 MAY 2021         |   |

**FINANCIALS**

| ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS FOR: 9 MONTHS |                  | STUDENT'S FUNDING FOR: 9 MONTHS        |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|
| Tuition and Fees                      | \$ 23,000        | Personal Funds                         | \$ 3,000         |
| Living Expenses                       | \$ 6,000         | Scholarship and Teaching Assistantship | \$ 29,000        |
| Expenses of Dependents (1)            | \$ 3,000         | Funds From Another Source              | \$               |
| Other                                 | \$               | On-Campus Employment                   | \$               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>\$ 32,000</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>\$ 32,000</b> |

**REMARKS**

Orientation begins 8/25/2015. Please report to ISSS upon arrival.

**SCHOOL ATTESTATION**

I certify under penalty of perjury that all information provided above was entered before I signed this form and is true and correct. I executed this form in the United States after review and evaluation in the United States by me or other officials of the school of the student's application, transcripts, or other records of courses taken and proof of financial responsibility, which were received at the school prior to the execution of this form. The school has determined that the above named student's qualifications meet all standards for admission to the school and the student will be required to pursue a full program of study as defined by 8 CFR 214.2(f)(6). I am a designated school official of the above named school and am authorized to issue this form.

|   |                                     |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> Helene Robertson, PDSO | <b>DATE ISSUED</b><br>21 April 2015 | <b>PLACE ISSUED</b><br>Ft. Washington, MD |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|

**STUDENT ATTESTATION**

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 refers specifically to me and is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I seek to enter 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 needed 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.**

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>SIGNATURE OF:</b> John Doe Smith             | <b>DATE</b>      |
| <b>NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN</b>               | <b>SIGNATURE</b> |
| <b>ADDRESS (city/state or province/country)</b> | <b>DATE</b>      |

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

I-20, Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status  
OMB NO. 1653-0038

SEVIS ID: N0004705512 (F-1)

NAME: John Doe Smith

**EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION**

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>     | <b>TYPE</b>                |
| <b>EMPLOYMENT START DATE</b> | <b>EMPLOYMENT END DATE</b> |
| <b>EMPLOYER NAME</b>         | <b>EMPLOYER LOCATION</b>   |
| <b>COMMENTS</b>              |                            |

**CHANGE OF STATUS/CAP-GAP EXTENSION**

| REQUESTED VISA TYPE | REQUEST/PETITION STATUS | RECEIPT NUMBER | BENEFIT START DATE/REQUEST DATE |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|

**EVENT HISTORY**

| EVENT NAME | EVENT DATE |
|------------|------------|
|------------|------------|

**OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS**

| AUTHORIZATION | START DATE | END DATE |
|---------------|------------|----------|
|---------------|------------|----------|

**TRAVEL ENDORSEMENT**

This page when properly endorsed, may be used for reentry of the student to attend the same school after a temporary absence from the United States. Each certification signature is valid for one year.

| SCHOOL OFFICIAL | TITLE | SIGNATURE | DATE ISSUED | PLACE ISSUED |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
|                 |       | X         |             |              |
|                 |       | X         |             |              |
|                 |       | X         |             |              |
|                 |       | X         |             |              |



# 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 Social Security Administration – Driver's License or State ID card



Get I-94 Information

I-94 FAQ

### 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):

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Passport Number:

Country of Issuance:

Get Most Recent I-94

Get Travel History

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

An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection and a person is not required to respond to this information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. The control number for this collection is 1651-0111. The estimated average time to complete this application is 4 minutes. If you have any comments regarding the burden estimate you can write to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street, NE, Washington DC 20229.

#### Privacy Act Statement

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

**AUTHORITIES:** The authorities supporting CBP's collection and use of the Form I-94/I-94W data include, The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, Pub. L. No. 108-458, codified in 50 U.S.C. §§ 401 et seq.; The Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1101 et seq.; and the Homeland Security Act of 2002, 6 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq.

**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 USES:** 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 notices.

**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)



- 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, [iss@uah.edu](mailto:iss@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



GOOD NEWS! HERE'S AN EMAIL  
EXPLAINING HOW TO MANAGE EMAIL.



# 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



Counseling Center  
Wilson Hall 329. 256.824.6203

ISSS  
Conference Training Center 116. 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  
Number: 256



# UAlert

- 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.





# 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.



**Police Department**  
*Protection. Duty. Honor. Service.*

# 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.



# 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

# Schedule for the week

- ID card (after this session with your volunteer leaders)
- Health Center - tomorrow
- Registration in Classes (holds removed this afternoon)
- Next orientation – undergrad, grad, ILC (check your schedule or ask someone)
- Shuttle to Social Security Administration (GTAs/GRAs)
- First day of class – tuition due by 5pm

# WOW

**Week of Welcome**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIXMttxF48I>
- [http://www.uah.edu/images/administrative/student-life/wow\\_events\\_2015.pdf](http://www.uah.edu/images/administrative/student-life/wow_events_2015.pdf)

# Student Organizations

- ISO
- CSSA
- MEET
- And more



# BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- A completed SEVIS check in form
- Optional letter for AL Credit Union
- GTA/GRAs letter for Social Security Numbers
- How to retrieve CBP I-94 (Arrival/Departure) record
- Ensure you have your original immigration documents (and those of any dependents)