Welcome, New International Students!

As I’ve entered the room 1000’s on a snowy Tuesday morning, the wonderful smiles and new faces welcomed me. This day reminded me of the orientation I had had as an international student not so long ago. I know that it is a special day for all of our new international students! I hope that our orientation met everyone’s expectations. The part of the orientation that caught my attention was the presentation to us by our very own Frances FitzGerald, International Advisor, together with two of our wonderful Writing Center staff ESL Tutors, Sally Friedman and Cathie Draper. It was a great introduction given by our Director, Gail Nelson and our very own International Advisor, Joy Cho. They are exceptional individuals.

This semester we have 18 new international students that have joined the Madonna University family. They come from Brazil, Canada, Columbia, Costa Rica, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Philippines, Russia, Spain, and Sweden. The students are studying many different subjects, including business, hospitality management, etc. They are open to a Tuesday morning and afternoon attending the orientation session to learn things about Madonna University. The students heard presentations about campus life, campus safety, tutoring services, and other things needed to make their time here at Madonna a good experience. The best thing about the orientation was the chance to hear from current international students about how they enjoy daily life both inside and outside the classroom. We would like to welcome these new students and wish them good luck in their studies. We also hope they have a chance to meet new friends, have fun, and learn about other cultures while they are here. Welcome to Madonna!

Written by Doretha McCurdy (MTESOL)

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International Student of the Month

This month we would like to introduce Orla McLarnon. Orla is from Ireland and is majoring in Business. Orla took a break from her studies to dance in the United States. She was a part of a high school dancing team in Michigan to which she would like to return. How fun is that? Orla tells us she likes to shop and watch sports and is grateful for the chance to continue her education here at Madonna. Orla loves to travel. She has been to many states including California and Florida. She has also been to several countries around the world with friends.

Students in Ireland do not get vacations as much as we do here in the States. Since Orla has been here, she has been very happy with her experience. Orla also taught us to keep a positive attitude. If she could give any advise to students, it would be to enjoy college while it lasts. In the next 4 years Orla is planning on completing her undergraduate degree. Orla is very involved in Student Life activities here on campus. We are happy to meet all of you.

Written by Elaine Michelle Lou G. Javier

How to Maintain a F-1 Status

Maintain a valid passport, I-20, and J-1.

Attend the school you are authorised to be in.

Pursue a full course of study and make normal progress towards the completion of the degree for which you were admitted.

Register for courses each term.

Release anywayne you are not taking classes during Spring Break or other breaks.

Release anywayne you take more than 12 credits each term.

Release anywayne you are on the campus for a full course of study each semester.

Release anywayne you withdraw from classes and don’t obtain permission from DSO.

Report a change of address to USCIS within 10 days.

American Holidays & Events

Valentine’s Day: Monday, February 14

President’s Day: Monday, February 21

Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 24

November 25 to December 2

Christmas: Tuesday, December 24

Daytime: Thursday, December 25

Saint's Day: Monday, December 26

International Students Office Newsletter