Welcome Message
The International Students Office would like to welcome all international students to Madonna University for the Fall semester. The staff has prepared a selection of enjoyable special events for the academic year. We welcome the participation of all students, friends, and staff. The International Newsletter will be your resource for staying informed on these events and many other campus activities. We also encourage both new and returning students to contact the International Students Office with any questions or requests for academic support. The faculty and staff hope that together we can make the 2009-2010 school year a great success.

Writing for an American Scholarly Audience
By Frances E. Piltz-Bedell
Writing Center Coordinator
It is very common for students to attend school in another country that uses an alphabet other than English. When you're learning a language for the first time, you're learning two layers of English: your native language and the second: the English language and discipline-specific English for your major. You're doing a great deal of both at the same time. When you're writing an academic essay for an American class, you need to keep in mind the following advice from Marion Genereaux, former writing center coordinator.

Students and your professor's assignment.
If you're unsure, ask the instructor to clarify it for you, or ask for help from a Writing Center tutor. At Madonna, students and tutors encourage students to ask questions.

Reading and academic writing.
Academic writing is much different from the casual writing you would do through e-mail or on Twitter. Read your textbooks. Look up scholarly articles through the Madonna Library's many databases. Use online resources. To know what academic writing is, you need to read it often.

Welcome to Madonna, and we at the Writing Center look forward to working with you.

Highland Park Community Service
By: Juan Victor San Martin
A few months ago I was looking for a way to help my community and found an organization near my church. My mother, a Madonna University student, informed me of how several of her fellow Madonna students worked with the Roman Presbyterian Church in Southfield. She told me about their activities. On the last Saturday of every month, several Madonna international students and a few members of the church would ride one of the church's large vans to Highland Park near Detroit. There, the students and church members would enter the church. At the church they were given tea and food and a chance to see a few of the locals, often a movie. My mother, who is a great friend of the church, would give it to me. The next month we were on the van ready to help. It's as dear as it is happened yesterday. A good amount of people showed up for the event. We helped to serve the pies, then watched a Disney movie. The experience was very rewarding. I learned a lot about myself and the others around me. It turns out that one can help others by spending time, attention, and joy. My mother, the rest of my family members and me, take part in the program regularly. We plan to be a part of this service project as long as absolutely possible.

International Students Office Fall 2007

Highland Park Community Service Welcome Party on September 25th the International Students Office and First Year Experience will co-sponsor a welcoming party for all Madonna University students! This will be a time for relaxation after the start of a new semester. Students will creatively decorate the Take 5 lounge for this event. The welcome party will give students a chance to become familiar with other students and staff from all over the university. It is an opportunity to make new friends and take a break from the normal college courses. The event will kick off with music and prize giveaways that you won't want to miss. A variety of international food will be served at the party.

Welcome Party will begin at 4:30 p.m. Come experience a warm welcome from Madonna University!

Question of the Month

How do I maintain my F-1 student status at Madonna University?
To maintain F-1 status you must:
1. Maintain a valid passport, I-20 and I-94
2. Attend Madonna University
3. Plan a full course of study and make normal progress toward completion. For undergraduates, 12 credit hours and for graduate students, 9 quarter credits per semester.
4. Apply for extension of program before the expiration date on your I-20
5. Limit on-campus employment to 20 hours a week. Off-campus employment is allowed
If you have any questions regarding your student status, please contact the International Student Office for more details.

American Holidays
Columbus Day Monday, October 12th
Halloween Saturday, October 31st
Veterans Day Tuesday, November 11th