



Hello International Students!

Spring greetings from the ISSO. We hope that your semester is going well. Below please find a few announcements and reminders for the month of March!



International Coffee Hour - March Events

Enjoy coffee and conversation at this informal gathering held on the first and third Thursday of the semester months between 4-6pm in the Prospector, Gold Room.

International Coffee Hours in March will be on March 1st and 15th!

For a complete list of dates click [HERE](#)



Spring Break Travel Outside the U.S.

Spring Break is March 5th-10th. If you will travel outside the U.S. (yes, this includes Canada and Mexico), please remember...

- **Get your I-20 or DS-2019 signed** in the ISSO if (upon your re-entry to the U.S.) it will be more than 1 year since your last signature! Please allow 3 business days processing time so we can verify your SEVIS record.
- Take with you, your **valid passport six months into the future, visa, UNC Charlotte transcript and financial documentation.**

Have a happy and safe Spring Break!!

Tax Deadline is Approaching

All international students (F-1 & J-1) who resided in the US during 2017 are required to complete federal tax forms.



- If you were **NOT EMPLOYED** in the U.S. in 2017, you must file **ONLY the Form 8843**
- If you were **EMPLOYED** in the U.S. in 2017, you must file the federal and the state tax forms for any state in which you worked.

If you would like access to Glacier Tax Prep software to help you "file" (complete) complicated federal tax forms come to the ISSO during the specific times below. A \$5 fee will then be applied to your student account by the end of April of this year. First come-first serve, so don't wait until the last minute or they may sell out!

- Mondays: 3:00pm – 4:30pm
- Wednesday: 3:00pm – 4:30pm
- Friday: 3:00pm – 4:30pm



Academic Stress?

Mid-term exams are upon us and the ISSO wishes you well as you study hard and do your very best! See below for a few special reminders:

1. Ask for help sooner rather than later. Look for tutors through the [University Center for Academic Excellence](#); ask for help through the [Writing Resources Center](#); attend a workshop through the [Center for Graduate Life](#); or reach out to the staff at [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) if there are things in your life that are affecting your studies and your grades.
2. Do not drop below fulltime enrollment before first talking with an advisor in the ISSO. Remember that F-1 and J-1 immigration regulations require you to be [enrolled fulltime](#) every fall and spring semester.
3. Remember that **rules and regulations** for violations of [Academic Integrity](#) are **extremely severe** so make sure that you understand what is acceptable work and what is unacceptable. Check out the [powerpoint that the ISSO used at International Student Orientation](#) and ask your professor if you are unsure of the rules. Better to be safe than sorry!

Optional Practical Training and Curricular Practical Training (Off-Campus Employment Workshops)

The ISSO holds regular [workshops each month](#) to explain Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT) for any students wishing to learn more about off-campus employment benefits.

- Any F-1 or J-1 student wishing to work off-campus **MUST** attend a workshop and **MUST** get authorized for either CPT or OPT prior to accepting or beginning work. Immigration regulations are extremely strict and there are important eligibility requirements that must be satisfied. Learn more at <https://isso.uncc.edu/current-students/employment>.

SAVE THE DATE. Please join the Office of International Programs in celebrating the 13th annual International Women’s Day Celebration on March 27, 2018.

Do you know a woman on campus who has made an impact locally or globally? The Office of International Programs invites members of the campus community to celebrate International Women’s Day at UNC Charlotte!

This annual event includes historical information and recognition of faculty, staff, and students who have been nominated for their impact on the lives of women locally



and globally. [Nominations](#) will open **Friday, February 9** and will be accepted until **Thursday, March 8**.

Please consider submitting a nomination of a fellow international student so that they can be recognized for the valuable contributions they make to our campus community!

Please [RSVP](#) and see oip.uncc.edu/iwd for more information, nomination criteria, and a brief International Women's Day nomination form.