



APRIL 2018

1st and 3rd Thursdays

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM



International Coffee Hour

Enjoy coffee and conversation at this informal gathering held on the first and third Thursday of the semester months. International Coffee Hours in April will be on **April 5th and 19th!** For a complete list of dates click

[HERE](#)

Prospector, Gold Room

Contact: intlssso@uncc.edu

Wednesday, April 4th

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM



Save the Date: Speed Friending!

Would you like to make new cross-cultural friends in a fast, structured and fun way? Here is your chance! This event will provide you brief face to face introductions with a variety of people from different cultural backgrounds. The rules are simple: You will be given conversation cue cards and a set amount of discussion time. Get to know their name, home country, age, hobbies and more!

College of Health and Human Services, Room 128

Contact: Dionna Wright, Dwrigh62@uncc.edu

Wednesday, April 11th

and

Wednesday, April 25th

11:00 AM-3:00 PM



Travel Signature Walk-In Events

PLAN AHEAD! Are you planning to travel outside the U.S. and need a travel signature on your I-20 or DS-2019? Skip the 3-day wait time by attending one of these special 'travel signature days'! Drop-in anytime between 11am-3pm on either of these two dates and get your signature right away. If you can't make it to either of these events, you may still drop-off your I-20 or DS-2019 in the ISSO. Please note, due to volume, the ISSO requires 3 days to check your record and sign-off for travel purposes.

Friday, April 13th



Beyond OPT: Strategies for a Successful Job Search & Options for Longer Term Visas in the U.S.

Students preparing for program completion and considering future employment options in the U.S. will benefit from this special workshop, offered once per year. The ISSO will present some strategies for a successful job search and a local immigration attorney will present options for longer-term visas in the U.S. There is no registration required for this workshop, but once it is full, the doors will close, so don't be late! 2:00-3:30 PM

Tuesday, April 17th



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

End of Semester Final Stretch - You Can Do It!!

We've now entered the final 4 weeks of the spring semester 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.

- 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!

Friday, March 30th, and Thursday, April 17th



Off-Campus Employment Workshops For Optional Practical Training and Curricular Practical Training

For any May or Summer graduates who wish to apply for OPT, get those applications submitted as soon as possible! USCIS processing time is quite lengthy so do not wait! If you haven't already attended a [mandatory workshop](#) outlining the process, there are only 2 more left; one is Friday, March 30th at 3pm in CHHS 330 and the last one is Wednesday, April 18th at 10am in Cone 111.

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> .

For anyone wishing to do a summer internship, CPT applications are now being accepted. If you haven't already attended a [mandatory workshop](#) outlining the process, there is only 1 more left Thursday, April 12th at 10am in Cone 210B.



Light Rail Finally Open at UNC Charlotte!

Finally, after years of waiting and complaining that it's so hard to get around Charlotte, we have the beginning of a solution. Please take advantage of this wonderful service that is FREE TO STUDENTS – just '[show and go](#)' with your student ID card!! We hope that you will enjoy some spring weather and go exploring with a friend sometime soon.