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<td>خوش آمدید</td>
<td>欢迎</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ahla</td>
<td>欢迎</td>
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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Ice Breaker Activity
- Student Life in the U.S.
- Elements of Academic Advising
- Tips from your Peers
- Student Health Center
- Immigration Rules and Regulations
- Campus Employment
- Navigating Cultural Differences
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Services
- LUNCH!
WELCOME
to ISU and to Pocatello!
You made it!
International Programs Office (IPO)

Our Services

- Admissions
- Academic Advising
- Immigration Advising
  - F-1, J-1 regulations and benefits
  - Employment eligibility
  - Immigration laws
  - Liaison with government entities (DOS, DHS, etc.)
- Study Abroad
- Help with social, cultural and academic integration with ISU and Pocatello community
International Programs Office (IPO)

Top floor of Museum Building #12, Room 426

Like us on Facebook: ISUIPO
Follow us on Twitter: ISUIPO
Meet Your IPO Staff

Shawn Bascom, Assistant Director, IPO
Kendra Cranor, Admin Assistant/Study Abroad Coordinator
Gene Denning, Admissions Specialist
Nitin Srivastava, Academic Advising
Jesse Kiboko, Immigration Advising
Khalil Azizi, Immigration Advising
Student Workers
Meet Your Advisors

Academic Advising - Nitin Srivastava  
[srivniti@isu.edu]

Immigration Advising - If your last name begins with the letter...

- A-C  Jesse Kiboko  [kibojess@isu.edu]
- D-Z  Khalil Azizi  [azizabdu@isu.edu]

To meet with your advisor

No same-day appointments

- Walk-ins (mornings): Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 11:30 am
- By Appointment (afternoons): Monday - Thursday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.
- Friday by appointment only (no same day-appointments or walk-ins).
Helpful Tips for IPO requests

- Submit document requests as early as possible!
  - I-20 travel signature requests should be submitted one week in advance
- Processing Time for Document Requests: 3-5 business days
- Check your isu.edu email regularly
- Use BengalWeb regularly
Forms you can find at www.isu.edu/ipo/forms

**Immigration**
- Invitation Letter Request
- Visa Renewal Request
- Reduced Course Load (RCL) Form
- Program Extension Form
- Social Security Form
- Driver’s License Letter

**Employment**
- Employment Opportunities Overview
- Searching for On-Campus Employment
- Economic Hardship Application
- CPT Information & Documents Required
- CPT Authorization Form
- OPT Application Checklist
- OPT Extension Application Checklist
Student Living in the U.S.

- Be Safe!
  - ISU is one of the SAFEST campuses in the U.S.!
  - But still wise to be careful!
    - Introduce yourself to neighbors
    - Lock doors, personal belongings

- Policing in the U.S.
  - The local police are friendly and are there to protect!
  - Traffic Stops
  - Must always have license, registration and insurance!
  - Parking - watch the street signs
  - Cross-walks - be careful!

- Know the local laws!
  - Legal drinking age: 21
  - Age of consent: 18
Student Living in the U.S.

- Be Healthy!
  - Food and Water
  - Exercise
  - Be involved!
- Health insurance is a must!
  - It’s the law!
  - Insurance companies for F-1 and J-1 students
    - ISO: [https://www.isoa.org/](https://www.isoa.org/)
    - Visit International Health Insurance: [http://www.visitinsurance.com/](http://www.visitinsurance.com/)
- These are affordable!
Cultural Student Clubs

- African Students Association
- ALMAS (Association Latina Motivandote A Superarte) I.F.
- Association of Indian Students
- Chinese Student Association
- Conseil Francais
- German Club
- Hispanic Awareness Leadership Organization (HALO)
- International Students Association
- International Studies and Travel Association
- Japanese Club
- Korean Club
- Native Americans United
- Nepalese Student Association
- Poly Club
- Saudi Student Association
Student Living in the U.S.

- Housing
  - On-campus housing recommended if possible
  - Off-campus housing tips
    - KNOW THE CONTRACT!
    - Ask about utilities
    - Deposit will be expected
    - Clean apartment when vacating
    - Off-campus booklet
Student Living in the U.S.

- Other tips
  - Beware of email and phone scams!
  - Phones
    - Prepaid is easy and affordable
    - Verizon offers 18% discount to students
  - Bank Accounts
    - Most students use ISU Federal Credit Union - a good option
TRANSPORTATION

- BUS SERVICE (ON CAMPUS-routes J and H) IS FREE FOR ISU STUDENTS!
- PICK UP AND DROP OFF AROUND CAMPUS EVERY 7-8 MINUTES!
- AROUND TOWN COST (per ride) IS ONLY $1
- BUS SERVICE WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO MALL, FRED MEYERS GROCERY STORE, WAL-MART, OLD TOWN, AND BACK TO UNIVERSITY
- http://www.oldtownpocatello.com/
- http://www.pocatellotransit.com/
What does SEVIS mean?
SEVIS Registration

- Official Immigration Check-In
  - Copy of Passport
  - Copy of Visa
  - Copy of I-94 Card (www.cbp.gov/i94)
  - Copy of ISU I-20
  - Complete Address

- Please check in after orientation if you have not already done so!
Know Our Website

www.isu.edu/ipo
Know Our Website

Forms and Handouts
All forms and handouts are either links to the web or forms in pdf format unless otherwise noted.

Prospective Students and Applicants
- Online Application
- ISU Application
- Declaration of Financial Support (DFS)
- DFI Declaration of Financial Support (DFS)
- Verification Form
- SEVIS Fee Instructions
- How to Apply for a Visa
- SEVIS Transfer Release Form
- Deferral Request
- E-Ship Global

New and Accepted Students
- Check-In Form
- International Student Orientation
- Registration
- Welcome Manual for International Students and Scholars

Current Students
- Document Request
- Sponsored Student Document Request Form
- Reduced Course Load (RCL) Instructions
- Program Extension Information
- Program Extension Form
- How to get a Social Security Card
- Social Security Form
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- Searching for On-Campus Employment
- Economic Hardship Application
- OPT Information and Documents Required
- OPT Authorization Form
- OPT Application Checklist
- OPT Extension Application Checklist
- OPT Address Change
- OPT Employment Update
- Submit STEM Extension 6 Month Report
- OPT Workshop Presentation
- Tax Workshop PowerPoint Presentation

Study Abroad
- Study Abroad Interest Form
- Application Checklist
- Application for Study Abroad
- Academic Reference Form
- Consent and Release Form
- Responsibilities of Study Abroad Participants
- Health History Questionnaire
- Application for Transfer of Credit
- U.S. Passport Application
- Enrollment Verification Form
- Study Abroad Budget Worksheet (Excel spreadsheet)

Incoming Exchange Students
- ISU Application
- ISU Exchange Programs Supplemental Application
- Financial Document

J-1 Visiting Scholars
- DS-2019 Application for the prospective visiting scholar (word doc)
- Visiting Scholar Request Form (word doc) for the inviting department
- Visiting Scholar Extension Form (word doc) for the inviting department
- J Program Participation Restrictions
- Departure Notification Form (word doc)
Forms and Handouts
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- Visiting Scholar Extension Form (word doc) for the inviting department
- J Program Participation Restrictions
- Departure Notification Form (word doc)
Know the Regulations

- Basic F-1 and J-1 Rules:
  - Have a valid passport
  - Have a valid I-94
  - Have a valid I-20 (or DS-2019)
- Full-Time Credits - Undergraduate (12), Graduate (9)
- Make “Normal Progress”
- Report Address Changes
- Do not work illegally
Reduced Course Load (RCL)

- Academic reasons
  - Initial difficulty with English
  - Unfamiliarity with U.S. teaching methods
  - Improper course level placement
- Medical recommendation
- Final semester
- Graduate students working on Thesis or Dissertation
Reduced Course Load (RCL)

Current Students
- Document Request
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Your Immigration Documents

- Try not to lose them!
- Keep ALL I-20s and DS-2019s
- Keep documents in a safe place
- Keep passport valid (Renew 9 months prior to expiration)
Visa

- U.S. entry document
- “A visa allows you to knock on the door. It’s up to immigration to decide whether or not to let you in”.

- Does NOT affect your immigration status
- Only need to renew if planning to enter the U.S.
Visa

- More information on our website (www.isu.edu/ipo)
- Need to renew? Visit your immigration advisor!
I-94

- Print from www.cbp.gov/i94
- Needed for Social Security, Driver’s License and more!
Keep it Valid

Watch expiration date: SECTION 5
  - Extend semester before expiration if needed!

Keep up-to-date
  - Biographical Information
  - Education Level
  - Major
I-20 Travel Signature

- Good for one year!
- Bring to IPO at least 3 days in advance!
- Have visa for destination
- Have valid passport, visa and I-20 (or DS-2019) for re-entry
Address Updates

- Update within 10 days of moving!
- Update in BengalWeb
Address Updates

Secure Access Login

User Name:

Password:

Warn me before logging me into other sites.

Forgot password?

LOGIN | clear
Address Updates

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<th>Phones</th>
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<td>Cell:</td>
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</table>

**Type of Address to Insert:**
- Select
- Mailing
- Permanent
- Resides At

**Submit**
Resides At

Valid From This Date: MM/DD/YYYY

Until This Date: MM/DD/YYYY

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

Address Line 3:

City:

State or Province: Not Applicable

ZIP or Postal Code:

County: Not Applicable

Nation: Not Applicable

Delete this Address:

Phone Type

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<tr>
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<th>Area Code</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
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Submit
Reset

Select a Different Address to Update
Employment

- On Campus - 20 hrs/week
  - Must be “On-Campus”
  - Full-Time during school breaks

- Off-Campus Employments
  - MUST HAVE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION BY IPO
  - For economic hardship or practical training
  - See your immigration advisor for more details

- Social Security
  - Cannot apply until you have BEGUN your job
  - Cannot apply until your SEVIS record is registered
  - Cannot apply until you’ve been in the U.S. for 10 days
Your Status - Your Responsibility

- In the end, maintaining status is YOUR responsibility
- Get questions answered by your immigration advisor, not friends and family!
- Stay informed!
  - Pay attention to announcements you receive from IPO
  - Read the information on our website!
Academic Advising

Nitin Srivastava
Academic Advisor--International Programs Office
Email: srivniti@isu.edu
Phone: 208-282-4465
Walk-in hours- Mon-Thurs 9am-11:30am
Appointments—Mon-Friday 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Who is my advisor

• IPO Academic Advisor / First Year Transition Advisor (helps you in class registration during initial and general registration)

• Departmental Advisor(s)

• IPO Academic Advisor (during regular semester)—questions regarding adding/dropping a course, adding late 8-week mid-semester course, questions regarding academic performance, major and minor exploration, changing majors, resources help, projected GPA, scholarship requirements, other academic issues
Math and English Placement

• Students with no English placement test scores should contact Dr. Jennifer Attebery at attejenn@isu.edu, chair of English, who will determine a proper course placement for them and provide the necessary override.

• Students with no ACT/SAT Math scores, can take ALEKS Math Placement test. It is offered free of charge. You can take the exam for up to 5 times at no cost.

• Need to go to Gravely hall for registration. ALEKS can be taken either proctored or un-proctored for the first time. Scores will be counted for proctored and not for un-proctored.
Registration Tips:

• ATTEMPTED CREDIT HOURS (Very Important)
• ALEKS, SAT and ACT scores
• Ensure that there are no time conflicts between the courses registered
• Students on Probation must see Nitin before considering withdrawing/dropping any course
• Priority to D/F repeat the classes
• PEAC classes, online classes and Idaho Falls section -- Be aware about the restrictions
• Regular Attendance (Impact of getting “X” in a course)

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Freshman: 25 credits or less - Sophomore: 26-57 credits - Junior: 58-89 credits - Senior: 90 or more credits
Important DEFINITIONS

• Term, CRN, Subject course number and section number
• Campus: PC, IF, MD, TF, HS
• schedule type: Lecture, Lab, Web-course, Web-supplemented, Video Conferencing
• Wait list
• Class Days: M, T, W, R,F, S,U
Online Classes

• For all undergraduate international students: Must have at least 9 face to face credits (6 for graduate students) during regular semesters

• For students sponsored through embassies (Kuwait, SACM, UAE):
  --Total online credits must not be more than 12.
  --May not register unless they have an approval from IPO
Students with NRTW:

• Must pass 24 credits (no repeated credits) with 2.50 GPA after the end of two regular semesters to maintain NRTW.

• Summer semester may be considered but permission is required (example: Fall to fall semester)
Advising Tips

- [www.isu.edu](http://www.isu.edu), A to Z index, Directory, Course schedule
- Course load in first semester (balanced schedule)
- Syllabus and course expectations
- Instructor’s Office hours
- Moodle and email check (very important)
- Ask questions and be proactive (honesty is the best policy!!)
- Petitions for late registration and withdrawal
- Informing the Instructor in advance at the beginning of the class about possible future absences/accommodations (specially in summer semester)
- Be healthy
Know your resources

- Student success center (tutoring help)
- Central Academic Advising
- Office of Registrar
- Scholarship office
- Administration and Finance
- International Programs Office
- Counseling and Testing Center
Student success center

- Recommended courses for First Year Transition (intro to university culture, learning strategies and study techniques which promote academic success)
  - ACAD 1104 (3 credits - Full semester course)
  - ACAD 1101 (1 credit - Late 8 week course-taught by Nitin Srivastava)

- Help for Math and Written papers
  - Math Lab and Writing Center 323 REND
  - Call 282-3662 for appointment

- Help for other classes
  - Content Area Tutoring or C.A.T.
  - Apply at 323 REND
Questions?
Other Important Dates

- **Classes Begin:** Tuesday, August 20th. Good luck on your first semester!
- **Let’s Dance ISU!** Thursday, August 23rd on the Quad 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Mingle with your U.S. and international peers. Food, Music, Games and Prizes!
- **Last day to make changes to your class schedule:** (add/drop) Friday, August 31st.
- **ISA Welcome Dinner:** Friday, August 31st in the SUB Ballroom from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM. Come mingle with your U.S. and international peers!
- **Cocoa, Coffee and Conversation:** Friday, September 7th in the Quad Lounge at 3:00 PM. Monthly event to mingle with your peers and have a cup of coffee or hot chocolate.
- **International Night:** Spring semester. More details coming soon!
Success in Your First Semester
Sue Akersten  338 REND  282–4425

What is the biggest complaint that ISU professors have about international students?

1. They don’t read and follow instructions.
2. They come in late to class.
3. They miss class too often.
4. They are hard to understand.
5. They don’t speak in class.
Manage Your Time
323 REND

- **Help for math** (Begins Mon., August 20) 323REND
  - Math Lab Week 1: 9–7pm M–Th; 9–2pm F
  - Week 2–16: MWTh 9–7; T 9–9; F 9–2
  - **No** appointment needed

- **Help for written papers** (Begins Tues. Sept. 4)
  - Writing Center 323 REND
  - Week 3–16: MTWTh 9–7, F 9–2 9–7pm M–Th
  - Call 282–3662 or make appointment on-line at http://www2.isu.edu/success/

- **Help for other classes** (Begins Tues., Sept. 4)
  - Content Area Tutoring or C.A.T.
  - Apply at 323 REND
  - Apply at desk any time M–F 8–5
One on One Tutoring – Most Popular ESOL Service (60 minute individual appointments)

For appointment:
<https://isu.mywconline.com/>

- Wide variety of purposes, determined by you, your teacher or your supervisor.
  - Understand your assignment
  - Practice your speech or presentation
  - Improve your reading, listening, pronunciation, writing, and research skills.
  - For more info: <https://www.isu.edu/tutoring/>
ESOL Workshops
<akersue@isu.edu> or 282–4425

- **Research at the Oboler Library**
  - Orientation tour plus 2 workshops help you find library resources, use data-bases and evaluate Internet sites for your research topics

- **Avoid Accidental Plagiarism**
  - Learn how to cite, document, paraphrase, summarize and accurately quote your sources in your papers.

- **Weekly Discussion Groups** (5 student limit per group)
  - Students focus on topics of general interest
Does your academic and professional success depend on your spoken English skills?

- Discover the strengths and weaknesses of your spoken English
- Work with a master speech clinician two times/week for five weeks

Sign up for A.M.E. with Sue Akersten 338 REND
akersue@isu.edu 282-4425
ACAD 1106 (15328) American Culture and the University Experience

- Monday–Thursday 4–5:15 pm – 3 credits, graded
- Early 8 Weeks – BEGINS AUGUST 20
- Late 8 Weeks – BEGINS OCTOBER 15

- Study American cultural values and expectations and how they manifest in the structure and functioning of a university.
- Learn effective cross-cultural communication and how to navigate daily student tasks both on and off campus.
- Intended primarily for entering international students.