NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

PROGRAM GUIDE

AUGUST 13
AUGUST 18

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
Dear Vanderbilt International Students,

On behalf of the entire ISSS staff, welcome to Vanderbilt University. The ISSS staff is devoted to helping you feel at home at Vanderbilt, becoming more fully integrated in our university community, and meeting your academic potential. We strongly believe that cultural adaptation and cultural success lie in accessing support resources when you first arrive and throughout your studies. ISSS offers personal attention, stimulating intercultural programs, and excellent support resources.

You are an integral part of this university community, and we are dedicated to helping you achieve your goals, as well as relieve some of the stress and anxiety that come from studying in a new culture.

Please look at our website to see how we may assist you during your time with us at Vanderbilt University.

Again, welcome to Vanderbilt and best wishes for a successful first year!

Susan M. Barone, Ph.D.
Executive Director for International Student Programs,
Office of the Vice Provost for Learning and Residential Affairs
Vanderbilt University

Affiliated Faculty
Peabody School of Education
Center for Second Language Studies
PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Here is a quick review of what to do before leaving your home country for Vanderbilt:

☐ **Step 1: Inform ISSS of Your Arrival Plans**
Once you have booked your tickets, complete the Pre-Arrival form to inform us of your arrival. ISSS will offer free airport pickup through Lyft from 7/9–8/31. More information can be found on the Fall Orientation webpage.

☐ **Step 2: Housing**
For **Graduate/Professional Students:**
Students should search for available housing and should find a permanent residence shortly after arriving to Nashville. For assistance, please visit the Off-campus Housing and Referral Service page or visit vanderbilt.edu/isss/coming-to-vanderbilt/housing for more information.

For **Undergraduate Students:**
All undergraduates are required to live on campus and should finalize housing assignments with the Office of Housing and Residential Education. Move-in for undergraduate students will be held on Tuesday, August 14, from 8:00 a.m. to midnight at The Commons Center Atrium.

☐ **Step 3: Health Requirements**
All international students are required to have health insurance throughout their time at Vanderbilt. Review and complete any health requirements/immunizations with the Student Health Center at vumc.org/student-health/about-center.

☐ **Step 4: Check In with ISSS**
All international students must complete an Immigration Check-In with ISSS. Get started uploading your documents to your ISSS portal by going to isss-terradotta.vanderbilt.edu. Check the orientation webpage for instructions. You will need your VUnetID and password to login.

☐ **Step 5: Complete any Required Placement Tests**
Contact your department/program for additional information if you need to take placement tests.

☐ **Step 6: Attend New International Student Orientation**
International Student Orientation will provide the opportunity to learn important information about your immigration status and campus life. Attendance at an Immigration Check-In Session and a Maintenance of Status Session is required to successfully complete orientation. If you will not be able to attend the regular scheduled orientation week, please register for a separate Immigration Check-In Session and Status Session through your ISSS portal.

☐ **Step 7: Pay Tuition for Fall 2018**
All students must pay their financial bills on time to avoid additional charges and/or holds on your course registration. Please contact the Office of Student Accounts for assistance.

☐ **Step 8: Get to Know Other International Students**
Take advantage of the upcoming week and get to know your peers! Several social events such as the New Student and Community Dinner and Rec Fest will be offered during Orientation Week and are included in the schedule.

**Graduate/Professional Students:**
RSVP for the Graduate and Professional Student Mixer on Friday, August 17, 6-8 p.m. and join us for live music, food and beverages! RSVP at eventbrite.com/e/graduate-professional-student-mixer-tickets-48504386927

☐ **Step 9: Pick Up Your Updated I-20 from ISSS**
Once your SEVIS record has been registered, you will be given an updated I-20 that shows you have officially checked into Vanderbilt. Keep an eye out for an email from ISSS notifying you it’s ready for pickup.

**If you are a Graduate/Professional Student**
and are arriving before or after **AUGUST 13**
you must register for an Immigration Check-In Session with ISSS. You can view the schedule and sign up at vanderbilt.edu/isss/coming-to-vanderbilt/arrival-checklist/check-in.
Upon arrival to Vanderbilt, all new international students must complete a Mandatory Immigration Check-In. Students will need their activated VUnetID and password to successfully complete the Immigration Check-in process. The steps below outline the Immigration Check-In process.

Step 1: Upload required immigration documents to the New Student/Scholar Document Upload form on the portal before arriving to campus.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:
- Your Vanderbilt I-20 or DS-2019
- Current passport and valid F-1 or J-1 visa stamp (or entry stamp for Canadian citizens)
- A copy of your most recent I-94 record. (NOTE: This record will not be created until you have entered the U.S. Within 24 hours of your entry, you can retrieve your electronic I-94 online from the Customs and Border Patrol website. You will need your passport information.)
- Your local address in Nashville and a U.S. phone
- Name and contact information (phone number and email) of a designated emergency contact
- Documents for any dependents (spouses/children) that will enter the US with you (passport, visa stamp, I-20/DS-2019 and I-94 record)

NOTE: Immigration Check-In can last up to 2 hours. Please arrive 5–10 minutes before your scheduled session to the session location.

IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN

Department Immigration Check-In Dates:

Students in the Law School and the Owen Graduate School of Management have assigned check-in times scheduled with ISSS. No sign-up is required for department check-ins. If you are unable to attend your department check-in, you must register for a separate Immigration Check-in Session through your ISSS student portal.

July 9: Owen Students in ISBP Program
July 12–13 and August 9–10: Law Students in summer program

No sign-up is needed if you are planning on attending New International Student Orientation Week. ISSS will provide assigned immigration check-in times on the following days:

Monday, August 13, and Tuesday, August 14: Graduate/Professional Students (except Law, Owen, and School of Medicine students)

Wednesday, August 15: Undergraduate Students

If you are arriving BEFORE or AFTER your designated orientation dates during orientation week, then you must register for and attend a separate Immigration Check-In Session with ISSS. View the Immigration Check-In Schedule and sign up through your ISSS student portal.
WELCOME TO VANDERBILT

The following pages showcase activities that are available for undergraduate and graduate/professional international students, or both. Sessions denoted with a U are only available to undergraduate students while sessions for G are offered to graduate and professional students. All events offered during New International Student Orientation provide useful, important information for new international students and are highly recommended. Sessions with no denotation are available to all populations. Additionally, all sessions denoted with an R are mandatory. All undergraduate students are required to attend the programs offered August 15–18.

All sessions today are required and are for graduate and professional students only.

8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
OPEN LAB TIME
Wilson Hall Lab 120
Students may stop by the lab to access their ISSS portal, scan or print documents, and update their contact information.

8:30–9:30 a.m.
ORIENTATION REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST R
Board of Trust Room; SLC Ballrooms
Students will register for orientation during this time in the Board of Trust Room and will receive their assigned check-in and immigration session times. A light breakfast will be available in the SLC Ballrooms. Please arrive no later than 9:15 a.m. to complete the registration process.

9:30–10:00 a.m.
WELCOME ADDRESS AND INTRODUCTIONS R
SLC Ballrooms
Hear opening remarks from Mark Wallace, dean of the Graduate School, Susan Barone, executive director of International Student Programs, and Annette Burris, associate director of ISSS.

10:10–11:00 a.m.
INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE R
SLC Ballrooms
What is social justice? What does being culturally competent mean? What does it mean to be inclusive? Hear from the Office of Inclusion Initiatives and Cultural Competence about how you can help create a diverse and inclusive environment at Vanderbilt.

11:10 a.m.–12:20 p.m.
ACADEMICS & ACCOUNTABILITY R
SLC Ballrooms
This session will cover aspects of academic culture that are unique to the U.S. and will offer an overview of the many resources available to graduate students when preparing for successful academic and professional careers. The English Language Center will also introduce the concepts of academic integrity and the importance of the Honor Code within the Vanderbilt community.

12:30–1:20 p.m.
LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE: iLEAD STUDENT PANEL AND LUNCH
Sarratt Cinema
What better way to get the inside scoop than by asking current students who have been in your shoes? Hear from some iLEAD mentors about their experiences coming to Vanderbilt. There will be time for Q&A from the audience. Lunch provided.

1:30–4:00 p.m.
ASSIGNED IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SESSIONS R
Wilson Hall Lab 120, Stevenson Center Lab 200
All international students must complete immigration check-in as part of their orientation requirements. Students should attend their assigned lab times and locations and bring with them their passport/visa, a copy of their most recent I-94, I-20 or DS-2019, and documents of
any dependents. Students will be instructed to log in to their ISSS student profiles to upload documents and will update contact information.

**NOTE:** Please attend your assigned group check-in time. This is NOT your iLEAD Group Number. If your group is not assigned a lab on this day, you will attend the Maintenance of Status Session at 2:00 p.m., instead.

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 1
1:30–2:00 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 2
1:30–2:00 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 3
2:10–2:40 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 4
2:10–2:40 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 5
2:50–3:20 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 6
2:50–3:20 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 7
3:30–4:00 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

**Immigration Check-In:** Group 8
3:30–4:00 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

### 2:00–3:00 p.m.
**MAINTENANCE OF STATUS IMMIGRATION SESSION**

**Sarratt Cinema**
If you are in F-1 or J-1 Status, this session is required in order for you to successfully complete orientation requirements and will cover essential information about how to maintain your immigration status while you are in the U.S.

### 3:15–4:00 p.m.
**TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS**

**Sarratt Cinema**
Attend this session to learn some useful tips to help you get settled in Nashville, such as how to open a bank account, purchase a cellphone, set up internet service, and more.

### 8:00 a.m.–Midnight
**RESIDENCE HALL MOVE-IN**

**The Commons Center Atrium**
All new undergraduate students (including transfer and exchange students) will check in at The Ingram Commons to move into their residence halls. iLEAD mentors and volunteers will be available to assist.

### 9:10–10:00 a.m.
**JUMPSTART YOUR CAREER! BREAKFAST SOCIAL**

**Outside Sarratt Cinema**
It’s never too early to start thinking about your future. Meet career services staff from various schools in this casual mixer. Light breakfast and coffee provided. Panel will follow immediately after.

### 10:00–11:10 a.m.
**JUMPSTART YOUR CAREER! PANEL**

**Sarratt Cinema**
It’s never too early to start thinking about your future. Hear from career services staff across schools to learn about professional development opportunities and tips for making the most of your time in your graduate program.

### 11:20 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
**LIFE IN NASHVILLE**

**Sarratt Cinema**
Learn from the English Language Center about cultural adjustment, life in Nashville, and how to make sense of and thrive in your new environment.

### 12:30–1:30 p.m.
**LIFE IN NASHVILLE TRIVIA!**

**Sarratt Cinema**
Learn about Nashville in this interactive, friendly trivia competition. Lunch provided.

### 2:00–4:30 p.m.
**ASSIGNED IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SESSIONS**

**Wilson Hall Lab 120,**
**Stevenson Center Lab 200**
All international students must complete immigration check-in as part of their orientation requirements. Students should attend their assigned lab times and locations and bring with them their passport/visa, a copy of their most recent I-94, I-20 or DS-2019, and documents of any dependents. Students will be instructed to log in to their ISSS student profiles to upload documents and will update contact information.

**NOTE:** Please attend your assigned group check-in time. This is NOT your iLEAD Group Number. If your group is not assigned a Lab on this day, you will attend the Maintenance of Status Session at 2:00 p.m., instead.
Immigration Check-In: Group 9
2:00–2:30 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

Immigration Check-In: Group 10
2:00–2:30 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

Immigration Check-In: Group 11
2:40–3:10 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

Immigration Check-In: Group 12
2:40–3:10 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

Immigration Check-In: Group 13
3:20–3:50 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

Immigration Check-In: Group 14
3:20–3:50 p.m.
Stevenson Center Lab 200

Immigration Check-In: Group 15
4:00–4:30 p.m.
Wilson Hall Lab 120

2:00–3:00 p.m.
MAINTENANCE OF STATUS IMMIGRATION SESSION ☑️ ☐
Sarratt Cinema
If you are in F-1 or J-1 Status, this session is required in order to successfully complete orientation requirements and will cover essential information about how to maintain your immigration status while you are in the U.S.

3:15–4:00 p.m.
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS ☑️ ☒
Sarratt Cinema
Attend this session to learn some useful tips to help you get settled in Nashville, such as how to open a bank account, purchase a cellphone, set up internet service, and more.

VANDERBILT CAMPUS TOUR
Office of Undergraduate Admissions in the Old Gym
Explore campus and get an official campus tour from a student tour guide. Limited seats available. Please arrive at the Office of Undergraduate Admissions in the Old Gym 10 minutes before the scheduled time, if you would like to attend the tour.

6:00–8:00 p.m.
PIZZA AND GAME NIGHT SOCIAL ☑️
The Commons Center Living Room
Take a break from unpacking, and get to know your peers over pizza and games! Billiards tables, foosball tables, and board games provided.

2:00–3:00 p.m.
MAINTENANCE OF STATUS IMMIGRATION SESSION ☑️ ☒
Sarratt Cinema
If you are in F-1 or J-1 Status, this session is required in order to successfully complete orientation requirements and will cover essential information about how to maintain your immigration status while you are in the U.S.

8:30–9:30 a.m.
ORIENTATION REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST ☒
SLC Ballrooms
Students will register for orientation during this time and will receive their assigned check-in and immigration session times. A light breakfast will be available. Please arrive no later than 9:15 a.m. to complete the registration process.

9:30–10:00 a.m.
WELCOME ADDRESS AND INTRODUCTIONS
SLC Ballrooms
Hear opening remarks from Mark Bandas, dean of students, Susan Barone, executive director of International Student Programs, and Annette Burris, associate director of ISSS.

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INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE
SLC Ballrooms
What is social justice? What does being culturally competent mean? What does it mean to be inclusive? Hear from the Office of Inclusion Initiatives and Cultural Competence about how you can help create a diverse and inclusive environment at Vanderbilt.

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**MAINTENANCE OF STATUS IMMIGRATION SESSION**

**SLC Ballrooms**

If you are in F-1 or J-1 Status, this session is required in order for you to successfully complete orientation requirements and will cover essential information about how to maintain your immigration status while you are in the U.S.

3:15–5:45 p.m.
**ASSIGNED IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SESSIONS**

*Wilson Hall Lab 120, Stevenson Center Lab 200*

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**NOTE:** Please attend your assigned group check-in time. This is NOT your iLEAD Group Number.

**8:30–11:00 a.m.**
**RESOURCE AND VENDOR FAIR**

**SLC Ballrooms**

Speak with representatives and get to know more than forty essential on- and off-campus resources ranging from banks and cellphone providers to Vanderbilt Dining and the Project Safe Center. Light breakfast provided.

**9:00–11:00 a.m.**
**LATE IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SESSION**

**Wilson Hall Lab 120**

If you have arrived on campus and have not yet attended an Immigration Check-In Session and/or uploaded your required immigration documents to your ISSS student portal, you must attend this session as part of your orientation requirements. Bring your passport/visa, I-20/DS-2019, I-94, and any dependent documents. Register in advance through your ISSS student portal.

**1:30–2:15 p.m.**
**HEALTH CARE AND INSURANCE IN THE U.S.**

**SLC Ballrooms**

Attend this session for a useful overview on health insurance and how to get medical care and access health services on and around campus while you’re here. Staff from the Student Health Center and Gallagher will be available.

**2:30–4:00 p.m.**
**ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: THE HOW-TO’S**

**SLC Ballrooms**

Have a job lined up? Interested in working on campus? Learn from our experts how to find a job, complete an I-9, obtain a Social Security number, and more. The last 30 minutes of the session will be reserved for completing I-9 applications with the I-9 office.
4:10–5:00 p.m.
**STUDENT SAFETY, SUPPORT, AND WELLBEING**

**SLC Ballrooms**

Hear from campus experts at the Center for Student Wellbeing, Project Safe, VUPD, and the Student Care Team on how Vanderbilt can help you feel safe and supported.

5:30–7:00 p.m.
**WELCOME RECEPTION AT THE INGRAM COMMONS**

Dean of The Commons Residence

All undergraduate students (including transfer and exchange) are invited to attend a welcome reception at the dean’s residence on The Ingram Commons with faculty heads of house, admissions counselors, ISSS staff, and iLEAD mentors.

6:30–8:00 p.m.
**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HANGOUT**

The Ingram Commons, South Patio

All undergraduate international students are invited to mingle with their VUcectors and their peers. Dinner will be served.

9:00–11:00 a.m.
**LATE IMMIGRATION CHECK-IN SESSION**

Wilson Hall 120

If you have arrived on campus and have not yet attended an Immigration Check-In Session and/or uploaded your required immigration documents to your ISSS student portal, you must attend this session as part of your orientation requirements. Bring your passport/visa, I-20/DS-2019, I-94, and any dependent documents. Register through your ISSS student portal in advance.

10:00–11:00 a.m.
**RESIDENCE LIFE 101**

SLC Ballroom A

Hear from the Office of Housing and Residential Education about residence life, roommates, conflict management, and more. Learn how to love and get the most out of your new living space.

11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
**LIFE IN NASHVILLE**

SLC Ballroom A

Learn from the English Language Center about cultural adjustment, life in Nashville, and how to make sense of and thrive in your new environment.

12:30–2:00 p.m.
**LIFE IN NASHVILLE TRIVIA AND LUNCH**

SLC Ballroom A

Learn about Nashville in this interactive, friendly trivia competition. Lunch provided.

2:15–5:00 p.m.
**SHOPPING SHUTTLES**

Parking lot of University Club

Interested students who need to purchase household essentials or groceries can ride the shuttle to Walmart. Shuttles will leave promptly at 2:15 p.m. and will return by 5:00 p.m. You must return to campus on the shuttle. Shuttles depart from and return to the University Club parking lot, located next to the Student Life Center and do not run continuously. Please be on time.

6:00–8:00 p.m.
**GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT MIXER**

Alumni Hall Lounge

Students from graduate and professional schools are invited for a fun night of music and mingling with new students and department staff and faculty. Light refreshments and beverages* provided. RSVP is recommended: [eventbrite.com/e/graduate-professional-student-mixer-tickets-48504386927](http://eventbrite.com/e/graduate-professional-student-mixer-tickets-48504386927)

*Must be 21+ to drink. Photo ID/passport required. Non-alcoholic beverages are available.
8:30–11:30 a.m.

**REC FEST**
Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center
Explore the VRWC for yourself, and try out the climbing wall, squash courts, basketball courts, bowling lanes, and more! A staff member will be available to answer questions about equipment and services at the center. Light breakfast provided.

11:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**ORIENTATION CLOSING LUNCH**
Rec Center Field House
End orientation week in style with this closing lunch. First-year and transfer students will eat lunch with their respective programs.

First-year meal plans start today.

10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

**PARENT AND FAMILY ORIENTATION**
Langford Auditorium
For parents and family members of undergraduate students only.
Family members are invited to learn about The Ingram Commons and how to communicate with Vanderbilt and their students.

MEET THE ISSS STAFF

Annette Burris, M.Ed.
Associate Director

Radhika Reddy, B.A.
Senior International Student and Scholar Adviser

Jillian Hautman, M.Ed.
International Student and Scholar Adviser

Grace Chee, M.Ed.
International Student and Scholar Adviser
Orientation Coordinator

Peggy Knupp, B.A.
Administrative Assistant
INTRODUCING YOUR iLEAD MENTORS

iLEAD mentors are current Vanderbilt students who are here to support you in your transition to Vanderbilt and Nashville. This resourceful group connects you to each other and to the greater campus to ensure a successful first-year experience.

Undergraduate Mentors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyu Young Park</td>
<td>Korea/Canada</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Nayeon Kim</td>
<td>U.S./Korea</td>
<td>English &amp; Mathematics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naiming (Lucy) Liu</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia (Trish) Wheeler</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>Engineering Science/HOD</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chelsea Janda</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yiheng (Doreen) Li</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Development and Child Psychology</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arjun Bansal</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jinglu Wang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolade Balogun</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shan Luo</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Britanny Chloe Tope-Ojo</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>Child Development</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xiaotang (Eva) Guo</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zewen (Jessica) Xiao</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qi Wang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qingyang (Jojo) Zhou</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chenghang (Adam) Yang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phuong Kieu (Stella) Ngo</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhoujun (Holly) Sun</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laiba Fatima</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xinyi (Spencer) Zhang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jiayi (Zoe) Zang</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diandry Rutayisire</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Graduate Mentors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marm Dixit</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibhaas Basukala</td>
<td>U.S./India</td>
<td>Law</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maolin Zong</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olubummi Adegbola</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Divinity</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moshe Cole</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>LOP</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elliot Dawes</td>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>IEPM</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xi (Helen) He</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>IEPM</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WELCOME TO iLEAD!

iLEAD is a peer mentorship program and newly created student organization that pairs incoming international students with current Vanderbilt students. iLEAD works to create programs and offer services that ease international students’ transition to campus and ensure their success at Vanderbilt.

All new incoming students are automatically paired with their iLEAD mentor and groups—with the exception of students from Law School and Owen School—over the summer. You’ll have several opportunities to meet your iLEAD group during orientation week.

Throughout the academic year, iLEAD will also offer fun and educational programs that touch on themes like academics, cultural adjustment, and community engagement. Additionally, your mentors will provide opportunities for one-on-one conversations and group outings. Your iLEAD mentor and group can be an excellent resource and support system for you. We hope that you will engage with the iLEAD program as much as possible.
IMMIGRATION ESSENTIALS
Terms and Acronyms to Know

I-20  Eligibility document for F-1 students
F-1  A student’s immigration status
F-2  Dependent of an F-1 student
DS-2019  Eligibility Document for J-1 students
J-2  Dependent of a J-1
I-94  Admission/Departure record
D/S  Duration of Status
Visa  Stamp in passport that allows entry to U.S.
ISSS  International Student and Scholar Services
DSO  Designated School Official
RO/ARO  Responsible Officer/Alternate RO
USCIS  U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
DHS  Department of Homeland Security
DOS  Department of State
POE  Port of Entry
SEVIS  Student Exchange Visitor Information System
ISSS Portal  A landing page for all international students to be able to upload documents, submit applications, and upload personal information required by ISSS

IMMIGRATION FAQ’S

WHAT IS REPORTED TO SEVIS?
- Student enrollment each semester
- Change of name or address, major, education level
- Any student who graduates earlier than their I-20/DS-2019 end date
- Program extensions
- Requests for employment authorization and reinstatements
- Transfers, withdrawals, academic dismissals, leave of absences
- Failure to maintain status

WHAT ARE THE DOCUMENTS TO PROVE I HAVE F-1 OR J-1 STATUS?
A valid passport, visa, I-94 record, and I-20 or DS-2019 are required. Keep all documents safe and don’t lose them!

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A VISAA AND A STATUS?
Visas are stamps in the passport that allow you to enter the U.S. Visas can expire while you are in the U.S. maintaining legal status. Expired visas are not valid for re-entry to the U.S.

Status is your permission to study and be present in the U.S.

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO KEEP LEGAL STATUS?
- Maintain a valid I-20/DS-2019
- Maintain full-time enrollment each required semester and make normal progress towards completing degree
- Do not work without proper employment authorization
- Keep passport valid at least 6 months into future
- Inform ISSS of address changes within 10 days of any move
- Maintain adequate health insurance
- Request an extension when necessary before the expiration of your I-20/DS-2019
- Any changes to your I-20 or DS-2019 (change of major, educational level, funding) must be reported to an International Student Adviser or in ISSS
WHAT IS FULL-TIME ENROLLMENT?

- All students must be enrolled full-time in classes every semester for the entire period of the degree program. For undergraduates, full-time is considered a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester. For graduate students, full-time is generally considered a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester. Graduate students working on thesis can be enrolled in zero credit dissertation hours to be considered full-time. Some graduate programs may have different full-time minimum.
- Non-degree exchange students must also be engaged in a full-time activity each semester.
- Speak with an ISSS adviser for more details.

Exceptions to the full-time enrollment requirement include:

- Academic difficulty (limit one use per degree level)
- Initial difficulty with English
- Difficulty with reading requirements
- Unfamiliarity with American teaching methods/bona fide academic reason
- Improper course level placement
- Illness or medical condition (documentation required)
- Final semester of degree program
- Completing the Reduced Course Load Authorization Form is required for approval

MAY I WORK WHILE IN SCHOOL?

- On-campus employment is limited to a maximum of 19–20 hours allowed per week while school is in session; 40 hours per week is allowed during official school breaks. Vanderbilt University Medical Center is not a part of campus and requires specific work permission.
- Off-campus employment requires you to obtain prior authorization from ISSS before working.
- For F-1: Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or Optional Practice Training (OPT), attend CPT or OPT workshop prior to applying
- For J-1: Academic Training (AT), attend an AT workshop before applying

WHAT DO I DO IF I WANT TO TRAVEL INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE U.S.?

- You must have your I-20 or DS-2019 signed before traveling outside the U.S.
- A signature is not required for domestic U.S. travel
- Travel signature is valid for six months
- You must have a valid visa and passport to re-enter the U.S.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT GRACE PERIODS?

- No employment, no travel outside the U.S., and U.S. reentry on the same I-20/DS2-19 are allowed during any grace period
- Within 60 days for F-1 and 30 days for J-1 students after completing your program, you must do one of these: depart the U.S., transfer to another degree program, or apply for change of status
- Within 15 days after authorized withdrawals by an ISSS Adviser, you must: depart the U.S. (no employment, no transfer allowed)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR ADVISERS

Please meet with an ISSS Adviser during scheduled walk-in hours or by private appointment. Walk-in hours are available from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. every weekday.

Appointments outside normal walk-in hours can be requested by contacting isss@vanderbilt.edu with your preferred time.
First Friends is Vanderbilt’s international friendship program, connecting international students with Americans on and off campus for friendship and cross-cultural exchange. An application is required to participate. See ISSS to apply or for more information.

World on Wednesdays (WOW) takes place twice each semester on a Wednesday from 12:10 to 1:00 p.m. WOW features a different topic of global interest each week, with presentations from students, staff, and faculty. Lunch is provided.

International Education Week (IEW) is an annual initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences. IEW is typically held in November.

EAT is another friendship program, this time centered on homemade dinners made by American families. Students can sign up to attend dinner with a local family.

iLEAD is a peer mentorship program run by ISSS that pairs up incoming undergraduate and graduate students with selected iLEAD mentors. iLEAD groups are led by their mentors throughout New International Student Orientation and also meet throughout the first year.

ISSS ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
To stay updated on available events, visit ISSS on AnchorLink at anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu or the ISSS website at vanderbilt.edu/isss.

Student Centers, Recreational Areas, and Auditoriums
1. Commons Center
2. Alumni Hall
3. Student Life Center
4. Sarratt Student Center | Rand Hall
5. The Wall and Rand Terrace
6. Greek Row
7. Recreation and Wellness Center
8. Langford Auditorium

Academic Buildings
9. Wilson Hall
10. Furman Hall
11. Neely Auditorium
12. Benson Hall
13. Calhoun Hall
14. Garland Hall
15. Buttrick Hall
16. Featheringill Hall (Engineering)
17. Stevenson Center
18. E. Bronson Ingram Studio Arts Center
19. Blair School of Music
20. Wyatt Center
21. Cohen Memorial Hall
22. Jesup Psychology and Hobbs Lab
23. Payne Hall
24. Mayborn Hall
25. Home Economics Building
26. 1801 Edgehill Ave.

Libraries
27. Central Library
28. Peabody Library
29. Stevenson Science and Engineering Library
30. Eskind Family Biomedical Library and Learning Center
31. Wilson Music Library

Services and Resources
32. Student Health Center
33. Center for Student Wellbeing
34. Office of the University Chaplain and Religious Life
35. Ben Schulman Center for Jewish Life
36. Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt Bookstore
37. Project Safe Center
38. Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI) Life / K.C. Potter Center
39. Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center
40. Mail Services (see #1 and #4)
41. Campus Copy (see #4)
42. Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center
43. Benton Chapel
44. Student Access Services
45. University Counseling Center
46. College of Arts and Science Pre-Major Academic Advising Resources (CASPAR) (see #1)
47. Seigenthaler Center
48. English Language Center
49. Curb Center (Creative Campus Initiative)

Title IX and Student Discrimination
49. Office of Honor Scholarships
49. Health Professions Advisory Office
49. The Writing Studio
49. Tutoring Program
**NUMBERS TO KNOW**

- **Vanderbilt Directory Assistance**  
  (615) 322-7311
- **Barnes & Noble at Vanderbilt Bookstore**  
  (615) 343-2665
- **Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center**  
  (615) 322-2524
- **Dean of The Ingram Commons**  
  (615) 322-4948
- **Dean of Students**  
  (615) 322-6400
- **Student Access Services**  
  Title IX and Student Discrimination  
  (615) 322-4705
- **Financial Aid**  
  (615) 322-3591
- **Housing and Residential Education**  
  (615) 322-2591
- **International Student & Scholar Services**  
  (615) 322-2753
- **LGBTQI Life**  
  (615) 322-3330
- **Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center**  
  (615) 322-4843
- **Project Safe Center**  
  (615) 322-7233
- **University Counseling Center**  
  (615) 322-2571
- **Student Accounts**  
  (615) 322-6693
- **Student Health Services**  
  (615) 322-2427
- **Ticketmaster (Sarratt Student Center)**  
  (615) 343-3361
- **Transition Programs**  
  (615) 322-0307

**University Chaplain & Religious Life**  
(615) 322-2457

**Vanderbilt Police**  
(615) 322-2745 (Non-Emergency)  
(615) 421-1911 (Emergency)  
(615) 322-7846 (Victim Services)

**Vandy Vans/Safety Escort**  
(615) 421-8888

**ENROLL IN SafeVU**

SafeVU is a free app that lets you connect directly from your cellphone to VUPD. You can also submit non-emergency reports and access Vandy Vans info. Download the app to your mobile device in the app store.