



Welcome to Nova
Southeastern University and
the United States!

NSU Office of International Affairs (OIA)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION



WELCOME!

- Introductions & Icebreaker
- Meet The Office of International Affairs Services
- Important Documents
- Immigration Requirements & Maintaining Your Status
- F-1 “Check-In” - Activating Your I-20
- Employment Authorization
- Obtaining a Social Security Number (SSN)
- Getting a US Sim Card/Phone number
- Opening a US Bank Account
- Getting a Florida Driver’s License
- Insurance
- Culture Shock
- How to get involved and meet other international students!



OIA Staff Introductions - Full Time Staff



Ashley McCafferty
Assistant Dean of
International Affairs &
Signature Programs



Sarah Chenworth
Director of
International Affairs
PDSO

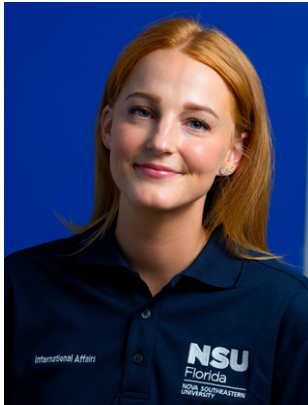


Deborah Pabon
International Student
Advisor
DSO



Jerome Benoit
Administrative
Coordinator
DSO

OIA Staff Introductions - Graduate Assistants



Filippa Lundin
Immigration Graduate Assistant



Catalina Rodriguez
Immigration Graduate Assistant



Ariel Fachini
Immigration Graduate Assistant



Yasmeen Bajwa
International Student Services
International Student Union Advisor



Karina Assanova
Razor's Edge Global Scholarship Program

GET INVOLVED!

- **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT UNION (YASMEEN BAJWA)**
- **CULTURAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**
- **WAVES OF WELCOME, TIDES OF EXCITEMENT, ETC...**



JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT UNION FOR AN EVENING FILLED WITH FOOD, MUSIC, AND PAINTING! CANVASES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE FIRST 50 STUDENTS.

Paint & Sip

MONDAY, AUGUST 26
5:00P - 7:00P
DON TAFT UNIVERSITY CENTRE
2ND FLOOR LOUNGE

RSVP





WHAT DOES OUR OFFICE DO?

Office of International Affairs Services:

- Immigration Advising
 - Drop-In Advising & Appointments
- I-20 Updates
- Work Authorization (CPT/OPT)
- Webinars & Info Sessions
- Tax Filing Software
- Form Signing
- Travel Signatures
- Educational Workshops
- Cultural & Social Events

Feeling Lost?

Visit us! Call us!

We are in the Horvitz Building :)



INTRO TO IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Maintaining F-1 Status**
 - **Be enrolled and complete a full course of study every semester**
 - **Visit our website “Maintaining Status” for required in-person credit hours**
- **Ensure documents are valid (I-20, visa, passport)**
- **Only work or intern on campus 20 hours/week**
- **Seek permission to work or intern off campus**
 - **CPT/OPT**
- **File tax returns yearly (our office will reach out)**
- **Monitor your travel in and out of the country, and obtain “Travel Signatures” as needed**

STEP 1: COMPLETE THE CHECK-IN BY UPLOADING THESE DOCUMENTS TO THE ISSM PORTAL DIRECTLY.

- Check your email for portal instructions.
- Don't see an email? Come see us before you leave!
- **Mandatory** for all international students!
- **Deadline:** 10 days after the program start date (on your I-20)


- **Biographical page of your passport**
- **Copy of the first page of your NSU I-20**
- **Copy of your I-94** <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov>
 - Click on "Get most Recent I-94"
 - Except for "Change of Status" students
- **Copy of F-1 visa (except students from Canada or Bermuda)**
 - *If you obtained your F-1 status through the change of status process, please submit the I-797 Notice of Action indicating your Change of Status to F-1 was approved*
- **Proof of your \$350 SEVIS Fee payment**
 - From <https://www.fmjfee.com> click "Check I-901 Fee Status"
- **F-1 Students Responsibility Acknowledgement (signed)**
 - <https://www.nova.edu/internationalaffairs/students/prospective/F1-Student-Responsibility-Acknowledgement.pdf>
- **Your current local US Address.** This is the address where you will be living. It must be near campus.

STEP 2: ATTEND A COMPLIANCE SESSION


- **Mandatory** for all international students, please take a minute out to do so right now!
- Multiple dates available however the sooner you do it the better :)

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR A MANDATORY COMPLIANCE



SCAN ME



Confused? Need Help?

Come talk to us!

Where:

- Office of International Affairs & Scholars (Horvits Administration Building, 2nd Floor)

When:

- Walk-in anytime from **Monday-Thursday, 9:00a - 2:00p**
- Or, you may book an appointment through
 - **Navigate on Sharkhub**
 - **Our website**
 - **By calling us**

International F-1 & J-1 Student Advising

To Book Your Appointment:

Drop-In Advising: Monday – Thursday; 9:00p – 1:00p & 2:00p – 4:00p

By Appointment Only: Fridays

- You can schedule an appointment through [Navigate](#) or by calling our front desk at (954)-262-7240.
- To book an appointment through [Navigate](#), please select "Schedule an Appointment". Under "What type of appointment would you like to schedule?" please select "Student Services". Then, you will see all the options to book an appointment with the "Office of International Affairs".
- Once your appointment is booked, you will receive an email notification including the Zoom information.

[SCHEDULE AN ADVISING APPOINTMENT](#)



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

- Getting a Florida Driver's License & Transportation
- Obtaining a Social Security Number (SSN)
- Employment
- Getting a US Sim Card/Phone number
- Opening a US Bank Account
- Insurance



GETTING A FLORIDA DRIVER'S LICENSE

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE FROM YOUR HOME COUNTRY OR IF IT'S EXPIRED...

Steps

- 1) Complete the 4 hour Drug Alcohol Traffic Awareness (DATA) Course.
- 2) Study the Florida Drivers Handbook on traffic laws and roads signs. You need to go to the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) office and pass the Permit exam with a score of 80% or above.
- 3) Once you pass the 2 tests above, you will receive a Learners Permit that allows you to practice driving. You must have someone age 21 or older in the passenger seat next to you with a valid driver license at all times.
- 4) When you are comfortable driving, you can immediately get your Florida driver license. Make an appointment to take the Driving Road Test at a DMV office

Free Florida DMV Learner's Permit Practice Test 2023 | FL

✓ Based on 2023 FL driver's license manual ✓ Available in EN, ES, RU ✓ Instant feedback

What to expect on the actual FL DMV exam

50

questions

40

correct answers to pass

80%

passing score

15

Minimum age to apply

This Florida DMV practice test has just been updated for December 2023 and covers 40 of the most essential road signs and rules questions directly from the [official 2023 FL Driver Handbook](#). To get your learner's license in Florida, you must pass the Florida learner's permit test (also known as the Class E Knowledge Exam). If you're under 18, you can take the exam online (a parent must be present during your exam). With its clean, intuitive design, this practice test effectively trains you on basic FL road



Perfect for

- ✓ Florida Learner's Permit
- ✓ Florida Driver's License
- ✓ FL Senior Citizens' Refresher Test

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO
ACCESS SAMPLE PRACTICE
TESTS ONLINE



GETTING A FLORIDA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Considerations If Applying for US License:

- Must have ACTIVE I-20 (completed the F-1 check in process)
- You may need a Social Security Number
 - If you do not have an SSN, they may ask for a "Social Security Number Denial Letter"
 - You must apply for a Social Security Number, and receive a denial letter. Bring that letter to the Social Security Office.

Documents needed - **must be PRINTED:**

- Passport with visa
- I-94 Departure Record
- I-20
- SSN card (If you do not have an SSN, a letter of ineligibility from SSA indicating you not eligible to obtain an SSN is needed)
- Proof of address (utility bill, letter from financial institutions, pay check, letter from housing)
 - They may ask for 2 letters... be prepared! Any letter/package will work with your name and address
- TSLAE Certificate*

FLHSMV locations close to NSU:

- Sunrise: 3511 N Pine Island Road, Sunrise, FL 33351
- Pembroke Pines: 8001 Pembroke Road, Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

[Check to see if you need an appointment!](#)

IF YOU DO HAVE A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE FROM YOUR HOME COUNTRY....

Steps

- If you **do have** or physically possess a license from your home country, you do **not** need to take the TSLAE course.
- Go to the nearest FLHSMV office with all necessary documents and ask to take the Original Class E driving exam. There are 2 parts of the exam: the knowledge section and the driving section.
- Once you pass both sections you will then pay a fee to receive your driver's license. This fee is \$48.

GETTING A FLORIDA DRIVER'S LICENSE

Considerations If Bringing Your Own Car:

- Requirements & reciprocity may vary based on your country's drivers license!
- Consider if bringing a car: insurance, fees, import taxes, etc.
- Examples insurance companies:
 - GEICO
 - State Farm
 - Progressive
 - and more!



OTHER TRANSPORTATION

Uber

Lyft

Shark Shuttle (iShark app -
needs WiFi/Service)

Buses = not reliable

GETTING A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

OBTAINING A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)



WHAT IS IT?

- A unique 9-digit number
- Valid for life, you only need to obtain it once!

WHY DO I NEED IT?

- File taxes
- Start a job
- Open a bank account
- Apply for a loan
- Get a passport
- Claim government benefits

WHAT DO I NEED TO APPLY FOR IT?

- A job offer & letter- NSU can help :)
- All of your immigration documents

OBTAINING A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

Your SS# is for life!

Get one the first opportunity you can!

Visit our website and visit our office for detailed instructions.

Making an Appointment at the Social Security Office:

- Call
- Visit their website
- Go in person



Nearest SSA office to
campus:
8501 W Sunrise Blvd.
Suite 100
Plantation, FL 33322

NSU can help you get a SS# with a **job offer**.

Option 1) Hired through Student Employment/JobX

Option 2) Hired for on campus job (not through JobX)

Option 3) Applying for CPT

Option 4) Identify you need a SS# when applying for OPT and you will get one with OPT approval

Please note: You can't apply for a SSN until 10 days after your program start date & your I-20 is activated.

EMPLOYMENT ON CAMPUS & OFF CAMPUS


ON CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

- International students can work on-campus for up to 20 hours/week!
- Will need to go through the hiring process before working!
- Most offices are hiring now as positions open at the semester start
- Common jobs:
 - Office of recreation
 - Library
 - Food services
 - Housing



Using JobX

- 1) Log into Sharklink and click on the JobX Icon
- 2) Scroll all the way down and click on “Student”
- 3) It will take you to this page and begin searching!



Students

Before you can begin to work, you must complete and submit all necessary forms to Student Employment. Please access all necessary forms via the Forms and Resources link below.

Student Job Seekers	Newly Hired Student Employees	Current Student Employees
Find a Job Conduct either quick or advanced searches for available jobs. Submit an online job application.	Student Employee Handbook Policy and Procedures Manual for Student Employment.	Dashboard Click here to view your employment information.



When choosing “Job Type” make sure you click NSE.

Job Type(s):

On Campus Federal Work Study JLD NSE Off-Campus Federal Work Study Off-Campus NSE

[Update Job Type](#)



Do you need help with your resume?



Visit our Center for Academic and Professional Success (CAPS)! Their FREE services include:

- Help with resume development
- Interview Preparation
- Job search assistance
- Occupational exploration and transition.

Please schedule an appointment through their website <https://www.nova.edu/caps/index.html> or use this QR Code





Using HandShake

- 1) Log into Sharklink --> Click on “View all Student applications” and select Handshake
- 2) Once you click on HandShake, it will take you to a page where you will be asked to sign in using your NSU username and password.
- 3) You will be asked to fill out questions and your preferences:
 - Expected graduation date
 - Type of job you’re looking for (full-time, part-time, internship, on-campus)
 - Roles you are searching for
 - Your skills Relevant experiences, etc.
- 4) Once you submit all of that information, begin job hunting with their auto-generated suggestions!



Message employers

Recruiters and hiring managers for these roles are open to messages from students.

Internship · Full-Time

Marketing Intern

Jewelry Repair Enterprises
Onsite · Boca Raton, FL



[See more jobs →](#)

Job · Full-Time

Medical Scribe - Handshake (Remote)

Scribe-X
Remote · Within the US



Job · Full-Time

Work and Community Support Specialist

Work Opportunities Unlimited (H...
Onsite · West Palm Beach, FL



New jobs recommended for you

Jobs you might be interested in based on your views and applications

Job · Full-Time

Medical Scribe - Handshake (Remote)

Scribe-X
Remote · Within the US

Internship · Full-Time

Distribution Center Operations Corporate Intern Summer 2024 ...

CVS Health
Onsite · Orlando, FL

Internship · Full-Time

Distribution Center Operations Corporate Intern Summer 2024 ...

CVS Health
Onsite · Orlando, FL



Hire Your Next FINtastic Shark!



2024 STUDENT EMPLOYMENT FAIR



Wednesday, August 28, 2024



11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Don Taft University Center, Spine



OFF CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT

- You must seek permission to work OR intern off-campus... even if it is unpaid!!
 - Curricular Practical Training
 - It is required by your academics and related directly to your degree plan
 - Optional Practical Training
 - Application to continue working after you graduate for 1 to 3 years
 - Most students begin this application ~90 days prior to graduation
 - Job must be directly related to your field of study

More info at our Compliance Sessions!

GETTING A U.S. SIM CARD AND PHONE NUMBER

GETTING A U.S. SIM CARD/PHONE NUMBER

Options

- Check if your current carrier offers international coverage
- Check if you can activate an "e-sim" through your settings for international coverage
- Using your current phone & putting in US sim card
 - Your phone needs to be unlocked
 - Electronic SIM card
 - Free SIM card

Common Phone Companies:

- T-mobile, AT&T, Verizon...



OPENING A U.S. BANK ACCOUNT

OPENING A US BANK ACCOUNT

Most banks may require some combination of the following...

- Your passport with visa
- Your **active I-20**
- Proof of Residency (official letter or bill sent to your US address)
 - They may ask for two letters
- Verification of enrollment from NSU
 - Get this from the Registrar's Office (OneStopShop)
- Helpful banks: Bank of America, Chase Bank, Wells Fargo, TD America, Capital One

Helpful tips:

- Tell them you are an international student on an F-1 visa
- You should not need a driver's license or SS# to open a bank account!!
- You will need to visit the bank in person - bring **physical, original** documents with you.

HEALTH INSURANCE

HEALTH INSURANCE



All NSU students are required to have health insurance!

No health insurance = no enrollment = no international student status!

Keep an eye out for the deadline to enroll!

Option 1: NSU Student Insurance

United Healthcare
<https://www.nova.edu/bursar/health-insurance/general-info.html>

Automatically applied
Must be waived online
Charged each semester

Option 2: Find your own insurance

Must be comparable with NSU student insurance

Submit a form for: Waive NSU Student Insurance and Upload proof of enrollment each semester

Waiver not guaranteed!

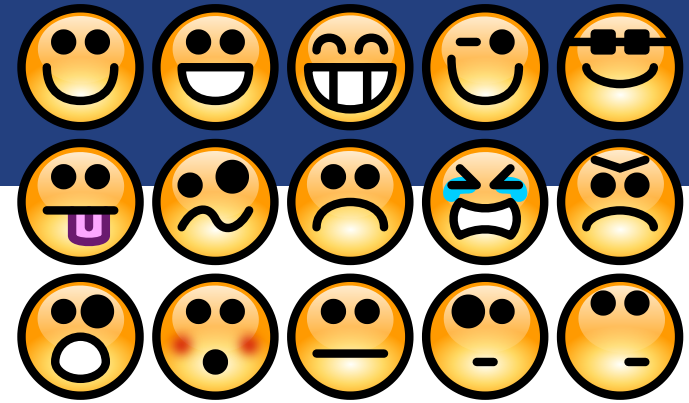
CULTURE SHOCK

WHAT IS CULTURE SHOCK?

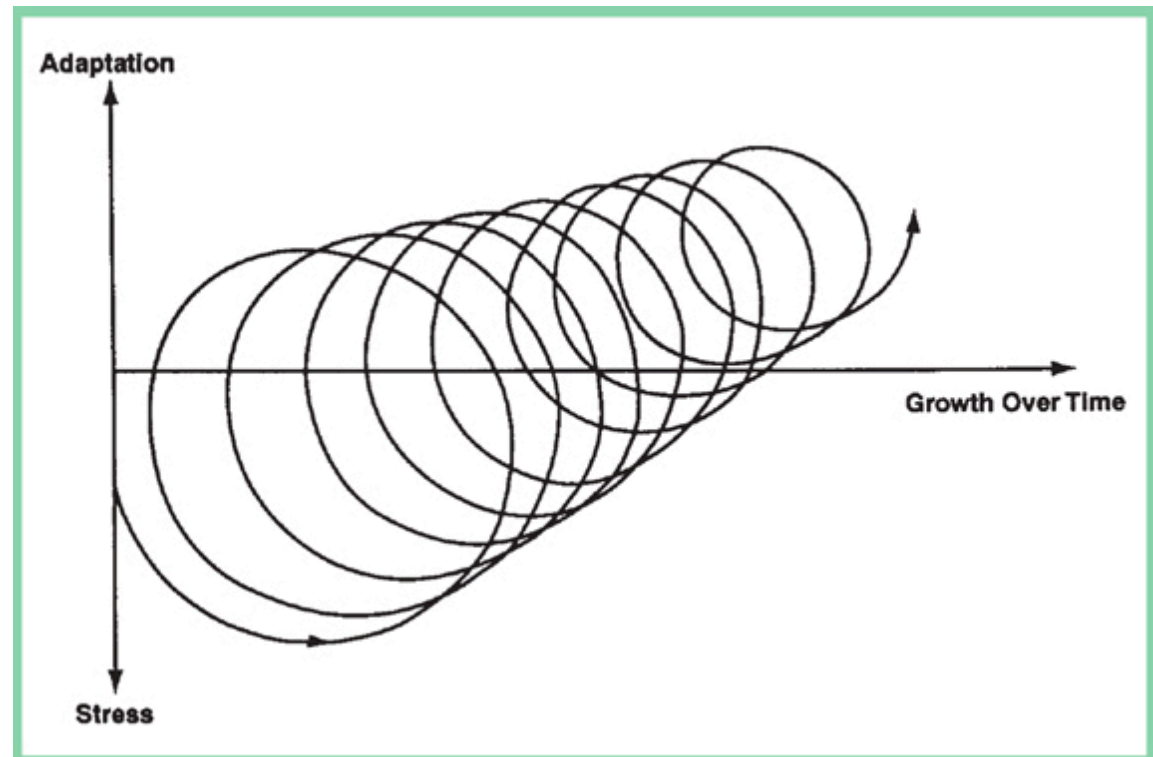
Feelings of confusion, anxiety, uncertainty, and disorientation by someone when they are suddenly immersed in an unfamiliar culture, way of life or belief and attitude systems

- The impact of moving from a familiar culture to one that is new or unfamiliar, where someone is forced to adapt
- Includes shock of new environment, new food, a different belief system, different attitudes towards romantic relationships, adapting to a foreign language, etc.
- The shock of being away from your home, place of comfort, friends or family

EMOTIONS YOU MAY EXPERIENCE



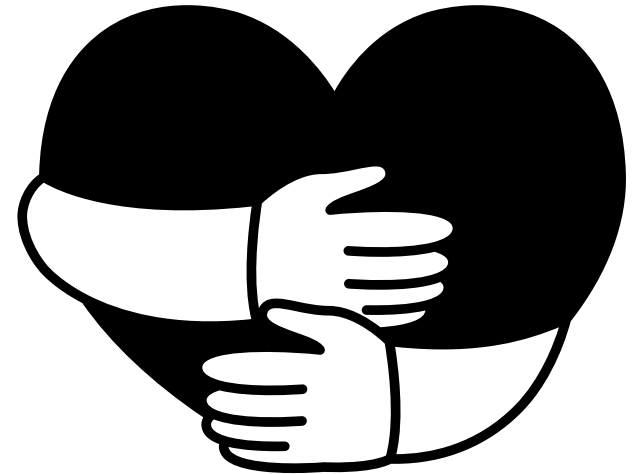
- Sadness
- Boredom
- Loneliness
- Anxiety
- Trouble Concentrating
- Frustration
- Anger over minor frustrations
- Feeling left out
- Feeling misunderstood
- Developing negative or simplistic views of the culture
- Seeking company from only those from your own country
- Extreme homesickness
- Withdrawing from social situations



You get stronger over time!

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY COPE WITH CULTURE SHOCK

- Remember: You Are Not Alone! Be patient, persistent, and resilient
 - Use your sense of humor & don't be too hard on yourself
- Remember your personal goals
- Make friends with locals AND other international students
 - Get involved in the NSU and US community!
- Embrace change, be flexible, keep an open mind
- Deal with stress as it arises
 - Reach out for help
 - Seek professional help if needed
- Use tech to stay in touch with family and friends
- Recognize your own values & don't feel the need to compromise them
- See the adventure in it & challenge yourself!



CULTURE SHOCK RESOURCES

- Henderson Counseling Center
 - Contact info - (954) 424-6911
 - 10 free sessions per year
 - If you can't get appointment - we can help
- The International Student Union
- NSU Crisis Link (954) 424-6911
- USA Crisis Line -988
- NSU Gym - staying active helps :) sauna in locker room!
- Student Orgs/Clubs
- OIA & NSU faculty and staff

LIST OF CULTURAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT NSU

- Asian Student Association
- Black Student Union
- Black-American Forum
- Caribbean Student Association
- Ethnic Minority Association of Graduate Students
- Filipino Student Association
- Indian Student Association
- Latin American Student Association
- Liberty in North Korea
- Middle Eastern and North African Student Association
- Pakistani Student Association
- Sharks for Israel
- South Asian Student Association
- And more!

VISIT "SHARKHUB" IN SHARKLINK

Don't see your country or culture? Start a club!

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

CONTACT US: INTL@NOVA.EDU +1-954-262-7240

VISIT US: HORVITZ 2ND FLOOR

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: @NSU__INTERNATIONAL

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR A COMPLIANCE SESSION!