



NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

FALL 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 20 – September 5



The ISSO Welcomes You to Towson University!

The following *Calendar of Events* is aimed at helping you to adjust academically, socially, and legally to life at Towson. Please note that ALL students must attend events marked as "REQUIRED," while students may choose whether or not they wish to attend events marked as "OPTIONAL." Failure to attend "REQUIRED" events may jeopardize your legal F-1 status visa.

Participation at "OPTIONAL" events has proven to be extremely beneficial to international students. To ensure seat availability, we ask that students sign up for optional events in advance at the Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#)). Sign up for the Washington D.C. trip and Orioles Baseball Game trip at the ISSO, in Suite 246 of the Administration Building (AD, E6 on the [Campus Map](#)). Each time you attend an OPTIONAL event, don't forget to sign in! By doing so, your name will automatically be entered into a raffle, increasing your chances to win fun prizes, which will be held at the New International Student Orientation on Wednesday, August 26.

Should you have questions or concerns during your first week here, there are several resources available to you:

- **International Student Orientation Ambassadors** are upper-classmen who will be coming back to school a week early, specifically to help you in your adjustment to life at Towson. Ambassadors will be working at the resource table located at the Residence Tower during orientation week. The International Student & Scholar Office will be sending you an email at the beginning of January with the email address of the particular ambassador who has been assigned to you. Feel free to contact your ambassador with questions that you have prior to coming, and get in touch with him/her after you arrive.
- Please contact a **staff member at the ISSO** (410-704-2421) if you have questions regarding immigration, or specific questions about the orientation week. The ISSO is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and our email address is isso@towson.edu. Keep in mind that most questions regarding your nonimmigrant visa status will be answered at Thursday's ISSO Immigration Session.
- In the case of an emergency on campus, contact **Towson University's Campus Police** at 410-704-2133.

Thursday, August 20, 2009

5 pm to 8 pm

Graduate School Orientation (REQUIRED ONLY for Graduate Students)

- Meet your program director and other new students in your program
- Meet other departments & offices on campus, including the Dowell Health Center and Chevy Chase Bank, the TU School Store, etc.
- Obtain a TU OneCard (Student ID) and parking permit.

The Graduate School Orientation program will take place on the 3rd floor of the University Union in the Chesapeake Rooms (UU, C5 on the [Campus Map](#)).

Note: due to the early orientation date, many international graduate students will not be able to attend. If after arriving to the U.S. you are unable to attend, please contact Jan Schmitt at 410-704-3317 to schedule an appointment.

Friday, August 21, 2009

10 am to 8 pm

Check-In for On-Campus Housing

Living on campus? Today is the first day that the Residence Tower opens. If moving in after hours, you may call the Residence Tower Info desk at 410-616-3101 or TU Campus Police at 410-704-2133.

Location: Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#)).

Saturday, August 22, 2009

10 am to 8 pm

Continued Check-In for On-Campus Housing

Living on campus? If moving in after hours, you may call the Residence Tower Info desk at 410-616-3101 or TU Campus Police at 410-704-2133.

Location: Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#)).

5 pm to 9 pm

Shopping Shuttle (OPTIONAL)

Interested in shopping? Purchase household, personal, and grocery items at the Towson Place Shopping Center.

Meeting location: in front of the Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#))
Shuttles will depart approx. every 30 minutes & return to campus between 7 & 8:30 pm.

Sunday, August 23, 2009

10 am to 8 pm

Continued Check-In for On-Campus Housing

Living on campus? If moving in after hours, you may call the Residence Tower Info desk at 410-616-3101 or TU Campus Police at 410-704-2133.

Location: Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#)).

1 pm to 5 pm

Explore Downtown Towson (OPTIONAL)

Get to know the wonderful town of Towson! Meet others and familiarize yourself with downtown Towson area shops & restaurants, the movie theater, and mall.

Meeting location: Residence Tower lobby (RT, C7 on the [Campus Map](#)).

<p>5 pm to 9 pm</p>	<p><u>Shopping Shuttle (OPTIONAL)</u> Interested in shopping? Purchase household, personal, and grocery items at the Towson Place Shopping Center. Meeting location: in front of the Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the Campus Map) <i>Shuttles will depart approx. every 30 minutes & return to campus between 7 & 8:30 pm.</i></p>
<p>Monday, August 24, 2009</p>	
<p>9 am</p>	<p><u>English Ability Assessment (REQUIRED only if informed by Int'l Admissions)</u> Testing location: Smith Hall, Room 264 (SM, C6 on the Campus Map) <i>Note: Students who have not been informed by international admissions do not need to take this test.</i></p>
<p>1 pm</p>	<p><u>Mathematics Ability Test (REQUIRED only if informed by Int'l Admissions)</u> Testing location: Hawkins Hall, Room 219 (HH, C6 on the Campus Map) <i>Note: Students who have not been informed by international admissions do not need to take this test.</i></p>
<p>2:30 pm to 5 pm</p>	<p><u>Campus & Library Tour (RECOMMENDED for All students)</u> Start off your academic year in the right way – learn where the academic buildings and offices are located on campus, and how to use the library and its resources. This tour includes a stop at the School Store, and Chevy Chase Bank, where you can open a bank account (immigration documents & ID needed). Meeting location: Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>7 pm to 9 pm</p>	<p><u>RA & Ambassador Welcome Party (OPTIONAL)</u> Get to know other new students, Housing & Residence Life Resident Assistants, and International Ambassadors during an evening full of games, prizes and FREE food! Meeting location: West Hall basement (WE, C7 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>Tuesday, August 25, 2009</p>	
<p>9:30 am to 3 pm</p>	<p><u>Undergraduate Student Orientation: TU CARES (REQUIRED for Undergraduate Students ONLY)</u> TU CARES/ University Course Registration/Academic Advising/Change Schedule. Receive academic advice & assistance with class registration. Meeting location: University Union, 2nd floor lobby (UU, C5 on the Campus Map) <i>Note: there will be a 1 hour lunch break, so don't forget to bring money to purchase something to eat at this time.</i></p>
<p>10 am to 12 pm</p>	<p><u>Exchange Student Orientation (REQUIRED for Exchange Students ONLY)</u> The program will cover course schedule, exchange program requirements, your online TU account, how to obtain your TU identification card, etc. Meeting location: Room 244 of the Admin. Bldg (AD, E6 on the Campus Map). <i>Note: eat lunch with your ambassador after the program - don't forget lunch money!</i></p>

<p>2 pm to 3 pm (Graduate & Exchange Students)</p> <p>3 pm to 5 pm (Undergraduate students)</p>	<p><u>SEVIS Address Reporting Requirement (REQUIRED)</u></p> <p>Stop by anytime during this time frame to update your local, permanent, and foreign address according to the Dept. of Homeland Security's requirements. Please come to this meeting with knowledge of your new address in the United States, and local telephone number, if applicable.</p> <p>Meeting location: Cook Library, Room 19B (CK, D7 on the Campus Map). <i>Note: it will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete this task.</i></p>
<p>5 pm to 9 pm</p>	<p><u>Shopping Shuttle (OPTIONAL)</u></p> <p>Interested in shopping? Purchase household, personal, and grocery items at the Towson Place Shopping Center.</p> <p>Meeting location: in front of the Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the Campus Map) <i>Shuttles will depart approx. every 30 minutes & return to campus between 7 & 8:30 pm.</i></p>

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

<p>Note: Mandatory TB Testing @ Berkshire Marriott Conference Hotel</p>	<p>Tuberculosis (TB) testing will take place during Wednesday's ISSO New International Student Orientation. ALL STUDENTS (Graduate, Undergraduate, & Exchange) are REQUIRED to take the TB test (including those who are transferring from other U.S. institutions unless they have been tested for Tuberculosis (TB) within the past year).</p> <p>Undergraduate & Exchange Students <u>NEW</u> to the U.S.: TB testing is included as part of Wednesday's program, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.</p> <p>Graduate Students: TB testing is included as part of Wednesday's program, from 2 pm to 4 pm.</p> <p>Undergraduate & Exchange Students <u>CONTINUING</u> their studies in the U.S: Report to the Berkshire Marriott at 4 pm for TB testing.</p> <p><i>Note: After taking the test, you must visit the Dowell Health Center between 8 am and 5 pm on Friday, August 28 for a follow-up reading. Failure to attend on Friday will necessitate re-testing, and prevent you from attending class on Monday, August 31!</i></p> <p><i>Students who are not tested for TB on Wednesday, or who fail to meet on Friday for a follow-up reading, MUST contact the Dowell Health Center immediately at 410-704-2466 to schedule an appointment.</i></p>
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<p>8:30 am to 12:30 pm</p>	<p><u>ISSO's Undergraduate & Exchange New International Student Orientation (REQUIRED for Undergraduate & Exchange students new to the U.S.)</u></p> <p><i>Note: Students who have studied at least one semester in the U.S. are not required to attend this program; they must report to the Berkshire Marriott Hotel solely for TB testing at 4 pm.</i></p> <p>Informational sessions will be presented on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • services provided by the ISSO • adjustment to living in the U.S. • health insurance and the university's health services • crime prevention and personal safety tips • how to get involved in social & recreational activities • support with academic and personal concerns. <p>The ISSO is required to review and copy your immigration documents as part of registering your immigration record in the SEVIS database. The following documents must be submitted to an ISSO advisor for processing: passport, I-94 card, Form I-20, and a print out of your complete local address.</p> <p>Note: lunch will be provided after this program, compliments of the ISSO. Location: The Berkshire Marriott Conference Hotel (BK, C8 on the Campus Map). Check-in on the 3rd Floor.</p>
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<p>2 pm – 4 pm</p>	<p><u>ISSO's Graduate Student Orientation</u> (REQUIRED for ALL Graduate Students)</p> <p>Informational sessions will be presented on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • services provided by the ISSO • adjustment to living in the U.S. • health insurance and the university's health services <p>The following documents must be submitted to an ISSO advisor for processing: passport, I-94 card, Form I-20, and a print out of your complete local address.</p> <p>Location: Berkshire Marriott Conference Hotel, Check-in on the 3rd Floor</p>
<p>4 pm – 5 pm</p>	<p><u>Dowell Health Center Additional TB Testing</u> (REQUIRED for ALL Graduate and Undergraduate students)</p> <p><i>Note: Students who were already tested as part of the New Student Orientation do not need to attend this program.</i></p> <p>Location: Berkshire Marriott Conference Hotel, Rodgers Forge Room (2nd Floor)</p>
<p>Thursday, August 27, 2009</p>	
<p>9 am to 9 pm</p>	<p><u>Freshman Orientation Packet Pick-Up</u> (REQUIRED for Undergraduate students)</p> <p>All undergraduate first-year students must pick up their New Student Programs Orientation packet, which includes important individual information regarding required orientation events.</p> <p>Location: University Union, Chesapeake Rooms (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>9 am to 5 pm</p>	<p><u>Welcome to Towson Resource Fair</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Location: University Union, Potomac Lounge (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>12 pm to 1:30 pm</p>	<p><u>New Commuter/Transfer Student Meeting and Picnic</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Don't live on campus? All freshmen and transfer commuter students are invited to attend a FREE lunch to learn about the services and opportunities available to commuter students. RSVP by calling 410-704-3307. Sponsored by New Student Programs and Off-Campus Student Services.</p> <p>Location: Burdick Field Tent (adjacent to BU, B5 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>7 pm to 8:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Residence Hall Floor Meetings</u> (REQUIRED for students living on campus)</p> <p>Exact times vary. All new students living in residence halls should check with their resident assistant upon moving in to clarify exact times.</p>
<p>8 pm to 10:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Welcome Carnival</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Come out to this annual event featuring carnival food, games, and a petting zoo. Students-only event. Sponsored by New Student Programs.</p> <p>Location: Burdick Field (adjacent to BU, B5 on the Campus Map)</p>
<p>10 pm to 12 am</p>	<p><u>Target After-Hours Shopping Event</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Grab things you forgot and pick up some fun new stuff as well. Students-only event. Sponsored by New Student Programs.</p> <p>Meeting location: shuttles will leave from the carnival.</p>

Friday, August 28, 2009

9 am to 11:30 am	<p><u>Freshmen FYE/OL Meeting I</u> (REQUIRED for Undergraduate students)</p> <p>All first-year undergraduate students will meet with their First-Year Experience (FYE) group and be introduced to their FYE faculty adviser and Orientation Leader (OL). Students will review their first term class schedule at this meeting and receive other important information.</p> <p>Meeting location: refer to your Online Services course schedule under ORIE305</p>
1:30 am to 3 pm	<p><u>Freshmen FYE/OL Meeting II</u> (REQUIRED for Undergraduate students)</p> <p>Same as above.</p> <p>Meeting location: refer to your Online Services course schedule under ORIE305</p>
4 pm to 5 pm	<p><u>New Student Convocation</u> (REQUIRED)</p> <p>New Student Convocation marks the official beginning to the student academic experience.</p> <p>Location: Towson Center Arena (TC, D2 on the Campus Map)</p>
8 pm to 9:30 pm	<p><u>Laugh Attack</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Featuring comedian and Towson Alum Amy Shumer. Sponsored by New Student Programs & the Department of Housing & Residence Life.</p> <p>Location: Stephens Hall Auditorium (ST, D7 on the Campus Map)</p>
8 pm to 9:30 pm	<p><u>Think Fast Game Show</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Learn about Towson and win big money! Sponsored by New Student Programs.</p> <p>Location: University Union Chesapeake Rooms (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>

Saturday, August 29, 2009

11 am to 5 pm	<p><u>New Student Conference</u> (REQUIRED)</p> <p>A detailed copy of the schedule will be distributed with freshmen welcome packets. Refreshments will be served in UU second-floor lobby. All events count towards the freshmen PICK Passport program. Students choose from a variety of topics.</p> <p>Location: University Union (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>
5 pm to 9 pm	<p><u>Shopping Shuttle</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Interested in shopping? Purchase household, personal, and grocery items at the Towson Place Shopping Center.</p> <p>Meeting location: in front of the Residence Tower (RT, C7 on the Campus Map) <i>Shuttles will depart approx. every 30 minutes & return to campus between 7 & 8:30 pm.</i></p>
8 pm	<p><u>Hypnotist Dale K</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Location: University Union Chesapeake Rooms (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>
9 pm to 11:30 pm	<p><u>Casino Night</u> (OPTIONAL)</p> <p>Location: University Union 2nd floor Lobby (UU, C5 on the Campus Map)</p>

Sunday, August 30, 2009

12 pm to 6 pm

Back to School Rally (OPTIONAL)

Students are invited to the Towson Town Center for a Back to School Rally! The first 1,500 students to attend will receive a free goodie bag full of retailer offers. Various events will be held throughout the day including fashion shows at 3 and 5 p.m., model search, make-up demonstrations and more! Prizes will be distributed at the top of each hour! Students must present TU OneCard in order to collect free goodie bags and prizes. Sponsored by New Student Programs.

Location: Towson Town Center Mall

4 pm to 6 pm

Field Day (OPTIONAL)

Stop by Burdick Field and play a variety of games. There will be relay races, kickball, Frisbee, and much more! If sports are not really your thing, stop by for some giveaways and free food. You will also have the opportunity to find out more information about all of Campus Recreation Services programs! Sponsored by Campus Recreation Services.

Location: Burdick Field/Rain Location Burdick Gym (BU, B5 on the [Campus Map](#))

6:30 pm to 9 pm

Welcome Concert (OPTIONAL)

Sit out on the hill and enjoy a free concert. Bring a blanket to sit on and enjoy a night of music under the stars! A student-only event. Sponsored by Campus Activities Board and New Student Programs.

Location: Speaker's Circle (adjacent to Lecture Hall, LH, C6 on the [Campus Map](#))

Monday - Friday, August 31 – September 4, 2009

Fall 2009 Semester Classes Begin

The ISSO wishes you the best of luck this semester!

3:30 pm to 5 pm

SEVIS Immigration Session (REQUIRED)

All graduate, undergraduate, and exchange students must attend one of the SEVIS Registration sessions, which are offered every day this week. Failure to attend a session will jeopardize your legal F-1 foreign student status in the U.S.

Saturday, September 5, 2009

8 am to 9 pm

Washington D.C. Trip (OPTIONAL)

Explore our nation's capital for the entire day. Trip includes stops at the White House, Smithsonian, the Washington Monument, Jefferson, Lincoln, & Vietnam Veteran Memorials. Additionally, the ISSO has reserved tickets through for a tour of the Capital building, and has obtained passes to the Capital Gallery.

Cost: \$20 per person, includes round-trip transportation, as well as transportation to each destination within D.C. (Purchase tickets in advance at the ISSO.)

Sunday, September 6, 2009

10 am – 4 pm

Baltimore Orioles Baseball Game & Inner Harbor Trip (OPTIONAL)

Visit the Inner Harbor and see the Baltimore Orioles Major League Baseball team take on the Houston Texans.

Cost: \$15 per person, includes round-trip transportation & ticket to the game. (Purchase tickets in advance at the ISSO.)

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