

UNG GLOBAL

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES (ISSS)
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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[ungglobal](https://www.instagram.com/ungglobal)



[UNGInternationalStudents](https://www.facebook.com/UNGInternationalStudents)



go.ung.edu/iss

TRAVEL TIPS & SIGNATURES

If you are planning to travel internationally for fall or winter break, you must have a valid travel signature on your I-20 or DS-2019.

A travel signature is valid for one year. Without a signature, you may not be able to enter the U.S. upon your return. If you forget to have your I-20 signed before you leave the U.S., you will be responsible for covering the costs of your new document to be sent to you.

There are a few ways to obtain a travel signature if you need one.

Travel Signature Walk-In Times

Cumming

December 6 | 10 AM - 12 PM | Room 262

Dahlonaga

November 12 | 11 AM - 1 PM | Dunlap Lobby

Gainesville

November 30 | 12 - 1 PM | Nesbitt Ballroom B

Oconee

November 28 | 11 AM - 1 PM | Admin 108

By Appointment

If the walk-in times above do not work for your schedule, or if you need a signature sooner, you can [schedule a time with your international advisor](#) to get a travel signature.

Don't forget your travel signature!



AIRPORT SHUTTLE DATES

The CGE will offer end of the semester transportation to the Atlanta airport on Saturday, December 15th (leaving UNG at 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM) and Sunday, December 16th (leaving UNG at 07:00 AM and 3:00 PM).

Important note: The CGE reserves the right to reschedule your selected drop-off time to another shuttle that works with your flight time in order to maximize use of transportation. Sign up by filling out the [Airport Drop-Offs questionnaire](#) with your information.

Spring Semester pick-ups will occur on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Sign up now using the [Airport Pick-Ups questionnaire](#).

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There are many ways for international students and exchange visitors to get involved on campus.

The CGE website has a list of [various leadership opportunities for you to explore](#).

One way we would especially love for you to be involved is to volunteer to help with [International Student Orientation](#)! If you're interested, email your international advisor to get more information!



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. Each year, the CGE hosts events to celebrate International Education Week. Visit our website to see the [most up-to-date list of events for your campus](#).

HOLIDAY CLOSURES & SCHEDULES

As a reminder, it is important for you to know holiday schedules, especially if you are a student on the Dahunega campus where there are dorms and multiple on-campus dining options.

Traditional Residence Halls close

November 16 - 25

December 15 - January 5

Last day of class

Friday, December 7

Finals

December 10 - 14

First day of class for Spring 2019

Monday, January 7

Make sure to pay attention to emails from your international advisor and plan ahead so that you schedule appointments and get signatures before she is out for the holidays.

PROGRAM END DATES

All international students, scholars, and exchange visitors have a program end date listed on their I-20 or DS-2019. You might be wondering what you should do once this date starts coming near. There are several things you should know and [several options for updating your documents to avoid being out of status when this date arrives](#).

- Extend your program
- Change your education level
- Apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Transfer to a new institution to start a new program or finish your current one
- Complete your degree at UNG and depart the U.S. to return home.

Once your program end date occurs, you have a [grace period](#) to remain in the U.S. After this grace period ends, if you have not taken steps to begin a new program, participate in OPT, or departed the country, you will begin to accrue unlawful presence.

Grace Periods

F Visa holders: 60 days

J Visa holders: 30 days

It is also important to notify your international advisor if you complete your program before your program end date so that your record and documents can be properly updated.

To Do

*Plan ahead!
Know your deadlines!
Volunteer!*

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



NAME: Jemima

CAMPUS: Gainesville

MAJOR: Kinesiology and Exercise Science

WHERE I'M FROM: I'm originally from Bavaria, Germany. I grew up in a small town called Cadolzburg, which is near the popular city of Nuremberg (Nürnberg).

WHAT I MISS MOST ABOUT HOME: What I miss most about my home country is my family and friends. And the food of course. Germany is famous for its good beer and good food, like Pretzels (Brezeln) and cheese.

WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT UNG: What I enjoy most about studying at UNG is that students are open, and professors are welcoming and interested in building a personal relationship with their students. I never get the feeling from anyone that I am different, and even when I'm still struggling with English sometimes, my peers or my professors are always here to help. UNG makes me feel welcome.

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

I'm involved on campus through the International Student Association, its members and events. Further, I try to be involved in the community of UNG through making personal connections and friends. (I often visit the lab to study—alone or with peers—and use the gym.) I try to attend as many events from UNG as possible to stay connected.

FUTURE CAREER PLANS: My career plans are to work in the medical/health field. Since I'm an Occupational Therapist in Germany and studying Exercise Science currently, I want to combine both degrees and use the language experience that I'm getting here to be able to work internationally.

*Would you like to be featured
in a future edition of our
newsletter? [Email Ronda](#) to
let her know!*