TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

International Students Orientation & Welcome Events

Fall 2017

Office of International Services
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECK-IN _S1

*Tues 8/29/17 | 10:00 AM-12:00 PM | RSVP*

Grace Dodge Hall 177, 179

Please bring your (and your family's) Immigration documents and a print out of your I-94 and visa page.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECK-IN_S2

*Tues 8/29/17 | 1:00 PM-3:00 PM | RSVP*

Grace Dodge Hall 177, 179

Please bring your (and your family's) Immigration documents and a print out of your I-94 and visa page.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECK-IN_S3

*Tues 8/29/17 | 3:00 PM-5:00 PM | RSVP*

Grace Dodge Hall 177, 179

Please bring your (and your family's) Immigration documents and a print out of your I-94 and visa page.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECK-IN_S4

Wed 8/30/17 | 9:00 AM-11:00 AM | RSVP
Grace Dodge Hall 177, 179
Please bring your (and your family's) Immigration documents and a print out of your I-94 and visa page.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CHECK-IN_S5

Wed 8/30/17 | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM | RSVP
Grace Dodge Hall 177, 179
Please bring your (and your family's) Immigration documents and a print out of your I-94 and visa page.

TC STUDENTS HOW TO

Wed 8/30/17 | 3:00 PM-3:30 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
Start the New Semester Tech-Savvy- Technology ready. Current students will share How To’s, the resources and referrals needed to survive the new learning environment are covered and more!! We will highlight the special features of the MyTC portal and introduce you to the technology services provided by the computer lab and library.
DO YOU WANT TEA?
Wed 8/30/17 | 3:45 PM-4:15 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
Conversation about gender-based misconduct and consent.

PERSONAL SAFETY & SECURITY
Wed 8/30/17 | 4:30 PM-5:00 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
New to NYC? Tips on how to act like a local! TC Public Safety Officers will share tips on how to keep alert and safe around the city.

DINING GROUPS
Wed 8/30/17 | 5:00 PM-8:00 PM | RSVP
OIS orientation interns will take student groups to local eateries.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Thu 8/31/17 | 9:00 AM-11:00 AM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
Get Orientated! The Office of International Services (OIS) extends a WARM WELCOME as you join our exciting academic community! New International Student Orientation is for anyone who feels ‘international.’ The session will begin with an introduction to OIS staff and services, along with important announcements to help with your introduction to TC, OIS and to New York City.
F1 VISA ORIENTATION

*Thu 8/31/17 | 11:00 AM-12:30 PM | RSVP*

**Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147**

All F1 students new to TC are required to attend this session. Attendance is mandatory. Topics covered about immigration requirements and benefits include: employment, travel, immigration documents/forms and consequences of not maintaining lawful F-1 status. You are responsible for knowing all information presented in this session. Consequences of not abiding by immigration regulations can be severe.

J1 VISA ORIENTATION

*Thu 8/31/17 | 11:00 AM-12:30 PM | RSVP*

**152 HM**

All TC sponsored J1 students new to TC are required to attend this session. Attendance is mandatory. Others (non TC-TC J1 sponsored students) are welcome. Topics covered about immigration requirements and benefits include: employment, travel, immigration documents/forms and consequences of not maintaining lawful J1 status. You are responsible for knowing all information presented in this session. Consequences of not abiding by immigration regulations can be severe.
OIS WELCOME LUNCH BOX (NON-RESIDENTS ONLY)

Thu 8/31/17 | 12:30 PM-2:00 PM | RSVP
TBA
Non-TC Residence Hall students attending OIS Welcome session will need to RSVP for a box lunch to pick up at the end of the session. All TC Residence Hall student will RSVP to ORS for Resident BBQ event.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Thu 8/31/17 | 2:00 PM-3:15 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
A workshop to help international students learn about American academic expectations so that you can have the most successful and rewarding experience possible as you pursue your educational goals and dreams at TC.

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Thu 8/31/17 | 3:15 PM-3:40 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
New to U.S. Health Services? What is co-pay? What is a PPO? How does insurance work? Learn the basics of Columbia Health and Columbia Student Medical Insurance. Information regarding enrollment, waiver requests, voluntary plans, fees and coverage will be provided.

STUDENT AFFAIRS PRESENTATION

Thu 8/31/17 | 3:45 PM-4:10 PM | RSVP
Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147
Overview of TC student Affairs resources. Get the most of your time at TC and NYC! Learn how to get discount movie tickets and how to sign up for Broadway shows.

**TC TUITION PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

*Thu 8/31/17 | 4:15 PM-4:45 PM | RSVP*

Cowin Auditorium, Horace Mann 147

TC Bursar's Office will review TC payment options and services. Professional staff will address third party payment set-up and/or defer payment questions.

**F1/J1 EMPLOYMENT BASICS**

*Fri 9/1/17 | 1:00 PM-3:00 PM | RSVP*

Thompson 136

OIS staff will give an overview of TC employment options and international student eligibilities for on and off-campus employment requirements.

**NYC FOOD TRUCK HOP**

*Fri 9/1/17 | 3:00 PM-5:00 PM | RSVP*

Learn how to navigate the city while finding the best food trucks in NYC, like the famous Waffles and Dinges, Munchies, Big D’s Grub Truck and so on. Download this app: NYCTruckFood app (available on Apple Store and Google Play). It’s a great way to discover NYC’s unique and diverse styles of food. Remember to bring an empty stomach, cash for food and transportation fee!
F1 VISA ORIENTATION (MAKE UP SESSION)
Thu 9/7/17 | 10:00 AM-11:30 AM | RSVP  Horace Mann 138

All F1 students new to TC are required to attend this session. **Attendance is mandatory if you did not attend the previous orientation on 8/31/17.** Topics covered about immigration requirements and benefits include: employment, travel, immigration documents/forms and consequences of not maintaining lawful F-1 status. You are responsible for knowing all information presented in this session. Consequences of not abiding by immigration regulations can be severe.

J1 VISA ORIENTATION (MAKE UP SESSION)
Thu 9/7/17 | 10:00 AM-11:30 AM | RSVP  Horace Mann 140

All TC sponsored J1 students new to TC are required to attend this session. **Attendance is mandatory if you have not attended the orientation previously held on 8/31/17.** Others (non TC-TC J1 sponsored students) are welcome. Topics covered about immigration requirements and benefits include: employment, travel, immigration documents/forms and consequences of not maintaining lawful J1 status. You are responsible for knowing all information presented in this session. Consequences of not abiding by immigration regulations can be severe.

LIBRARY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Thu 9/7/17 | 1:00 PM-2:00 PM | RSVP  Horace Mann 140

Take advantage of what TC has to offer to academically succeed. Familiarize yourself with the TC library through a discussion by experienced international students and the senior librarian. Topics covered include library resources, borrowing guidelines, study room options and literature searches. This will be followed by a tour of the library.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR NYC LIVING
Thu 9/7/17 | 11:30 AM-12:30 PM | RSVP  Horace Mann 150

OIS Orientation Interns will share their resources on how to find scholarships and opportunities on and off campus. Plan for fun in the city with limited budget.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WELCOME RECEPTION

Fri 9/15/17 | 3:00 PM-5:00 PM | RSVP

Russell Courtyard

Please join President Susan Fuhrman, TC faculty and community members for our annual reception in Russell courtyard. This event is co-hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of International Services.
For each city tour, please meet outside of the OIS Office in the Lobby of Whittier Hall at least 10 minutes before the tour start time. Family members are welcome. TOUS WILL LEAVE ON TIME. PLEASE RSVP!!!

1. **Tenement Museum and Food Exploration in the Lower East Side**  Sun Aug 20 | 12pm-5pm  
   Leader: Gengyi & Sixin  
   The tour will start with a taste of the Lower East Side. Many Chinese’s go-to Dim Sum place like Golden Unicorn or the widely accoladed Russ & Daughters café are among the many choices you can have for your lunch. After rewarding your taste bud, we will go explore the unique architecture of this neighborhood. Every building on the Lower East Side tells its own story. On this tour you’ll hear some of those stories and learn about the architects, artists and everyday people who built lives on Manhattan's Lower East Side. Advanced signup and payment ($20) are required to reserve group museum tour space.

2. **Discover Greenwich Village**  Sun Aug 20 | 3:00pm- 8:30pm  
   Leader: Videesha  
   Take a tour through New York’s Bohemian capital, the cradle of the modern LGBT movement, and the East Coast birthplace of both the Beat and '60s counterculture movements. We will start our tour in Washington Square park and then take a stroll through The Row and Washington Mews. We will then proceed to Jefferson Market garden and Christopher park and check out the Gay Liberation sculpture by George Segal. Before heading to Pier 45 we will stroll through Bleecker street to explore different food options. We will end the tour by watching the sunset at Pier 45. Please wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring your Metrocard or you can purchase one metrocard (MTA card) at the subway station. Bring cash for food and shopping.

3. **MoMA and Halal Guys**  Mon Aug 21 | 11:00am-3:00pm  
   Leader: Shan-Tan  
   Come join us on a tour to the world-famous MoMA and experience NYC's food truck culture! We'll take the subway to the very first and original Halal Guys in NYC and enjoy our food in one of the busiest business districts in Manhattan. Then we'll head for MoMA for an artistic afternoon. Bring your Metrocard, water, and TC student ID for free entry.

4. **A Glimpse of China in Staten Island**  Tue Aug 22 | 11:30am-4:00pm  
   Leader: You & He  
   Nested in Staten Island, the Chinese Scholar's Garden is a beautiful and tranquil botanical garden that provides New Yorkers with an impressive glimpse of China. It's admission is $4 for students. Walking amongst the walkways, pavilions, and bridges, you may feel being present at the Suzhou Classical Chinese Garden. This place is the great gem of serenity to explore the magnificent scenery which inspired the poetry, calligraphy, and paintings of Chinese scholars and traditions. We will leave from Whittier Lobby, take the subway to downtown and get on the South Ferry. On the ferry, you may have a wonderful view of the Statue of Liberty. Please wear comfortable shoes, have a big breakfast before setting off and remember to bring your TC ID, some water and snacks with you.

5. **Natural History Museum**  Thu Aug 24 | 9:30am  
   Leader: Tian  
   We will head to the Museum of Natural History where we will see the dinosaurs and dark universe among other amazing things! After that, we will head to Jacob’s Pickles (great comfort food!) for a late lunch. The
Museum is pay as you wish with your student ID. We will take the subway to the museum and meet at the group meeting spot at noon for lunch. Families are welcome! Bring your MTA card and wear comfortable shoes. Tips: You can download a free app of the museum in advance at: http://www.amnh.org

6. **Columbia Greenmarket**  
   **Leader:** Sixin
   Wanna have access to the local and organic produce without travelling all the way to Whole Foods or other health stores? You are on the right track! Meet at Whittier Lobby at 10:00 a.m. for a field trip to the Columbia Greenmarket that promotes a healthy living style and closer relationship to your food and the people who take care of it. Bring $10 or more with you so you can sample the freshly made apple cider and buy some local or organic food to reward your palate!

7. **Brunch in Chinatown: Enjoy Chinese Dim Sum**  
   **Leader:** Tian
   Come and enjoy some authentic dim sum (a traditional and welcoming Chinese brunch) at Chinatown. Then you have the choice to hang around or join a walking tour with the Museum of Chinese American. In this tour, you will explore this area by tracing the evolution of eateries in the community.

8. **Hindu Temple**  
   **Leader:** Videesha & Rajna
   This day of Ganesh Chaturthi is considered to be an auspicious day to pray to Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles. The Temple will be decorated with colorful lights and flower decorations. Buzzing with devotees, special rituals will be performed through the day.
   Food: Over a hundred Indian vegetarian food items and snacks are available at the canteen. The authentic South Indian food at the canteen is a great appeal to those who enjoy the traditional flavor and taste of idli, dosa, pongal, upma, sambar, chutney, etc.
   Please carry cash for your own meal. You may look up the menu via the link here. http://www.nyganeshatemplecanteen.com/menu
   TEMPLE DRESS CODE: Since it is a place of worship, attendees, both men and women, are requested to not wear shorts or skirts (above the knee) and/or ripped jeans. You could even wear a dhoti/ traditional garment that the temple authorities provide at a cost of $5.00

9. **A Glimpse of Medieval Europe at the Met Cloisters Museum**  
   **Leader:** You
   Are you interested in medieval arts? Do you want to immerse yourself in Game of Thrones style architecture? Come to the Met Cloisters, a branch of the Met that is dedicated to the arts, architecture, and gardens of Medieval Europe! Located in northern Manhattan by the Hudson river and Fort Tyron Park and just 30 minutes away from the TC campus, the Cloisters give you a sense of tranquility in the bustling city and will take you travel back to the Medieval Europe. The admission is free with TC ID. We will meet in the Whittier Lobby at 10:00 am. Please bring water and snacks with you or 5-15$ for refreshments at the outdoor cafe in the museum.

10. **Highline & Chelsea**  
    **Leader:** Tian (Aug 26) & He (Sept 2)
    Given its peculiar gardens on the old railroads, the Highline is a must-walk during summer time in New York City. We will have free guided walking tours who are High Line Docents, knowledgeable volunteer guides. They will offer you an insider's perspective on the park's history, design, and landscape. Then, we will explore Chelsea Market, and you will get to know what it has to offer. Later, we will buy whatever food you like including tacos, gelato, ice pops, and more seasonal treats from our food vendors. We will eat together,
make new friends and have fun! Bring your Metrocard, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, and cash.

11. **Free Kayaking on Hudson River and Dinner in Hell's Kitchen**  
   **Leader:** Gengyi  
   **Date:** Sat Aug 26 | 2:00pm-7:00pm  
   Cool for the Summer! Join us to get a taste of the Manhattan's popular summer water activity. A great opportunity to create a personal connection with the waterfront in New York City. **All trip participants must know how to swim.** We recommend you to wear your quick-dry comfortable clothing. Afterwards you can join us for a dinner in the hot NYC dining destination - Hell's kitchen neighborhood.

12. **Brooklyn Bridge, delicious lunch at Dumbo and ice-cream**  
   **Leader:** Rocio & Shan-Tan  
   **Date:** Sun Aug 27 | 10:30am- 3:30pm  
   Join us to cross the magnificent Brooklyn Bridge. We’ll walk to Dumbo, where we will eat either delicious and addictive burgers at Shake Shack or the famous pizza at Grimaldi’s. It’s your choice! We will get an amazing view of Manhattan’s skyline from the Brooklyn Bridge Park, eat ice cream and go back to TC. Bring your metrocard. **Food will be around $15-20 dollars and ice cream costs around $5.** Families and friends welcomed!! We will meet at TC’s main entrance at 10:30 am.

13. **Museum of the City of New York and El Museo del Barrio**  
   **Leader:** Sixin & Victor  
   **Date:** Sun Aug 27 | 11:30am  
   Tired of walking around MET and getting overwhelmed by the gigantic space and enormous exhibits? We’ve got you covered. El Museo del Barrio and the Museum of the City of New York are two gems with a small scale of thoughtfully curated exhibitions that widen your horizon about Latino culture and the history of New York City. We will start the tour in the cafe of El Museo with a variety of authentic Latino food at a decent price. Then we will tour El Museo and MCNY that are just next to each other. You should feel free to walk around the east side of Central Park after the tour to get some fresh air and relax your legs as well as your eyes. Bring your card or some cash for the cafe fare.

14. **Columbia Campus Tour**  
   **Leader:** Rajna & Tian  
   **Date:** Mon August 28 | 12:30pm - 2:30pm  
   Join this tour to learn more about the history, architecture, and sculpture of Columbia inclusive of TC and the Morningside Heights campus. You will leave the tour knowing more about our storied past and with ideas about where you may find comfort spaces for individual or social gatherings.

15. **Roosevelt Island of New York City**  
   **Leader:** Videesha  
   **Date:** Fri Sept 1 | 11:00am- 5:00pm  
   Interested in a quick cheap getaway from the city? Look no further-Roosevelt island is nestled between Manhattan and Queens. Though small, Roosevelt Island has a distinguished architectural history. We will take the subway to the only tram station in NYC. The Roosevelt Tramway provides a beautiful view of Manhattan and the East River. Once in Roosevelt Island we will explore some historical sights the island has to provide. We will visit a Gothic revival lighthouse built in 1872, Octagon a mid 19th century remnant, the Four Freedoms’s Park where Hillary Clinton held her first president candidate rally. We will explore the tasty treats the island has to offer while strolling around Main Street and enjoy the view of the Manhattan skyline. On our way back to school we will stop at The Black Tap in midtown for the best milkshake in NYC. Please wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring your Metro card or you can purchase one metrocard (MTA card) at the subway station. Bring cash for food and shopping.

16. **Bronx Zoo**  
   **Leader:** Victor  
   **Date:** Sat September 2 | 9:00am- 4:00pm  
   Bronx is one of the 5 boroughs in NYC and it has the largest metropolitan zoo in the United States. With more
than 650 species and over 4000 animals, Bronx Zoo is a must-see attraction in the city. Come enjoy the broad biodiversity of the world in just one place. Free sea lion and penguin feeding shows are held everyday. General admission is FREE for students and it grants you access to most of the attractions in the zoo. If you want, you can upgrade your ticket for $20 and have access to the few remaining special attractions. Alternatively, once inside, you can pay about $6 at the entrance of each of the special attractions you choose. Bring your MTA card, a water bottle and sunscreen.

17. **Ferry experience to Rockaway Beach**
   **Leader:** Gengyi & Victor
   Tired of the busy city? Do you feel like taking a Sunday to relax on the beach? Join us for a tour to Rockaway Beach! We will take a ferry from South Ferry Station to Rockaway Beach. This 1-hour-long ferry is itself a great experience with a nice view on Governor’s Island, the Statue of Liberty, the giant bridge between Staaten Island and Brooklyn and Coney Island Park. Feel free to bring any beach items of your preference (balls, frisbee, etc.) and anything you need to enjoy the refreshing water and the sun. There are food trucks and a drug store nearby the beach, but you can also bring your own food/snacks. We will take the ferry back during the sunset. Round trip should cost $11 ($6 for the metro and $5 ferry). Do not forget your sunscreen and sunglasses!

18. **Promenade by Lower Manhattan**
   **Leader:** Tian
   Join us in this tour to have a first glance of South Manhattan. We will meet at TC to take the subway together all the way to the tip of the island. Our stroll will start at the Charging Bull and Wall Street, so you can start sensing the business aura of the city. We will then walk towards the 9/11 Memorial and One World Building, definitely historical and worldwide landmarks. We will finish the afternoon, walking all the way down by the Hudson River and Battery Park, where you can have a great view of New Jersey and the statue of liberty while enjoying the sunset. Bring some money so you can buy snacks along the way. Don’t forget to wear comfortable shoes, bring water to stay hydrated and a camera or smart phone to take lots of pictures.

19. **Time Square walk and food in K-town**
   **Leader:** Tian
   Have you been to the heart of New York City? Join us to go to the most famous place, Times Square. Afterwards, we will have delicious Asian cuisine at nearby K-town. Please remember to bring money for transportation, food, etc. Dinner costs between $15 and $30.

20. **Governor’s Island**
   **Leader:** Rocio
   One more day before classes start! Join us in a visit to the spectacular Governor’s Island. Governors Island is a 172 acre island in the heart of New York Harbor. It’s only 800 yards from Lower Manhattan, and even closer to Brooklyn. It is a world unto itself, unique and full of promise. We will bike, walk, eat, relax, have fun, and discover this amazing place. Bikes are free for one hour from 10 am to noon, and that’s what we’ll try to attain. The ferry costs $2 for the roundtrip. Bring cash for food and lots of energy for a special day!

21. **The Met Fifth Avenue**
   **Leader:** Videesha
   The museum presents over 5,000 years of art spanning all cultures and time periods. Since the Museum opened its doors to the public in its current location in Central Park in 1880, its footprint has expanded to cover more than two million square feet. Today, art comes alive in the Museum's galleries and through its exhibitions and events, revealing both new ideas and unexpected connections across time and cultures.
We will take the bus together to the museum where we can join various guided tours that are offered for free. Entry to the museum is free with the TC ID. Please carry cash for your own meals.

22. **UN Headquarters Tour**  
**Leader:** Tian & He  
Are you the ambitious Columbian, ready to be a global leader? Then, you’d better know that the United Nations Headquarters is right next to you. Check out the place where global leaders make history and get inspired! You can’t get this chance anywhere else! **Advanced signup and payment ($15)** are required to reserve group tour space. Space is limited for this tour.