

ADDITIONAL ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Campus Safety

www.lawrence.edu/info/services/campus-safety

Campus Life / Hall Directors

www.lawrence.edu/students/student_life/housing/staff

Center for Academic Success

www.lawrence.edu/academics/academic-success

Diversity and Intercultural Center

www.lawrence.edu/students/resources/diversity

Office of Diversity and Inclusion

<https://www.lawrence.edu/info/offices/diversity-and-inclusion>

International Student Services

www.lawrence.edu/students/resources/international

Bias Incident Report

www.lawrence.edu/info/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/report-bias-motivated-incidents

Religious and Spiritual Life

www.facebook.com/LU-Spirit-Space-1597281740567848

Wellness Services

Counseling Services • <https://www.lawrence.edu/students/wellness/counseling>

Wellness Initiatives & Programs • www.lawrence.edu/search/lu_advanced_search/wellness

Health Services • <https://www.lawrence.edu/students/wellness/health>

International Student Health Page • <https://go.lawrence.edu/1173>



WRITTEN RESOURCES

Website for Lawrence faculty and staff supporting international students: <https://go.lawrence.edu/10754>

Carroll, J. & Ryan, J. (Eds.). (2005). *Teaching International Students*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Flaitz, J. (Ed.). (2003). *Understanding your international students: An educational, cultural, and linguistic guide*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.

Hofstede, Geert. (2018, August 17). Country Comparison. Retrieved from www.hofstede-insights.com/product/compare-countries

*Morrison, T. and Conaway, W. (2006) *Kiss, bow, or shake hands: The bestselling guide to doing business in more than 60 countries*. Avon, Mass: Adams Media. *This is a more general resource that also includes information for business travelers.

Young, N. (2014). *Seeking Best Practices for Integration International and Domestic Students*. University of Minnesota. Retrieved from <http://global.umn.edu/icc/resources/umntc-ugis-data/integration-bestpractices.html>

This information was compiled by the International Student Working Group in June 2018



LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY
APPLETON, WISCONSIN

Academic & Waseda



Cecile Despres-Berry
Director of ESL and the Waseda Program

Specialties: Academic support, English for non-native speakers, Waseda CS-L

Contact Information:
Briggs Hall 135 &
International House
920-832-7130
cecile.c.despres-berry@lawrence.edu

Immigration & Personal



Leah McSorley
Associate Dean of Students for
International Student Services

Specialties: Immigration compliance, work authorization, personal advising related to immigration regulations (see sidebar at right).

Contact Information:
International House
920-832-6509
leah.d.mcsorley@lawrence.edu

When to contact International Student Services:

Concerns regarding full time enrollment (15 unit minimum required by U.S. government), medical or health issues impacting academic performance, work authorization (e.g. for internships/research), general concerns about student performance or well-being, assistance with referrals to campus resources (see final page).

TIPS FOR TEACHING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: ACADEMIC FOCUS

In general:

- International students are a diverse group. Their educational experiences, language proficiency, learning style preferences and academic skills vary widely. Many are accomplished English writers and active class participants. Others are not. For many, proficiency in spoken and written English differ. For example, some are very strong writers, but are not proficient speakers.
- Let students know how you would like to be addressed, as this varies culturally.
- Provide clear but compassionate feedback on what is culturally appropriate if students violate norms of classroom behavior, email etiquette, etc. They may not know they were violating norms.
- Some international students come from cultures that are much more hierarchical than the U.S. and may feel uncomfortable approaching faculty for help. Ask if they need help, invite them to office hours or otherwise reach out.

Class discussions:

- Make explicit the behaviors that you count as participation. Consider including nonverbal participation (body language, eye contact, notetaking, active listening) or written responses. This is a good way for quieter students to engage.
- Use small groups—it's often easier for international students to interact with a small group of classmates.
- Give students more preparation time: longer wait times after asking questions, quick writes, assigning discussion questions before class, Moodle discussion, etc.

- When using groups, consider including more than one international student in each group so that individuals do not feel they are the only person representing an international identity in the group.
- Many first term international students report difficulty in following the flow of a class discussion and in knowing when and how to participate. Others are afraid to participate in class discussions because they lack confidence in their English skills. Meet with these students outside of class to discuss additional strategies to help them participate.
- Develop a classroom environment that respects linguistic diversity, including diversity of expression and accent.
- Don't make assumptions about students based on their accents or home country.

Writing:

- Writing style is cultural and much of it is learned by the time students reach university. What may seem to be a lack of organization, argument or analysis may actually be a cultural difference in writing style. Give students models of the type of writing you expect from them and point out the stylistic elements that make them good examples of academic writing. Refer students to writing tutors for additional help.
- Grammatical and linguistic issues may trouble otherwise proficient writers unless instructors give them feedback. Point out one or two recurring errors in their writing so that they will notice the problem and continue to develop their grammatical competence.
- Ask ESL writers if they would like extra time on exams with a significant written component.

Academic Integrity:

- Cultural attitudes toward academic honesty may play a role in inadvertent plagiarism by international students. Many international students have a different cultural understanding of what constitutes plagiarism. For example, in some cultures, quotes from famous works may not need to be cited in class papers because to do so would imply that the professor does not know the quote.
- Be clear about expectations for citing and referencing others' work in the assignments and exams for your class. Provide resources, such as citation guides, models of assignments and plagiarism quizzes, such as this one from Indiana University: www.indiana.edu/~tedfrick/plagiarism/item1.html
- English language proficiency may affect a student's ability to paraphrase well. Encourage ESL writers to work with tutors to construct paraphrases that do not inadvertently plagiarize.



TIPS FOR ADVISING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: IMMIGRATION FOCUS

International students must adhere to a number of responsibilities to maintain F-1 and J-1 status. These include but are not limited to:

- **Full time enrollment:** International students must register for a full-time course of study each term. At Lawrence, full time is defined as 15 units per term.
- **Full time exception:** Pre-authorization from International Student Services (ISS) and additional signed paperwork from the Center for Academic Success must be completed before the withdrawal to avoid violating student status resulting in immigration sanctions. The form is found at: go.lawrence.edu/10677. Allowable exceptions for dropping below full time include:
 - **Medical reasons:**
 - ▶ Verified temporary medical condition that requires a reduced course load
 - **Academic reasons:** (Permitted with pre-authorization for only 1 term during their program.)
 - ▶ First year students: Initial difficulty with English, reading requirements or American teaching methods
 - ▶ Upper class students: Improper course placement
 - **Final term of study:** (Permitted only for students who will complete their program in the current term)
 - ▶ It is the final term of study and full time is not needed to meet degree requirements.

- **Employment limitations:** International students cannot work in any capacity without specific authorization to do so. Many students are authorized to work on campus; however, work off-campus requires additional pre-authorization by ISS or USCIS BEFORE the employment start date. Students who wish to complete an internship or off-campus work must consult with ISS 1–3 months in advance of their start date. Comprehensive information about working as an international student is available at the ISS website: go.lawrence.edu/10676

- **Personal information changes:** Students must keep all personal information (name, U.S. address, home address, dependent information) up to date. Changes must be reported to ISS within 10 days of the change.

- **Maintain valid documents:** Passports and other immigration documents, such as I-20 or DS-2019, must remain valid at all times. Students must work with ISS to extend or shorten their immigration documents if they will complete their program sooner or later than originally anticipated.

TIPS FOR ADVISING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: ACADEMIC FOCUS

International students may need additional support from academic advisors to better understand U.S. cultural and academic expectations. Advisors may want to prepare to explain university structure, classroom expectations and communication strategies for within the classroom as well as the advising relationship.