

**Fall 2008**  
**International Graduate Student Orientation**  
**and**  
**Celebrating New York! Activities**

The International Graduate Student Orientation program takes place on Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> but orientation to Columbia and New York City begins before this date and extends through your first few weeks here. Through *Celebrating New York! (CNY!)* activities, you will have opportunities to get acquainted with other new students, peer advisers, and your new home, NYC! Be sure to scroll down to see all your options.

For those who are arriving early, the ISSO has arranged with several campus offices for information sessions and tours:

- ❖ Health Services
- ❖ Visitors Center / Campus Tours
- ❖ Butler Library

**Friday, August 22 — International Graduate Student Orientation Program and Welcome Reception**

Time: 1:30 – 5:30 PM. Orientation Program at Roone Arledge Auditorium, Alfred Lerner Hall

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Welcome Reception at Low Library Rotunda.

Today's program is for students in the graduate and professional schools and the School of General Studies. **Columbia College and School of Engineering and Applied Science undergraduate** students will have information sessions incorporated into the New Student Orientation Program (NSOP).

Columbia University welcomes you! You will be introduced to the ISSO staff who are available to assist you throughout your stay, and international student Peer Advisers who know from experience what it's like to be new to NYC and Columbia. Essential information will be presented from 1:30 - 4:30 PM

**1:30 pm      Welcome and Introductions**

**2:00 pm      Immigration: the Essentials.**

This session covers what you need to know about F-1 and J-1 status, including basic documents, maintaining legal status in the U.S., and rules for travel and re-entry to the U.S.

**2:45 pm      Safety Tips for the "Big Apple"**

New York has all the advantages and some of the disadvantages of most large cities. This presentation will help you determine the appropriate level of concern for your personal safety.

**3:15 pm      Break**

**3:30 pm      Peer Advisers Present!**

Peer advisers will present student-to-student information in an original way.

**3:45 pm      Working in Student Status**

The rules and procedures for working on-campus—TA's (teaching assistants), GRA's (graduate research assistants) and part-time hourly work during the academic year and during vacation periods.

**4:15 pm      The U.S. Academic System and Issues of Academic Integrity**

How do you write papers, conduct research give presentations, and contribute to the scholarly discourse in your classes and seminars at Columbia with the highest standards of academic integrity? The presenters give practical suggestions for learning about and using resources on academic integrity available for Columbia graduate students.

**4:30 pm**      **SEVIS Registration** and review of immigration documents for students who haven't yet had a chance to check in at the ISSO since arriving in NY. Bring with you your passport, I-94 card, and student immigration documents, the I-20 or DS-2019. You will also have the opportunity to **open a bank account** with CitiBank after completing check-in.

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**5:30 pm**      **Ticket Sales for Celebrating New York! (CNY!) events.** All events requiring ticket purchase will be on sale—Broadway shows, Statue of Liberty, sunset cruise, jazz brunch and more. You may use MasterCard, Visa, Diners Club or U.S. dollars to purchase tickets

**Peer Adviser Q & A and sign up for Saturday Scavenger Hunt and Dinners**

For all the things you'd like to ask "student to student", visit the Peer Adviser tables in the lobby.

**6:00 pm      Welcome Reception**

Enjoy refreshments and the opportunity to meet other students, peer advisers, and University staff who have come to welcome you. Low Memorial Library Rotunda

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Our *Celebrating New York! (CNY!)* activities take advantage of the wonderful variety of places to visit and things to do in New York during the summer months. Visits to museums, Broadway shows, outdoor musical events around the city, Central Park, shopping excursions to IKEA for items for your apartment are some of the activities you will want to join to meet other new international graduate students and Peer Advisers. The Fall 2008 program will begin in early August and continue into early September. We will post updates to the *CNY!* schedule as arrangements are finalized so please check back as you make your preparations to join us at Columbia.