



SEPTEMBER 2024

Monthly Newsletter

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

◆
Saint Louis University



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION FALL 2024

Welcome to campus! Whether you are new or returning, we are so excited to see you!

The Office of International Services (OIS) will be releasing a monthly newsletter and it starts - NOW!

The newsletters will consist of important immigration reminders, upcoming events, student spotlights, and more. You don't want to miss them! We will distribute the newsletters via email to the international student list serv, as well as a PDF on our website.

We encourage you to share the newsletters with your professors, advisors, and the rest of your support team. It is important for our community to be aware of all things OIS, so we can best support you on your academic journey.



Each month, we will feature a student in our newsletter, nominated by YOU! Students can be nominated for anything, whether it's for being a good friend, excelling in the classroom, making a difference in the community, or having a unique talent - all submissions are welcome! See the QR code below to nominate a student for the next newsletter.

There will be a quiz posted in each newsletter to check your knowledge about immigration rules, OIS events, and other newsletter content. The highest correct scores will be entered for the chance to win a small prize. One prize will be awarded per newsletter. A new quiz will be posted each month.

Enjoy this month's newsletter!

Office of International Services

In this newsletter you can expect:

Immigration Reminders

Student Spotlight

OIS + SLU Events

Things to do in STL and Surrounding Area

Test Your Knowledge - Quiz

OIS Contact and Staff Features





OPT Workshops - If you are graduating in December, READ THIS!

Dates to remember:

September 16th - 1st day to apply for OPT
February 10th - Last day to apply for OPT

Are you thinking about applying for OPT? If so, there are a few steps you must take before submitting an application.

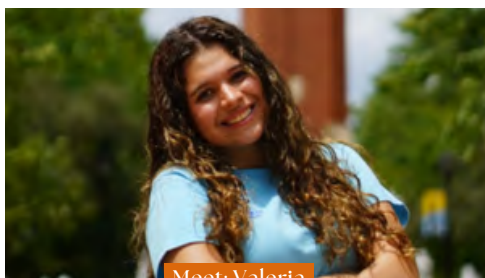
1. Attend an OPT workshop - **MANDATORY**
2. Submit an OPT I-20 request in the student portal

Attending an OPT workshop is MANDATORY. Upon completion of an OPT workshop, you will receive a certificate to upload in your OPT I-20 request.

To register for an OPT workshop, visit this [LINK](#).

Are you eligible for OPT? Students must:

- Have been enrolled in F-1 status for at least 9 months
- Have been enrolled full-time for at least 1 academic year
- Be physically present in the U.S. when applying

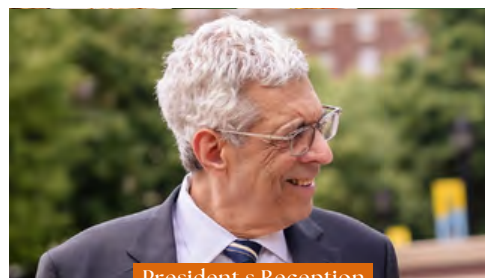


Meet: Valeria

Student Spotlight

Name: Valeria Vasquez Ramirez
Level: Undergrad - Junior
Major: Criminology + Criminal Justice

If you attended orientation or any of the pre-arrival Zooms, you probably saw Valeria! Valeria is one of our International Ambassador Coordinators. Not only did she work tirelessly to make sure orientation was a success, but she has also been helping manage the OIS Instagram account! Check out her driving safety video - @sluinternationalservices Thank you for everything you do Valeria!



President's Reception

OIS Upcoming Events

President's Reception

Date: 09/30/2024
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: BSC Wool Ballroom
Invite only

OPT Workshop (for Fall '24 grads)

Date: 10/01/2024
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Register to receive information

Safety Week

Date: 10/07/2024-10/11/2024
Time: Varies
Location: SLU Campus





Things to Do: SLU, STL, + Surrounding Area



Eckert's - Apple Picking

Date: Early August - October
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Location: Eckert's - Belleville, IL
Price: \$3-7 field pass, \$2.79 per lbs of apples

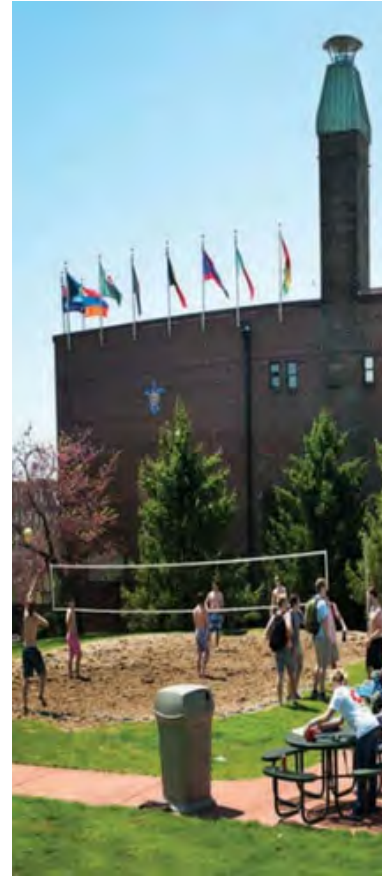
Fall is apple season! Ride a tractor, taste more than 10 varieties of apples, pick your own fruit, meet farm animals, and more!

*This is a great activity to do with children



Brookdale Farms - Fall Festival

Date: Each weekend from October 4th - October 27th
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Location: Brookdale Farms - Eureka, MO
Price: \$10.94
Corn Maze, pumpkin patch, petting zoo, hay rides, and other Fall activities - Brookdale Farms has no shortage of fun things to do!



SLU - Graduate Student Social

Date: 10/05/2024
Time: 4:00 p.m. - 8:00p.m.
Location: SLU Simon Rec Center
Price: FREE

*This event is for graduate students and their friends/families. Join the Graduate Student Initiatives team for a night of free swimming, volleyball, lawn games, crafts, pumpkin painting, and snacks (while supplies last)! Students are encouraged to bring guests, however, they MUST sign a waiver before October 4th to be able to participate in the event. Upload your completed waivers here: [google form](#)



City Museum - Fright at the Museum

Date: Sept. 28th - October 26th
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. (weekends)
Location: City Museum - Stl, MO
Price: \$20+

This is a one-of-a-kind Halloween celebration! Entertainment, spooky exhibits, themed food & drinks, and the usual climbing excitement make this experience one you don't want to miss!



The Grove - Grove Fest

Date: 10/05/2024
Time: 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Location: Manchester Ave - Stl, MO
Price: FREE entry, food + vendors cost \$

Over 100 local vendors line up in The Grove to help you celebrate this event! Enjoy live music and performances while you eat and drink with friends. Kids activities end at 6:00 p.m.





Newsletter Quiz - Prize Opportunity

Did you read the entire newsletter? If so, this is your chance to test your knowledge to potentially win a prize!

A quiz will be posted at the end of each newsletter about the content: immigration, events, etc....

The highest correct scores will be entered for the chance to win a small prize. One prize will be awarded per newsletter.

A new quiz will be posted each month. Quiz results will be posted in the next month's newsletter.

Winners will be notified via email. If the winner does not claim their prize within a week of being emailed, a new student will be chosen.

Quiz link: [QUIZ](#)



Thank you for reading!

Student Spotlight Nominations

The next Student Spotlight could be you! Submit a nomination for yourself or a friend by scanning the QR code below, or by clicking the link.

SLU International Students can be nominated for ANY positive reason - good grades, a unique talent, helping in the community, obtaining a great internship, etc...

Students who are selected for a Student Spotlight will receive an email from OIS. The chosen student will need to report to OIS to have a professional photo taken within the dates/times listed in the email. If the student nominated does not appear for their photo, a new student will be selected in their place.

Nomination link: [FORM](#)



OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!

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