Earthquake and Tsunami Affect Japan and People all Over the World

All of us at the Slutzker Center for International Services join with those who are watching the after effects of the earthquake and tsunami which hit Japan so hard today. We have been hearing from our students and scholars throughout the day. If we can be of assistance, please email us at lescis@syr.edu. We are providing links below to information about locating people in Japan, and the latest information from the U.S. Department of State. There is new information over the weekend, we will post it on this http://international.syr.edu/scis_archive/SCISnews_3-11-2011.htm website. Please keep checking. Our thoughts and prayers are with all people who have been affected by this natural disaster and we hope that injuries and loss of life will be minimal.

With sympathy and hope,
Dr. Patricia A. Burak
Director/Lillian and Emanuel Slutzker Center for International Services

1. Daylight Savings

Did you know that Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday? March 13th will be the first day of Eastern Standard Time. You will want to fix your clocks and other electronic devices by setting them one hour forward when you go to sleep on Saturday, March 12th.

2. Flying Out of Syracuse for Spring Break?

Planning to travel during this Spring Break? Please get your I-20 or DS-2019 (for J-1 students or scholars) signed as soon as possible!

Carry-On Baggage: Think Small, Think Smart, Think Safe

Check with the airport for the number of carry-on bags allowed. The maximum size carry-on for most airlines is 45 linear inches. Keep essentials such as prescriptions, personal hygiene items, passport, important documents, and valuables (jewelry or cameras) in your possession. Plan to check more of your baggage and carry on less. Store heavy items under the seat in front of you, not overhead. No oversized packages or luggage can be stored on board. Don't assume the flight has unlimited closet space for garment bags; some may have to be checked.

Dress the Part

Avoid wearing clothing, jewelry, or other accessories that contain metal when traveling:
- Clothing with metal buttons, snaps or studs.
- Dress the Part
- Keep your eyes open for unattended packages and bags, and report them to authorities.
- Jewelry (pines, necklaces, bracelets, rings, watches, earrings, body piercings, suffix links, lanyard or bow tie). Shoes with steel tips, heels, sharks, buckles or nails.
- Metal hair barrettes or other hair decoration.
- Belt buckles.
- Wear low-heeled, leather or canvas shoes.
- Metal barrettes.
- Passengers who wear sensible clothing can reduce their chances of serious injury in the unlikely event of an emergency.
- Wear clothes made of natural fabrics such as cotton, wool, denim or leather. Synthetics may melt when heated.
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3. Safety Information for a Safe and Secure Spring Break

The Division of Student Affairs would like to share with on-and off-campus student residents the following safety information for a safe and secure Spring Break:

- The Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services reminds students to turn on outdoor lights while away from their residences during Spring Break, especially if the doors are not visible from the street. Timed or motion lights also help to deter burglaries from taking place while absent. When possible, students should take all valuables with them. If larger expensive items must be left at home, keep the items away from windows, and take pictures of valuables for insurance in case something is stolen. Close curtains and make sure all windows and doors are securely locked. Ask the post office to hold any mail until you return from break. Forms are available on the U.S. Postal Service website at http://www.usps.com.
- Jewelry (pines, necklaces, bracelets, rings, watches, earrings, body piercings, suffix links, lanyard or bow tie). Shoes with steel tips, heels, sharks, buckles or nails.
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http://international.syr.edu/scis_archive/SCISnews_3-11-2011.htm
the Goldstein Student Center at x-9708 or FIX IT at x-4948 to obtain an extra wooden dowel.

If students leave their vehicles in University parking areas, be sure all valuables have been removed from view and that the vehicle is locked. For students who fly out of Syracuse’s Hancock International Airport for Spring Break, new safety regulations at airports have changed the process of flying. Instead of bringing many belongings on board, airports encourage travelers to pack carry-on luggage lightly, and leave razors, scissors, or knives for checked baggage. Prescriptions, personal hygiene items, and expensive jewelry should be packed in carry-on luggage in clear bags. In addition, security measures have increased the amount of time it takes to check in before flights. Airport officials recommend that travelers keep their government-issued photo identification handy and arrive early to allow time for additional baggage screening.

We wish you a safe and relaxing Spring Break and look forward to your return to campus.

4. DSA weekly announcements.

General Information
Although the residence halls remain open for the entire break, the Office of Residence Life and the Department of Public Safety ask that you help keep our residence halls safe during the break period. If you leave for Spring Break, we ask that you please complete the following prior to your departure:

- Remove all personal belongings from the bathroom and the lounge;
- Close and lock all windows and security screens;
- Open curtains – except 1st floor residents whom should close curtains;
- Empty all room trash cans into the appropriate receptacles on your floor;
- Place all recyclables into the appropriate receptacles on your floor;
- Turn off all lights in your room/suite;
- Lock your room door.

Be Orange. Think Green. If you leave the residence halls for spring break, please help reduce your energy consumption and the improve the University’s sustainability efforts by unplugging all electronic devices, including, but not limited to, televisions, CD/DVD players, cell phone/iPOD/MP3 player chargers, computers, and alarm clocks. In addition, please consider unplugging and defrosting your refrigerator. Each device you unplug decreases our energy usage.

Support Systems
Please note that the following support systems will be in place for residents staying throughout Spring Break:

- The Office of Residence Life (ORL), located at 111 Waverly Avenue, Suite 200 (above the Health Center), and the South Campus Office of Residence Life, located in the Goldstein Student Center, will continue to be open standard University business hours throughout Spring Break week.
- All residence hall main desks will operate on a reduced schedule as outlined below:
  - Friday, March 11 – Saturday, March 20: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
  - Sunday, March 20: regular hours (8 a.m. – 12 midnight)
- Resident Advisors are on-call throughout Spring Break, 24 hours per day, beginning at 7 p.m., Friday, March 11. Resident Advisor cell phone numbers are posted at all residence hall main desks.
- Residential Security Aides (RSAs) coverage will continue throughout the Spring Break period.

5. Spring Break Schedule 2011

Are you staying at S.U. for Spring Break?

Here's our dining schedule:

Friday, March 11
Dining Centers operate regular hours
Schine Dining 7:30am – 9pm
Goldstein Dining 7am – 9pm

Saturday, March 12 & Sunday, March 13
Schine Dining 11am – 5pm
Goldstein Dining 7am – 9pm

Monday, March 14 – Friday, March 18
Schine Dining 11am – 5pm
Goldstein Dining 7am – 10pm

Saturday, March 19
Schine Dining 11am – 5pm
Goldstein Dining 7am – 10pm

Monday, March 20 – Friday, March 25
Schine Dining 11am – 5pm
Goldstein Centers open for dinner at 4:30pm

NOTE:
If you are on a meal plan and have SuperCard Food, you may use it at Schine or Goldstein Dining.
If you are on a meal plan and DO NOT have any SuperCard Food money, please call SU Food Services at 443-3641 or 441-9866 in order to obtain meal passes for Schine Dining.

6. Win a dinner for two!!

We are thinking on changing the title for our SCIS News and we need your help!! Please click on the link below and suggest different titles that you think that would be the most appropriate for our weekly newsletter.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MZBC7Z7

The best title for our SCIS newsletter will win a dinner for 2 at Samrat Restaurant in Syracuse, NY and your name will be announced in the next Newsletter!!

7. Commencement Weekend

Commencement Weekend (May 13-15) planning has been underway for several months, bringing with it new opportunities, new collaborations, and changes to the weekend’s schedule of events. I want to take the opportunity now, as we prepare to send the Commencement Information Booklet to students and parents – to bring you up to date on these changes, which evolved from a variety of factors including a larger class size, new campus venue guidelines, off-campus venue limitations and more. To view the Convocation and Reception schedule, please visit our website, http://commencement.syr.edu.
The Office of Special Events is looking forward to partnering with each of the schools and colleges as we prepare to celebrate our students' accomplishments, and showcase our 

notices to students and families through this social media tool. We encourage you to share our Facebook address and help us build our 'friend' list.

Sidney.Greenblatt@gmail.com

If you are interested in meeting other Global Nomads (and that includes Global Nomads have occupied a prominent place in the life of Syracuse

It is important that you complete all fields on the form to receive a password. There is a maximum of 3 – 5 business day turnaround time for the password.

The Slutzker Center for International Services has opened access to 

If you are planning on attending the March 29

Are You Employed This Semester?

Here’s an Important Tax Tip for F-1s and J-1s!

As part of an international 

Global Nomads have occupied a prominent place in the life of Syracuse University and SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry. As part of an international organization, its members have the opportunity to address faculty, students and administrators in panel sessions organized to celebrate International Education Week, and in 

You need print only pages 1, 54 and 55
Have you or someone you know recently received an e-mail claiming you’ve won the Green Card lottery and asking you to send or wire money? Don’t fall for it—the sender is trying to steal your money! Fraudsters will frequently e-mail potential victims posing as State Department or other government officials with requests to wire or transfer money online as part of a “processing fee.” You should never transfer money to anyone who e-mails you claiming that you have won the Diversity Visa (DV) lottery or been selected for a Green Card.

Learn more at: [http://blog.uscis.gov/2011/03/e-mail-scam-avoid-green-card-lottery.html](http://blog.uscis.gov/2011/03/e-mail-scam-avoid-green-card-lottery.html)

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14. Photography Seminar

**Photography Seminar**

**Thursday, March 17, 2011, 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

**Advanced Guide to Nikon Digital SLR Photography:**

If you are passionate about photography and intrigued by high-end technology then this seminar on Nikon Digital SLR cameras is for you! Spend two hours with a Nikon expert learning about the advanced features, menus, and controls and see what all of the buzz is about with Nikon DSLR cameras such as the D90 and D7000. Learn about the Creative Lighting System and how to control light with built-in wireless flash capabilities in Nikon DSLR camera. This class is packed with great information! Get ready to learn! Co-sponsored by MQ Camera.

**Location:** Light Work/Community Darkrooms
**Sponsoring department/organization:** Light Work/Community Darkrooms
**Contact:** Jessica Reed, jhreed01@syr.edu

15. Iranian Community of Syracuse Celebrates Persian New Year

**Iranian Community of Syracuse Celebrates:**

**NOROUZ 1390 (Persian New Year)**

**Sunday, March 20, 2011, 6:00PM - 11:30PM**

**Traditions at the Lake**

* 6:00PM - 6:30PM: Dinner **FREE**

* 6:30PM - 11:30PM: Persian New Year celebration

**Location:** Light Work/Community Darkrooms

16. Late Night at the Gym

**Late Night at the Gym**

**Archebald/Planagan**

**Belly Dancing**

**Monday Night**

**Salsa Merengue**

**Friday Night**

**Break Dancing**

**Meditation**

**Saturday Night**

**Yoga**

**Free events on alternate Thursdays**

**Free entrance at the Gym are Free**

**Women's Building**

**Indoor Soccer**

**Cricket**

**All activities at the Late Night at the Gym are Free**

**Women's Building**

**Wednesday Night**

**Belly Dancing**

**Thursday Night**

**Salsa Merengue**

**Friday Night**

**Break Dancing**

**Meditation**

**Saturday Night**

**Yoga**

**All events start at 10 p.m.**

17. Health and Wellness Expo
18. **5K Run and Walk for a good cause**

The University Judicial Board/Peer Education Team (UJB/PET) is excited to announce the return of the popular "got consent?" campaign! The "got consent?" campaign has occurred annually since its inception to educate and raise awareness about sexual violence. We have maintained the symbolic t-shirts, which have been enhanced this year. If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt, they can be purchased at the Schine Box Office. Additionally, as April is Sexual Assault Awareness month, the UJB/PET decided to expand the "got consent?" campaign this year and is hosting a "got consent?" 5K run and family fun walk that will take place on the Syracuse University campus.

The first annual "got consent?" 5K run and family fun walk will take place on Sunday, April 3, 2011. All participants who pre-register by March 16, 2011 will be guaranteed this year's "got consent?" shirt. If you are interested in participating, please fill out a race entry form. If you are not able to participate in the 5K run and/or family fun walk, you can still purchase your t-shirt at the Schine Box Office. We ask all whom receive a t-shirt to be sure to wear their t-shirt on "got consent?" day, which is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, 2011, in coordination with Take Back the Night week.

The University Judicial Board/Peer Education Team (UJB/PET) has created a t-shirt with a message about communicating CLEAR consent EACH and EVERY time someone chooses to engage in sexual activity with another person. The campaign was started by the 2004-2005 UJB/PET when they undertook the issue of acquaintance-rape awareness as one of its primary programming goals for that academic year. Since then, the "got consent?" campaign has grown. On April 14, 2011, members of the Syracuse University community will don their shirts to show support for the "got consent?" campaign. All of those who purchase the t-shirts will also receive information about the definition of communicating CLEAR consent EACH and EVERY time someone chooses to engage in sexual activity as well as a listing of pertinent campus resources.

The event's sponsor, the 2010-2011 (UJB/PET), asks that people purchase their t-shirts in advance at the Schine Box Office and wear their t-shirts on April 14, 2011.

Where can you purchase a t-shirt?:

- Schine Box Office (315.443.4517)
- February 19-March 16, 2011
- Sizes S-3XL: $10 for SU Students; $12 for SU Faculty/Staff/General
- April 11-14, 2011 at the Schine Atrium from 10-2pm or at 310 Steele Hall from 2pm-5pm

When is "GOT CONSENT?" day?:

- Thursday, April 14, 2011
- Proceeds from this event will be donated to the R.A.P.E. Center.
- If you like more information on the "GOT CONSENT?" campaign please join our group (GOT CONSENT?) and check out our event ("GOT CONSENT?" 5K Run/Walk) on Facebook.com. Any questions please contact Nicole Asencio at nasencio@syr.edu or 315-443-3728.

19. **Multicultural Spring Program 2011**
21. LGBT events

**Totally Fabulous IX: The Final Show!**

**TIME:** Friday, March 25 2011, 8:00pm

Students compete to be the top drag kings and queens of the SU Hill in this semi-final showcase hosted by professional drag queen Samantha Vega. Tickets will be available at the Schine Box Office and are $3 for SU/ESF students, faculty, and staff and $5 for non SU/ESF persons. Sponsored by Pride Union.

**Location:** Goldstein Auditorium, Schine Student Center, Sponsoring department/organization: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center, The Division of Student Affairs

**Contact:** Danielle Sutton, E-Mail: dssutton@syr.edu

22. Healthy Monday Campaign

Move It Monday is a part of the Healthy Campus Initiative. This is a program that focuses on participation in activities that promote the various components of wellness on campus at little or no cost to the user. Various fitness classes will be offered for FREE every Monday from 1:00pm-1:50pm in the Flanagan Exercise Room on a first-come, first-served basis. The maximum enrollment for each class will vary based on the activity. Please arrive early for each class:

- March 21 – Abs
- March 28 – Step
- April 4 – Yoga
- April 11 – Zumba
- April 18 – Power Hour
- April 25 – Pilates

For the full Spring 2011 Fitness class Schedule, [click here](http://international.syr.edu/scis_archive/SCISnews_3-11-2011.htm). Registration Begins Friday 1/21/11 at 8am
24. Weekly Salsa Update

Your "WEEKLY SALSA UPDATE" is organized as follows:

Dance Salsa!!!

at SAN JUAN NIGHTS LATIN DANCE PARTY !!!

• Guest DJ's spin the HOTTEST Salsa from Puerto Rico, NYC and classic hits from the 60's, 70's & 80's!
• Every 2nd, 4th & 5th Saturdays of the month with dancers from all over the world!
• Huge hardwood dance floor, air-conditioned, plenty of tree parking.

Every 2nd, 4th & 5th Sat of the month
10 pm - 2am 17+ event! Cover $5
Ballybay Pub, 550 Richmond Ave., SYRACUSE, NY

THIS SAT: Don't miss our 2nd installation of "San Juan Nights" Latin Dance Party at Ballybay!
Our first "San Juan Nights" was a great success with 63 dancers in attendance!
THIS Sat we are proud to feature our special guest, DJ Felix from Pure Vida in Ithaca!
He'll be spinning his amazing mix of Salsa Dura from Puerto Rico, New York City and Classic hits from the '60s, '70s & '80s.
We're VERY excited to bring you this special mix of music every 2nd, 4th & 5th Saturdays of the month at Ballybay Pub/Nightclub!!
We hope to see you all there, it's gonna be AWESOME!

...our sincere thanks to DJ JAM of SMAC in Binghamton for DJing our very first installation of "San Juan Nights" and spinning his top Salsa hits spanning 5 decades! The dancers LOVEd your music, hermano...que viva la SALSA!!

Brought to you by "la Familia de la Salsa"
Brian A. Bromka - Founder/Artistic Director
"bridging cultures through dance...one step at a time"

http://international.syr.edu/scis_archive/SCISnews_3-11-2011.htm
Mar. 30 – Etiquette Dinner: Conducting Yourself Professionally at Business Meals. Wed, 5:30-8:00 pm. Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center
Every Fri. & Mon. – Happy Hour at the Inn Complete. Sponsored by your Graduate Student Organization. 5:00-7:00 pm on Fridays and 6:00-7:00 pm on Mondays.

DEADLINES
- Outstanding TA Portfolios due—March 4.
- CVN Conference on Public Scholarship proposal deadline—March 7.
- FPP Participation Summaries due from Primary Faculty Liaisons—March 15.
- GSO Annual Budget Deadline—March 30.
- GSO Conference Travel Grant deadlines for summer travel—April 1.

FPP Certificate of University Teaching completion forms due from Primary Faculty Liaisons—April 1.

Click here for the PDF of the full newsletter.

from the office of enrollment management

All about graduating!
http://www.syr.edu/gradschool/em/current_whatyouneed.html

Steps for your final semester and procedures of defending a thesis or dissertation:

Thesis Format Guidelines:

Graduation Deadlines:
http://www.syr.edu/gradschool/em/pdf/GraduationDeadlines.pdf

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!

MEETING YOUR HEALTH REQUIREMENTS
Syracuse University Health Services has determined that many international students are not in compliance with immigration requirements defined by New York State public health law. Enrolled students found not to be in compliance risk strict administrative consequences including inability to register, suspension of I.D. card privileges, and may be required to leave campus.

You must be in compliance with these immigration requirements in order to remain on campus.

The Health Service will be sending an email to all those who are not in compliance via the syr.edu email address. Please watch for that notice (check your syr.edu email address!). If your registration is cancelled, you will also lose your F-1 or J-1 status. Don’t put yourself at risk. Contact the Health Service as soon as you receive that email!

Although rare, a fire drill or evacuation could be an opportunity for a thief to strike. To prevent someone from taking your irreplaceable documents and passports we recommend the following:

- Keep your documents in a secure location.
- Be able to access and take your documents with you quickly if you need to evacuate the building.
- A small safe, briefcase, folder or backpack maybe the best way to keep your documents organized.
- Rent a safety deposit box at your local bank (i.e.: HSBC, Chase, etc.)

You should never spend time searching for your documents in an emergency situation. REMEMBER, while you want to do your best to protect your valuable property, your personal safety is the highest importance in emergency!

Students who are planning to do an Internship the Spring semester should apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

Curricular Practical Training Seminar (CPT) – Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 3:00pm and every 2nd Friday at 3:00pm.

Optional Practical Training Seminar (OPT) – Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday @ 3:45pm and every 2nd Friday at 3:45pm.

Address Change?
All International Students and Scholars that will be moving out from the “Campus Housing” must update the US Address where you will be living during the Fall semesters via your “MySlice self-service” and select CURF address.

You must update your address immediately in order to be in compliance with the Immigration. If you do not update your addresses we will not be able to register your record with SEVIS and you will be jeopardizing your Immigration requirements to comply with reporting changes of addresses while you are here in the USA and at Syracuse University.

You must always provide a current physical address to the SCIS in order to keep your SEVIS registration current and to maintain your lawful status. You have 10 days to inform the SCIS of any address changes or you are in violation of your status. http://international.syr.edu/address_update_opt.htm

IMMIGRATION UPDATES

Full-time Course of Study
NOTE: For Syracuse University F-1 students, a full-time course load is required during the Fall and Spring semesters. Full time enrollment means Graduate students must enroll for at least 9 credits every semester. Undergraduate students must register for at least 12 credits every semester. Students are not required to enroll in courses during the Summer. However, if Summer session is your first semester then you must maintain full time enrollment of at least 6 credits for that summer session.

Under Federal Immigration rules, to maintain F-1 status, no more than 3 online credits per semester may count towards the “full course of study” requirement. For example, a graduate student required to register for 9 credits per semester to maintain full time status can take only 3 of those credits through an on-line class each semester – 6 credits must be live, in classroom courses.

However, an F-1 student can take as many on-line or distance education as they wish (with SCIS’s approval) during the Summer or over Winter break.

If it is your last semester and fewer than 12 credits are required to graduate for undergrads and 9 credits for grads; it is acceptable to carry only those credits required to complete your degree. If a student needs less than a full course load in the final semester to finish his/her degree, the course(s) cannot be taken solely online or as distance education. You must be enrolled in a live, in classroom course during your last semester.

Students considering on-line courses or courses at a different institution should first discuss the plan with an SCIS advisor. It is necessary to maintain valid F-1 status at all times.

If you are taking less than 9 credits this semester you must fill out a Certificate of Full-Time Status http://international.syr.edu/pdf/full_time_status_simplify.pdf
If this is your last semester you will have to fill out the Last Semester Memo http://international.syr.edu/

 USCIS Reaches FY 2011 H-1B Cap
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today that it has received a sufficient number of H-1B petitions to reach the statutory cap for fiscal year (FY) 2011. USCIS is notifying the public that yesterday, Jan. 26, 2011, is the final receipt date for new H-1B specialty occupation petitions requesting an employment start date in FY2011.

Is Your I-20 or DS-2019 Expiring Soon? Do You Need an Extension of Stay?
This is the time of year when many international students whose I-20 or DS-2019 will expire this month, but who will be continuing their studies for Spring 2011, are applying for an extension of stay. Students who will begin a new level of study (e.g., completing bachelor’s and commencing master’s or completing master’s and commencing PhD) receive a new I-20 for the new level of study. Changes in level of study require an admission letter from the Graduate School (if completing a bachelor’s and commencing master’s) or from the student’s academic department (if completing master’s and commencing PhD) verifying that the student has been approved for the new level of study, and the semester that the new level will begin.
The Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Services (OCCS) is a resource that you should also utilize in your search for off campus housing. OCCS staff will assist you in your search by suggesting some strategies, but others may be new to you. Remember to trust your instincts and use common sense. Do not let yourself become a victim of a crime!

The best way to minimize your chances of becoming a victim is to take sensible precautions. For $99, buses will transport students to New York City, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington, D.C. Important Reminder from Human Resources

- Lack of knowledge regarding leases or other rental agreements can cause a variety of problems. Keeping records of rental repair requests, security deposit disputes, and other important documentation is critical. If a rental problem arises, it is easier to negotiate a solution with the landlord when you have written records that show the extent of the problem, what you asked the landlord to do about it, and how the landlord responded.

- Your first step in your apartment search is determining your needs. Important considerations include:
  - How much you can afford for rent and utilities
  - Distance from campus
  - Length of lease
  - Number of roommates
  - Availability
  - Off-campus or commuting

- You will want to view two or more rentals that meet your criteria. Check out each apartment thoroughly; don’t be afraid to test faucets, doorknobs, locks, and make sure you are satisfied with the safety features available (window locks, security lights, etc.). You should talk with the current tenants about the apartment; ask about location and experience with the landlord. Once you decide on an apartment and have done all needed research, you should have the lease reviewed by Student Legal Services.

- A Rental Log
- Apartment Condition Checklist
- Correspondence With Your Landlord
- Keeping Good Rental Records
- Renters’ Rights
- Questions?

- Photos may be the evidence you need to document a repair or security deposit problem. Photos should be dated and signed by a witness.

- Make any complaints or concerns in writing and keep copies on file. All verbal requests should be followed up in writing with copies in your file.

- The Syracuse University Student Association announces that it will be providing round-trip buses for students to travel to and from major metropolitan areas during Spring Break. For $99, buses will transport students to New York City, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington, D.C. Important Reminder from Human Resources

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- Lack of knowledge regarding leases or other rental agreements can cause a variety of problems. By keeping records of rental repair requests, security deposit disputes, and other important documentation is critical. If a rental problem arises, it is easier to negotiate a solution with the landlord when you have written records that show the extent of the problem, what you asked the landlord to do about it, and how the landlord responded.

- Your first step in your apartment search is determining your needs. Important considerations include:
  - How much you can afford for rent and utilities
  - Distance from campus
  - Length of lease
  - Number of roommates
  - Availability
  - Off-campus or commuting

- You will want to view two or more rentals that meet your criteria. Check out each apartment thoroughly; don’t be afraid to test faucets, doorknobs, locks, and make sure you are satisfied with the safety features available (window locks, security lights, etc.). You should talk with the current tenants about the apartment; ask about location and experience with the landlord. Once you decide on an apartment and have done all needed research, you should have the lease reviewed by Student Legal Services.

- A Rental Log
- Apartment Condition Checklist
- Correspondence With Your Landlord
- Keeping Good Rental Records
- Renters’ Rights
- Questions?

- Photos may be the evidence you need to document a repair or security deposit problem. Photos should be dated and signed by a witness.

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Before Renting an Apartment

Survey the residence for the following security features:

- Does the apartment have metal or solid core wooden entry and exit doors? Are these doors equipped with deadbolts? Are the locks mounted securely? Have the doors been re-keyed since the last tenant moved out?
- Can visitors be observed without opening the apartment door either through a door "peephole" viewer or window?
- Does any outside vegetation block doors or windows from public view? Does the vegetation provide places or concealment at entrances at or along walkways?
- Is there adequate lighting at the building entry doors and along walkways? Are the outer doors kept locked at all times?

In Your Apartment

- Keep your doors locked at all times, especially when you are alone, sleeping, or the apartment is unoccupied (even if only for a few moments).
- Determine who is on the other side of the door before opening it. Have repair or service personnel show official identification and confirm their presence with the person requesting the service. Delivery persons should remain outside to await the person requesting the delivery.
- If you return home and something looks questionable (e.g., a slab screen, broken window, or open door) do not go inside. Call the Syracuse Police Department from a safe location.
- Be sure you have blinds or curtains on your windows to discourage window peepers. Always keep your windows covered at night and leave lights on in two or more rooms.
- Make a list of your valuables and record any serial numbers.
- Be sure all outdoor lighting fixtures are in working condition. Ask your landlord to make immediate repairs.
- Place items of value out of sight and in locked areas. Do not leave valuables unattended in such common areas as laundry rooms and lounges.
- Ask your landlord to maintain and trim shrubbery.

Register your valuables

Getting Repairs Made in Your Apartment

As a tenant, you are entitled to a livable, safe and sanitary apartment. Failure to provide heat or hot water on a regular basis or to rid an apartment of insect infestation is an example of a violation of this entitlement.

All landlords are required to maintain electrical, plumbing, sanitary, heating and ventilating systems in good working order. Landlords of buildings with three or more apartments must keep apartments and public areas in "good repair." Landlords also have a duty to keep every part of a dwelling clean and free of vermin, dirt, garbage, and other offensive material.

All landlords in the city of Syracuse must maintain their premises in accordance with Syracuse Property Code. The Housing Complaint section of the Division of Code Enforcement enforces the City Code by responding to reports and complaints about housing maintenance, overgrown yards, trash and debris and disabled vehicles on private property. In addition they work with other agencies to improve residential neighborhoods.

If you have a complaint concerning the habitability or repair of your apartment, contact the Syracuse Division of Code Enforcement at (315) 448-4895.

Landlord Information Sharing Program

The Landlord Information Sharing Program (LISP) is designed to provide students with a method for communicating with each other from year to year about their rental housing challenges and successes.

Process

Any Syracuse University or SUNY ESF student can fill out a Comment Form found on our web site at offcampus.syr.edu or in our office at 754 Ostrom Avenue. Students must clearly explain their concerns or issues in the form provided or by attaching a separate typed letter. They must use facts to describe the situation that is the basis for their complaint—t hey cannot simply provide an opinion of their landlord with no supporting factual basis.

OCCS staff would also like to hear about any positive interactions that students might have with their landlords. If students have positive experiences that they would like us or other students to know about, they should send us a letter clearly explaining the interaction, using facts to describe the situation—they should not simply provide an opinion of their landlord with no supporting factual basis.

What happens when a Comment Form is filed?

OCCS staff will review all completed Comment Forms. If any include unprofessional language or are not appropriate to share with other students, it will be returned to the student with a letter explaining why. OCCS staff will forward a copy of the submitted Comment Form to the student’s landlord. The landlord may respond to the concerns or issues directly or may respond by sending a letter to the OCCS. If the OCCS receives a response, a copy will be mailed to the student. OCCS staff will keep a copy of all Comment Forms and landlord responses in our office at 754 Ostrom Avenue. All names, contact information, and any other identifying information will be redacted from the Comment Forms and responses. Other SU/SUNY ESF students will be able to view your Comment Form and your landlord’s response when they are searching for off-campus housing.

We encourage students viewing the landlord files to consider not only the number and type of concerns or issues raised, but the landlords’ responses to them. Please note that the views expressed in these materials are solely those of students and local property owners and not those of Syracuse University.

Sometimes your landlord may not respond to your concerns or issues, or may respond unfavorably. OCCS staff will work with you throughout the process to seek to accomplish a resolution to your problem. When appropriate, OCCS staff will refer you to agencies that are better able to assist you, such as the Syracuse Police Department, City of Syracuse Division of Code Enforcement, Conflict Mediation Center, Student Legal Services, etc.

Lease Disputes and General Landlord Complaints

- If you have a disagreement with your landlord concerning either of your responsibilities, it is best to try to reach an agreement.
- After reaching an agreement with your landlord in person or over the phone, follow up your discussion in writing. Include anything you or your landlord agreed to in your letter.
- If a dispute still exists between you and your landlord, you may want to consult Student Legal Services (443-4532). They can provide free legal consultation ad advice about landlord-tenant issues.
- You can also file a complaint against your landlord with the New York State attorney general’s office. To obtain a complaint form, call 448-4800 (ask for the Consumer Affairs Department) or 1-800-771-7755 (Consumer Helpline); visit www.oag.state.ny.us (go to Consumer Issues); or contact The Office of Orientation and Off-Campus Programs.
- When you file your complaint with the attorney general’s office, include a copy of your lease and copies of any correspondence you’ve had with your landlord concerning the problem.
- Once you file your complaint, staff from the attorney general’s office will conduct an informal mediation session between you and your landlord, usually by phone, and
Parking Regulations In The University Neighborhoods

Parking in the neighborhoods surrounding campus may be a new experience for some. To avoid ticketing and towing, and to help maintain the quality of life in the University area, members of the University community are reminded to observe parking regulations. Many city streets have alternate side (odd-even) parking, which takes effect at 6 p.m. On odd dates, parking starts at 6 p.m. on the side of the street with odd address numbers; on even dates, parking starts at 6 p.m. on the side with even-number addresses.

*Parking illegally on a city street creates traffic hazards to motorists and pedestrians, obstructs vehicular and pedestrian traffic, prevents emergency vehicles from entering areas, and delays public services such as trash collection and snow removal. And parking on front lawns and across sidewalks is not only illegal, but also poses a safety threat to pedestrians who are forced to walk off the sidewalks. Working collaboratively with the Syracuse Police Department, we want the campus community to know the rules so they can follow them.

*To reduce and discourage illegal parking, the Syracuse Police Department will strictly enforce the parking regulations in the University area and will routinely conduct Ticket and Tow Operations in persistent violator areas. Drivers should obey the posted parking regulations in order to avoid being ticketed and towed, and should be mindful that failure to respond to parking violations may result in collection agency involvement or other punitive action against the registrant and/or the vehicle.

Cell phone Offers to SU International Students

- T-Mobile also offers prepaid Pay-As-You-Go plans. Which are designed for single subscribers (no family plans) who are in the USA for only a couple of years. For further details please check the following website: http://www.t-mobile.com/shop/plans/prepaid-plans.aspx

Special Registration (NSEERS)

Further security checks after initial immigration inspection are typically required for:
- Certain citizens or nationals of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria, as designated by the DHHS Secretary in the Federal Register.
- Males age 16-45 from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen
- Foreign nationals of any country may be asked by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) officer to undergo Special Registration if they feel they may be a national security threat.

If you are subject to special registration procedures, it is your responsibility to make certain that your entry and departure is documented by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) inspecting officer, every time you leave and re-enter the U.S. (This may add a significant amount of time onto departure so please plan accordingly).

A helpful reminder of where the pertinent NSEERS registrations may be found at the following airports in the state of New York: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/E0-28418.htm

- Buffalo Peace Bridge POE, New York;
- Cape Vincent POE, New York;
- Chautauqua POE, New York;
- Chautauqua POE, New York;
- Fort Cavignon POE, New York;
- Heart Island POE, New York;
- John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), New York;
- Lewiston Bridge POE, New York;
- Moos POE, New York;
- Niagara Falls, Rainbow Bridge, New York;
- Newark International Airport (NEW), New Jersey;
- Ogdensburg POE, New York;
- Rochester-Ferry Terminal, New York;
- Rouses Point POE, New York;
- Seaway International Bridge/Massena POE, New York;
- Thousand Islands POE, New York;
- Trout River POE, New York.

Pedestrian Safety Tips

Stay safe while you’re walking to campus. Here are some tips:
- Use sidewalks and paths whenever possible.
- Use crosswalks, and don’t start walking until you see the “WALK” signal.
- Walk facing traffic so you can see vehicles as they approach, and they can see you.
- Always walk in groups of three or more.
- Remember, pedestrians only have the right-of-way if a driver sees them! As a driver, it is important to be familiar with pedestrian safety laws. When a pedestrian is crossing at a crosswalk, drivers must wait until the pedestrian has completely crossed the street and has reached the other side safely.
- When making a right-hand turn at a red light, it is important to come to a complete stop and check for pedestrians crossing the street. Also remember there are many “No Right on Red” turns in the Syracuse University area.

Protect your Property

All your personal belongings are insured against a wide range of losses. The SCIS supports this policy and we encourage every student to have this insurance.
- Laptops, cell phones, jewelry, watches, iPods, cameras, clothes, books, sports equipment, furniture all your “stuff” is covered. You’re insured for countless types of losses, including theft, vandalization, fire, and accidental damage.
- Worldwide coverage on and off campus (in your apartment, in a foreign country, “at home”, in storage, or anywhere else they may be).
- Property of the University is covered while in your care.
- Buy $4,000 of coverage for less than $94! Also there is up to $20,000 coverage available for an annual premium of only $250.

For more information about our student personal property program, call 1-866-535-0456 and ask for a college specialist to assist you. Or better yet Enroll online! It’s fast and easy. Simply log on for: www.haylor.com/student or send an e-mail to: student@haylor.com.

If you are subject to security threat please check the following website:

http://www.t-mobile.com/shop/plans/prepaid-plans.aspx
For your safety, please remember...

- On campus after dark, use DPS’ free escort service. Off campus, use SU Home (it’s free); call 315-443-2224 for more information on these services. Additional options are Centro Bus or taxi service.
- Walk, bike or jog in groups of three or more — away from bushes, cars and other objects a suspect could hide behind.
- Look and listen. Headphones and cell phones can create tunnel vision.
- Travel in well-lighted and well-traveled areas.
- Don’t approach strangers or let them get close to you.
- If you think someone is following you, switch directions or cross the street. Go toward an open business or lighted house.
- Have your house or car keys in hand before you reach your door.
- Know where “Blue Light” phones are and how to use them.
- If someone tries to rob you, don’t resist. Give up your property, not your life.
- Try to get a description of the suspect(s) and any associated vehicle and tag number.
- IMMEDIATELY report emergencies or suspicious activities, persons and vehicles. For SU’s Department of Public Safety, dial 711 on campus or #78 (from a cell phone); for the Syracuse Police Department, dial 911.

Your quick report may help prevent others from becoming victims.

Fall 2011 Bus Schedule

Centro is the provider of public transportation in Syracuse and throughout Onondaga, Cayuga and Oswego Counties. Centro operates a system of shuttle routes on campus under contract with Syracuse University. These are regular transit routes which Syracuse University students can board for free. Centro also operates an extensive system of bus routes connecting the Syracuse University campus to points throughout the area. Students may ride free on these routes within certain specified “free fare zones”. If you wish to travel to an area outside of these zones, you must pay a fare.

http://parking.syr.edu/Parking/display.cfm?content_ID=%23%28%21%0A

QUESTIONS? Contact:
Parking and Transit Services
621 Skytop Road
Phone: 315-443-1049
Web: http://parking.syr.edu

Motivational Quotes of the Week:

"If you light a lamp for someone else it will also brighten your path."
~Buddha

"When you judge another, you do not define them, you define yourself."
~Wayne Dyer

"Nobody trips over mountains. It is the small pebble that causes you to stumble. Pass all the pebbles in your path and you will find you have crossed the mountain."
~Anonymous

"The only place where success comes before work is in a dictionary."
~Vidal Sassoon

"If you’re walking down the right path and you’re willing to keep walking, eventually you’ll make progress."
~Barack Obama