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WARNING

Students Victimized by Phone Call Scams

The Slutzker Center has been informed by several students that they have received calls from people identifying themselves as employees of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and other U.S. government agencies. The callers insist that students send them money to avoid immediate arrest or other legal action against them.

DO NOT RESPOND TO THESE CALLS. HANG UP THE PHONE IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT BE TRICKED BY SUCH THREATS.

This is not the way the U.S. government conducts this type of business. If the U.S. government has a claim against you, you will be notified in writing and a formal proceeding would be held to determine your responsibility and the sanction or punishment against you.

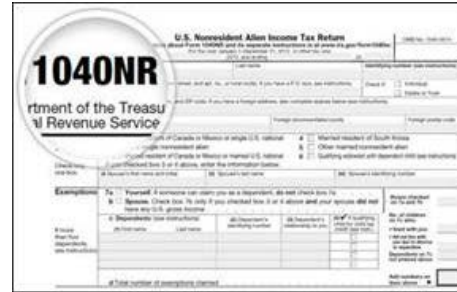
If you receive such a call, please notify SU Department of Public Safety (DPS) Investigations unit immediately. Call the DPS number, 315-443-2224 and ask for Investigations. Tell them you want to report a telephone call you received that you believe is a scam for money. Or you may email (lescis@syr.edu), call (315-443-2457) or come to the Slutzker Center (310 Walnut Place) for assistance in filing such a report with the Department of Public Safety.

The Syracuse local News has also been covering phone call/text message scams. You can read about other types of scams [here](#). According to local police, you should never return calls/ engage the scammers. This could unintentionally reveal information about you. If you receive a call/ message claiming to be urgent (example: an emergency involving money or family) contact the authorities before responding to the call/ message. Many scammers call from overseas, but the police can help determine if there is any legitimacy to the call and alleviate your panic/ concern.

On February 22, the Post Standard offered advice for avoiding these scams. Keep in mind, the IRS will not initiate contact with you via phone or email to ask for your personal financial information. If you are unsure about a tax bill, call the IRS at (800) 829-1040. The IRS will NOT give you an ultimatum to pay up immediately or else. Nor will the agency call to congratulate you on getting your refund (this is a variation of the scam). The IRS will not dictate how you pay your bill either (example: they will not direct you to a certain ATM location while you are on the phone).

**Important
Tax Information**

GLACIER Tax Prep is now available for Syracuse University students. You can request an access code by going to our [website](#). Please allow 3 – 5 business days for processing. Make sure that you type the correct information in each field on the form. Wrong information could delay getting an access code. If you have a scholarship or fellowship that is not taxable or a tax treaty you should wait until you receive your 1042s form from the Payroll Office. If you are not sure if you should receive this form, you can contact the Payroll Office at payroll@syr.edu. By law, the Payroll Office must send out these forms by March 15.



We will have a tax seminar in Maxwell Auditorium at 5:00 PM on Thursday, March 5. Watch the SCIS News and the [Slutzker Center website](#) for more information.

*If you have worked on campus, your W-2 from Syracuse University is available through your MySlice.

Slutzker Center News and Events

Immigration Status after Practical Training

February 26, 4 – 6 PM
Watson Theater
Hilary Fraser

Or

April 2, 4 – 6 PM
Crouse Hinds 010
Dan Berger

Hilary Fraser from the law firm of Miller Mayer in Ithaca and Dan Berger from the law firm of Curran and Berger in Northampton, MA will present on matters related to immigration after OPT including H-1B Temporary Workers, Permanent Residence/Green Cards, O-1, Labor Certification and more.



If you have questions, contact lescis@syr.edu.

CPT/OPT Seminars...apply early!

Students who will be applying for OPT to begin after the end of the Spring 2015 semester (**May 2015**) can **file their applications as early as February 10**. Processing of OPT applications at the **immigration service (USCIS)** can take **up to 90 days**. Therefore, we advise students planning to apply for OPT to **apply as early as possible!**

Due to the large number of students who attend **OPT/CPT Seminars** in the Spring Semester, we will **move these seminars** to other areas on campus from Wednesday, February 4 to Wednesday, March 27. The earlier you attend a seminar, the earlier you can submit your OPT application!

CPT Seminars begin at **3 PM** and **OPT** begins at **3:45 PM**, dates and locations listed below.

OPT and CPT processing times are on **Mondays from 3 – 5 PM** or **Thursdays from 10 AM – Noon**.

March

Wednesday, March 4 – Kittredge Auditorium, HBC

Friday, March 13 – Watson Theater

Wednesday, March 18 – Kittredge Auditorium, HBC

Friday, March 27 – Kittredge Auditorium, HBC

Extended Practical Training Processing Times

Once you have attended a practical training seminar and are ready to process your practical training application, the Slutzker Center will have additional processing times until Wednesday, March 25. The additional times are listed below.

Mondays: 3 – 5 PM
Tuesdays: 3 – 5 PM
Wednesdays: 3 – 5 PM
Thursdays: 10 AM – 12 Noon

After March 25, we will resume normal processing hours (Mondays 3 – 5 PM and Thursdays 10 AM – Noon). To ensure the fastest processing time we recommend that you review the [seminars](#) on our website and make sure you have all documents together with the appropriate copies before coming in to process your OPT/CPT.

Additional Travel Seminars

Due to the high number of people preparing to travel over Spring Break and Summer, we will hold additional travel seminars in the coming weeks. It is best to attend a travel seminar and get your travel signature as soon as possible.

Friday, February 27 – 12 Noon
Monday, March 2 – 5 PM
Wednesday, March 4 – 1:30 PM
Friday, March 6 – 12 Noon

Club Francophonie February 26, 5:50 -7:30 PM Slutzker Center

One-on-one and small group tutoring will be available for international students who want to improve their writing skills.

Appointments are limited, for more information, please contact psawinad@syr.edu.



Picture of the Week

Students participating in Orange Dialogue for Peace walk across the frozen Raquette Lake in the Adirondacks. The weekend included snow shoeing, cross country skiing, sauna and ice swimming, along with dialogue sessions. Nour Taher, who is finishing his MBA this semester took the photo below.



For the chance to have your picture featured as Picture of the Week, please send it via email to lescjs@syr.edu with the subject line of "Picture of the Week." Submissions can be from anywhere on the globe!

Syracuse University Events

Black Political Thought, Social Justice:

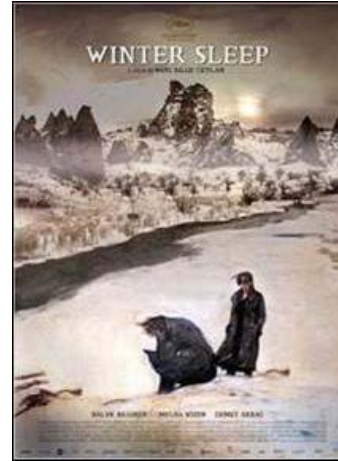
Racial Justice and the Law in the Americas
February 27, 2 PM
104 Slocum

Law professors discussing racial justice and the law in the Americas. For more information, click [here](#).



Winter Sleep (Kis Uykusu)
February 26, 6 PM
Tolley 115

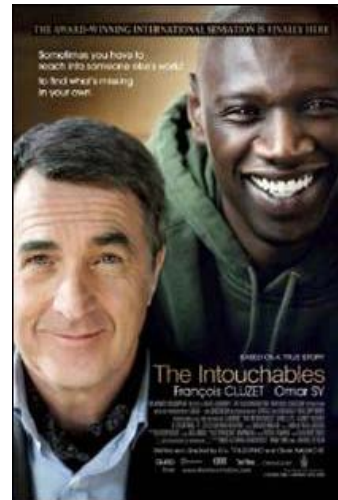
Winter Sleep (2014) is a Turkish drama directed by Nuri Bilge Ceylan, adapted from the short story 'The Wife,' by Anton Chekhov. The story, set in Anatolia, examines the significant divide between rich and poor as well as powerful and powerless in Turkey.



Les Intouchables
March 3, 6 PM
Kittredge Auditorium

After he becomes a quadriplegic from a paragliding accident, a millionaire hires a young man from the projects to be his caregiver. The result is life-changing for both.

For more information, [click here](#).



Cultural and Community Events

Downtown Dining Weeks
February 16 - March 1
Sheraton Syracuse University

Downtown Committee of Syracuse celebrates the 11th annual downtown dining weeks.

During dining weeks, participating restaurants offer 3 courses for \$25 or less. A list of

participating restaurants can be found [here](#).



**Winter Blues Featuring Ameribeat
Orchestra**
February 27, 8 PM
Funk n' Waffles Armory Square
313 S. Clinton St, 13202

A concert to benefit the NY State Blues Festival.
Doors open at 8 PM and the show starts at 9 PM.
Admission is \$10 per person.

For more information, [click here](#).



Important Reminders

[Full-Time Course of Study](#)

[Meeting Your Health Requirements](#)

[HR notice for on-campus employees](#)

[Is it your last semester of study?](#)

[Transferring from SU to a new U.S. school](#)

[Optional Practical Training EAD cards](#)

[Address Change Reporting Requirements](#)

[Keeping Good Rental Records](#)

[Protecting Your Property](#)

[US Embassy Announcements](#)

[Check your VISA Application Status in India](#)

[E-Verify Employers & Federal Contractors List](#)

[Copycat "Immigration Help" Sites](#)

[CPT/OPT Seminars](#)

[Studying Abroad](#)

[International Student Arrests & Public Safety](#)

Quotes to keep you thinking

- "A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right." –**Thomas Paine**
- "The power to question is the basis of all human progress." –**Indira Gandhi**
- "Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable." –**Franz Kafka**

Stay informed about the latest news, important reminders and updates

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a dark blue rectangular background.

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If your e-mail account is on a server other than "syr.edu" and you would like to receive our newsletter, please e-mail your request to lescis@syr.edu. In the subject line, please type: "Subscribe to SCIS Newsletter" and mention your e-mail address and full name in the message.

If you would like to submit news or events for the SCIS Newsletter, please send your information and any related graphics to ejvoigt@syr.edu with subject line as "Article for SCIS Newsletter"