February 2012

Welcome back and best wishes for the Spring 2012 semester! The International Student Center has officially moved to C-102. Come check out our new home!

Immigration Notes

Full-time Requirement – As an F-1 student, you are required to be enrolled for a minimum 12 credits per the fall and spring terms and make satisfactory progress in those courses while you are on BCC’s issued I-20. Failure to maintain this requirement will result in the loss of your F-1 status. There are few instances where you are permitted to go below the full-time requirement. The ISC strongly encourages you to come in and discuss your options. In order to go below the 12 credit requirement, you MUST have the ISC approval from the counselor prior to going below full-time. ALERT: Receiving a grade of “E” could jeopardize your F-1 status.

Employment – Working off campus without having the proper work authorization will result in the loss of your F-1 status. F-1 students must always obtain working permission from an International Student Counselor to either work: on-campus, off-campus when doing an internship (permission is granted through Curricular Practical Training referred to as CPT) or working off-campus on Optional Practical Training (pre/post-completion OPT) or through Economic Hardship. If you have a social security card, this does not grant you permission to work. This card is only legal to use if you have permission from an International Student Counselor or from USCIS. Additionally, it is illegal to use another person’s social security card. Though you may think that you will not get caught, if an immigration officer were to ask you for your legal working papers and you could not provide them, this is grounds for immediate termination of your F-1 status. Additionally, this could seriously hurt any chances you may have at changing or adjusting your status in the future, if you opt to do this. To sum this up, working off campus without having the proper approval – DON’T DO IT! There will be plenty of workshops this semester regarding off campus work. Students who will be graduating this semester and are planning to apply for post-completion OPT are required to attend the OPT workshop.

Academic Reminders

E Grade Policy - An E grade is a grade given to a student for non-attendance. Any student who receives an E grade will have their SEVIS record terminated. E grades will result in the loss of your F-1 status. Professors are required to report attendance and the ISC monitors the attendance of F-1 students. Be aware that every professor has their own attendance policy. Please make sure to review your syllabi for your classes. We strongly encourage you to reach out to your professors, seek help the tutoring centers on campus and always see your International Student Advisor in the ISC!

Understanding the differences between walk-in hours and scheduling an appointment

Walk-in hours are designed for quick answers regarding both your immigration and academic concerns. Walk-ins are limited to 10 minutes. If you will need more time to discuss your matter, make an appointment by contacting the ISC. Appropriate uses of the time are as follows: degree evaluation, applying for a reduced course load, transferring out of BCC, discussing any academic policies and immigration regulations and much more.

Appointments are geared towards the more complex issues. Great uses of making an appointment are discussing a change of major, optional practical training (OPT), curricular practical training (CPT), reinstatement, I-20 extensions, personal or medical matters and anything that would take more than 10 minutes to discuss during the normal walk-in hours. If you do find yourself making an appointment, please arrive five minutes prior. If you find yourself having to cancel your appointment, contact the ISC in advance to either reschedule or to cancel the appointment all together. Please be considerate of your peers.
Important News to Note:

1. The Glen Rock Social Security Office has closed. Please note that the closest Social Security Office is now located in Hackensack. Continental Plaza, 2nd Floor 401 Hackensack Avenue Hackensack, NJ 07601

2. New international students need to submit your health forms as soon as possible to the Health Office in Room HS-100. If you do not submit this form you will be unable to register for the Spring semester.

Expecting to Graduate in May 2012? Keep the Following in Mind:

Make sure you file your Application for Graduation with Registration, A-129. If you do not file this application, your academic transcript will not display your completion of program (degree awarded).

If you plan on applying for your F-1 work benefit, you must attend an OPT workshop this term.

Transferring out? Several 4-year schools will be visiting BCC over the next two months. Check the ISC for the schedule. Also, attend the College Fair on March

Wednesday, 15th @ 9 am – OPT

Monday, 20th @ 2 pm – Scholarships + Other Funding Options

Tuesday, 21st @ 11 am - Using WebAdvisor + Bergen e-mail

Tuesday, 21st @ 1 pm – OPT

Monday, 27th @ 2 pm – OPT

Monday, 27th @ 3 pm – Understanding American Slangs + Idioms

Tuesday, 28th @ 3 pm – Leadership Opportunities @ BCC

Wednesday, 29th @ 11 am – Scholarships + Other Funding Opportunities

What is there to do outside of classes? Visit the International Student Life Blog for more information: http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com. Get involved!

International Student Association (ISA)
Meetings this semester are held every other Wednesday in Room L-146 from 12:30-1:30 pm. If you would like to join ISA, e-mail them at Bergen.isa@gmail.com or attend one of the meetings on Wednesday throughout the semester.

Meeting dates this semester:
February 22; March 7 and 28; April 4 and 18; May 2.

Get the latest news on what’s happening at Bergen Community College. “Like” BCC on Facebook http://www.facebook.com/bergencommunitycollege

Immigration & Academic Counseling Walk-in Hours

Mon-Thurs: 10-11 am; 3-4 pm
Fri: 9 am-12 pm
Greetings. My name is Ada Serrano and I’m a new International Student Advisor in the International Student Center. I was previously at Berkeley College at the mid-town New York City campus for a few years. I received my Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from SUNY New Paltz, and my master’s degree in Humanistic Education. I am looking forward to working with you all during your stay at BCC. Please feel free to come to the ISC office whenever you need assistance or simply to say hello.

Check out information for BCC F-1 International Students online, at the following web addresses:

**General F-1 Information:** [http://www.bergen.edu/internationalcounseling](http://www.bergen.edu/internationalcounseling)
- F-1 Traveling Information: [http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2955.asp](http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2955.asp)
- Extensions on I-20’s: [http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2956.asp](http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2956.asp)
- For Immigration Forms, and to check on an OPT application: [http://www.bergen.edu/forms](http://www.bergen.edu/forms)
- USCIS: (United States Customs and Immigration Services) [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)
- DHS: (US Department of Homeland Security) [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)
- ICE (Immigration Customs and Enforcement): [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm)

**Address and Email Changes:**
Moving or have a new Email address? USCIS/DHS (United States Customs & Immigration Service/Department of Homeland Security) requires all F-1 students to notify BCC of any home address changes within 10 DAYS of the move. In fact, if you have ANY contact information changes, like change of email, or phone number, let us know! To notify BCC, simply go to the International Student Center in A-126, fill out the F-1 Change of Data Form, and we will change the information. This form is also available online at [www.bergen.edu/isc/forms](http://www.bergen.edu/isc/forms).

**Upcoming Off Campus Events**

**Museums:**
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Sunday February 26, Bus leaves @ 9 am, Cost $15
- Brooklyn Museum, Saturday March 10, Bus Leaves @ 10 am, Cost $15
- Whitney Museum of American Art, Saturday, April 28, Bus leaves @ 10 am, Cost $15

**Broadway:**
- War Horse, Wednesday March 28, Bus leaves Lot B @ 5 pm, Cost $25(students)
- Jesus Christ Super Star, Thursday April 19, Bus leaves Lot B @ 5 pm, Cost $35 (students)

**Dinner/Show:**
- Dinner @ Londel’s & Show at the Apollo Theater, Wednesday February 15, Bus leaves Lot B @ 4:30 pm, Cost $25 (students)
St. Patrick’s Day is a religious holiday named after Saint Patrick, a patron Saint of Ireland. It is celebrated on the 17th of March. You will usually see people wearing green and other popular symbols including shamrock and leprechaun stickers and pins.

**Important Message from the ISC!**

The ISC has seen an increase of students failing to maintain their F-1 student status. As a result, all F-1 students will be receiving a *Rules and Responsibilities* form from our office sent directly to the address we have on file for you. If you have moved, you need to update your local mailing address immediately with us. As an F-1 student, you are required to maintain your local and foreign mailing addresses at all times.

A hold will be placed on your account that will prevent you from registering for the Summer and Fall semesters. Once you have read and completed the form, you must bring this document to the ISC in order to have the hold removed. Before signing this document, if you have questions regarding this form and/or need help understanding it, please stop by the ISC so we can assist you.

**Spring Break**

Spring break this year is March 18th – 24th. This means that classes will not be held during this week. Yeah! The ISC will be open during this week whether you decide to hit the waves or hit the sack. Any student who will be traveling outside the U.S. during this week should stop by and receive a travel signature prior to departing. The ISC wants to wish everyone a totally tubular and safe Spring Break!

**Academic Reminders**

Now that a couple weeks have past, are you having trouble and/or needing additional help with any of your classes?

The Henry and Edith Cerullo Learning Assistance Center (Tutoring Center in room L-125) can help you and it’s absolutely free! Check out their website - [http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/pages/2192.aspx](http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/pages/2192.aspx)

Students in the American Language Program (ALP) can use the English Language Resource Center (ERLC in room E-156).

Most importantly, talk to your professors! It’s okay to ask for help.

Do you find yourself “freaking out” when a test is coming up? The Center for Student Success (room A-118) offers *Test Anxiety Workshops* everyone Monday and Wednesday 2:00pm-3:00pm.
Immigration Notes

The ISC answers several questions on a daily basis as it relates to your immigration status. It doesn’t come as a surprise that our office receives repetitive questions: Below are just a few examples:

Can my F-1 student visa expire?
The answer is YES. The only time you have to renew your student visa is when you are traveling outside the U.S. Stop by the ISC during walk-in hours to find out what documentation you will need in order to renew your visa. As long as you are maintaining status and will remain inside the U.S., you won’t need to renew your student visa if you do not plan to travel in the future.

Do I need a travel signature?
Any in status F-1 student that plans to leave the U.S. (example: summer/winter vacation, spring break, family emergency, etc.) and is planning on returning to BCC, will need to obtain a valid travel signature from the ISC. Travel signatures are valid for one year from the date it was issued. The ISC highly recommends that you maintain a valid travel signature at ALL times. Feel free to stop by the ISC during walk-in hours to receive your travel signature; don’t forget to bring in your I-20!

Can I work?
As long as you are maintaining your status, you are eligible to work on-campus ONLY and up to 20 hours per week. Prior to accepting employment, you will need to stop by the ISC during walk-in hours to receive your work eligibility form and your counselor will review your record. Working off campus without having the proper working authorization is illegal and will result in the loss of your F-1 status. There are ways to work off campus, please make an appointment to discuss these options in further detail. Don’t forget, if you are graduating this May and plan to work after graduation, you must attend an OPT workshop.

Can I have a leave of absence?
A leave of absence is when a student will be missing classes for a short duration to attend to personal matters. Prior to taking a leave of absence, all F-1 students must meet with their ISC Counselor to discuss this matter. All leave of absences must be approved by their ISC Counselor.

Scholarship Opportunity

The Wells Foundation Need Based Scholarship:

Each year the Foundation provides support to a number of students as they pursue various educational objectives. Typically support is provided for post-secondary school (college, university, polytechnic, trade school). Financial support is primarily to cover the costs of the education itself, and directly related expenses including books, and supplies at the educational institution. Please note that this is a partial scholarship and does not cover the full cost of tuition and fees.

Scholarships will generally be granted for the full period of study, however, recipients must provide copies of all progress reports and grades as they are received and the scholarship can be discontinued at any time in the event of unsatisfactory performance.

The scholarship awards are determined by the Scholarship Committee at the Wells Mountain Foundation. Scholarship applications must be submitted to the ISC by Monday, March 26, 2012 by 5pm. If you are interested in applying for the Wells Foundation scholarship please contact Mine Ugurlu or Natalie Williams in the International Student Center (Room C-102) or stop by to pick up the application.

Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow

The beginning of the spring semester may bring snow. If the weather is very bad (a lot of snow), the school will close. To find out if BCC is closed, visit: www.bergen.edu, call (201) 447-7100, or visit: http://www.1010wins.com to sign up for e-mail notification of college closings. You can also listen to WCBS/880, WOR/710, and WVNJ1160 on the radio or tune in to channel 12NJ on Cablevision TV.
BCC Graduate Candidates

We are sure that all potential graduate candidates this semester have already filed their Application for Graduation with Registration, A-129. 😊 If not, this is a reminder that you should take care of this as soon as possible. There will be 4-year College Presentations coming this March! These presentations will be held in A-104, 12:40pm-1:30pm. You don’t have to be graduating this semester to attend any of these sessions. This is a good opportunity to meet with a Representative and to get an idea of what you will need to do in order to transfer. Take advantage and please be on time!

- Ramapo College – Monday 5th
- John Jay – Monday 12th
- Montclair State University – Monday 26th

Important News to Note:

1. Please note that the closest Social Security Office is now located in Hackensack. Continental Plaza, 2nd Floor 401 Hackensack Avenue Hackensack, NJ 07601

2. New international students need to submit your health forms as soon as possible to the Health Office in Room HS-100. If you do not submit this form you will be unable to register for the Spring semester.

If you would like to make an appointment with an International Advisor or get additional information on the programs listed in this newsletter, please call the International Student Center at 201-689-7601 or visit us in Room C-102.

Visit http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com for information on International Student Life events at BCC and upcoming OPT and academic workshops.

International Student Association (ISA)
Meetings this semester are held every other Wednesday in Room L-146 from 12:30-1:30 pm. If you would like to join ISA, e-mail them at Bergen.isa@gmail.com or attend one of the meetings on Wednesday throughout the semester.

Remaining meeting dates this semester: March 7 and 28; April 4 and 18; May 2.

Upcoming Off Campus Events

Museums:
* Brooklyn Museum, Saturday March 10, Bus Leaves @ 10 am, Cost $15
* Whitney Museum of American Art, Saturday, April 28, Bus leaves @ 10 am, Cost $15

Broadway:
* War Horse, Wednesday March 28, Bus leaves Lot B @ 5 pm, Cost $25(students)
* Jesus Christ Super Star, Thursday April 19, Bus leaves Lot B @ 5 pm, Cost $35 (students)
It’s Tax Season!

Taxes and Form 8843:
Are you wondering if you have to file your taxes as an international student? All international students, whether you worked or not in 2011, need to file some sort of form with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) every year. If you worked in 2011 for pay, this includes students currently on OPT, CPT, or Severe Economic Hardship, AND those that worked on campus, you will need to file your taxes. If you did not work, you need only file one form.

Please see below:


Also, you can file your taxes by seeing a tax specialist, or by using an online service for international students called GLACIER Tax Prep (was CINTAX). It’s a web-based tax return preparation system designed exclusively for foreign students, scholars, teachers, researchers, trainees, and their dependents who are nonresident aliens to aid in preparing U.S. federal income tax Forms 1040NR and 1040NR-EZ. For the foreign visitor to the U.S., GLACIER Tax Prep is designed to take the time and confusion out of filing a U.S. tax return - it takes only about 20 minutes to complete and print a tax return!

**GLACIER Tax Prep Individual Use License**

**Here’s How a GLACIER Tax Prep Individual Use License Works:**
1. The foreign national individual purchases a license to obtain access to GLACIER Tax Prep;
2. The foreign national individual receives an Access Code and instructions from the GLACIER Tax Prep Support Center on how to access GLACIER Tax Prep; and
3. The foreign national individual simply logs into GLACIER Tax Prep from any web-enabled computer - anywhere in the world, at any time of day or night to begin completing his or her U.S. tax return!

Cost: The cost of an Individual Use license is $39 and allows a foreign national individual to complete his or her Form 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ, along with Form 8843 for himself/herself and any dependents (if applicable). How can I order CINTAX? To order an Individual Use License, all orders must be placed online using a credit card. Go to the Arctic International home page [http://www.arcticintl.com](http://www.arcticintl.com) and choose “Order/Register” then choose “GLACIER Tax Prep” then “Order GLACIER Tax Prep Now”. Choose “Order GLACIER Tax Prep Individual” and answer the questions and fill out the forms appropriately.

Please note that the ISC does not file taxes or forms 8843 for students, nor gives out tax advice.

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**Check out information for BCC F-1 International Students online, at the following web addresses:**

**General F-1 Information:** [http://www.bergen.edu/internationalcounseling](http://www.bergen.edu/internationalcounseling)

- F-1 Traveling Information: [http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2955.asp](http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2955.asp)
- Extensions on I-20’s: [http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2956.asp](http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2956.asp)
- For Immigration Forms, and to check on an OPT application: [http://www.bergen.edu/forms](http://www.bergen.edu/forms)
- USCIS: (United States Customs and Immigration Services): [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)
- DHS: (US Department of Homeland Security) [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)
- ICE (Immigration Customs and Enforcement): [http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/students/index.htm)
Earth Day is Sunday, April 22nd!

**Idioms**

*In A New York Minute*  
– Things happen very quickly  

*It’s All Greek To Me*  
– Having no comprehension  

*Hold Your Horses*  
– Slow down

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**Immigration News**

**I-20 Extensions** - If your I-20 is about to expire (see end date on the I-20) and you will not be graduating at the end of this semester, then you will need to apply for an extension. Extensions are only given in year increments. Stop by the ISC and pick up an I-20 extension packet. Once you have everything in order, you may drop off your packet to the ISC. You will be notified by e-mail if your I-20 is ready for pick-up or if your packet is incomplete.

**What is Curricular Practical Training (CPT)?** - CPT is defined in the Code of Federal Regulations as: “alternate work/study, internship, cooperative education, or any other type of required internship or practicum which is offered by sponsoring employers through cooperative agreements with the school” [8 CFR § 214.2(f)(10)(i)]. The regulations state that CPT must be “an integral part of an established curriculum.”

BCC does have degree programs that have courses that require students to gain experience off campus while studying. Most of these courses fall under CO-Operative Education (COOP). Check out the COOP majors at [http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/2137.aspx](http://www.bergen.edu/pages1/Pages/2137.aspx). If your current major does not have a COOP required course, you are ineligible for CPT.
Registration Has Begun!

Class Registration for the Summer and Fall terms has open! This is your opportunity to get the classes that YOU want (the perfect schedule). Don’t wait until the last minute to register.

Attention ALP Students: If you have completed all required ALP and SPE courses, your next step is to take the math placement test (see Testing in S-127).

Helpful Registration Tips from the ISC:

Tip #1: Online (WB)/Hybrid Courses (HY) – These courses are NOT for everyone. These courses are more independent and you won’t get that personal face to face time that you would in a lecture type course. The ISC has seen a lot of students get into trouble due to these courses. We’ve also seen students end up losing their status. If you decide to register for a course such as these, you need to take immediate action if you find yourself having trouble. Note that by not logging on or submitting your assignments as required by your course, can and will result in a poor grade or worse, an “E” grade. Friendly reminder, students are eligible to take either one online (WB) course OR two hybrid (HY) courses each Fall and Spring semesters.

Tip #2: You are required to register for a minimum of 12 credits during the Fall semester. The summer semester is your vacation period and therefore you are not required to register for classes but are permitted.

Tip #3: Check your degree evaluation from WebAdvisor to make sure that you are registering for the classes that relate to your degree. If you are taking classes that end up outside your major, you need to meet with an International Counselor.

Tip #4: If you haven’t taken the math placement exam, this needs to be done as soon as possible. Remember, all students will have two opportunities to challenge this exam. The higher score of the two exam results will determine math level placement.

Tip #5: If you have questions, ASK!!!! Feel free to stop by the ISC during walk-in hours. We are here to help.

Academic Reminders

❖ Since registration has opened up, all students will be permitted to register for classes for the Summer and Fall terms as long as there are no holds. Any student who has a hold must take care of their hold prior to registering for classes. Also, students on probation or suspension academic standing will be required to meet with their international counselor in order to register for classes. Any student who is not in good academic standing will be required to repeat all failures and “E” grades.

❖ Any student who is expecting to graduate this May needs to have already filed their Application for Graduation with Registration, A-129. 😊 If not, this is a reminder that you should take care of this as soon as possible. By not filing this form, the official transcript will not state that the degree was earned and awarded.

❖ There will be 4-year College Presentations coming this April! These presentations will be held in A-104, 12:40pm-1:30pm. You don’t have to be graduating this semester to attend any of these sessions. This is a good opportunity to meet with a Representative and to get an idea of what you will need to do in order to transfer. Take advantage and please be on time!

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! The ISC has added an additional workshops coming this month!

❖ Transferring to 4 yr schools as an F-1, April 12th @ 2pm
Special Announcement to the Spring Class of 2012!
The ISC wants to congratulate all our F-1 students who will be graduating this May 2012. Your hard work has paid off and we wish you well in your future endeavors!

Special commendation to the I-Team members graduating this year: Ibrahim Abu Said, Geunhee Lee, Sheryll Moser, Jake Oh, Jacinta Marti Pineda, Johana Marti Pineda, and Kyungsil Won.

Academic Reminders

Completed the ALP program? – Congratulations! Don’t forget to take the math placement exam. Visit the Testing Center in S-127. All students will have two opportunities to take this test. Any student who is not satisfied with their first result may challenge the exam. The higher of the two scores will determine the placement level.

Change of Major – All change of majors must be done with your ISC Counselor. Students who are thinking about changing their major should print out the degree plan of the new major and then make an appointment with your ISC Counselor. Students can print out degree evaluations from their WebAdvisor account by using the “what if” option.

Academic Standing – Academic standing is based off the number of credits attempted and the grades earned. A student who is not in good academic standing or better, will be required to meet with their ISC Counselor. Students in probation or suspension status will be required to repeat all failures (no exceptions) and could be limited to taking only 12 credits. The ISC wants you to succeed!

Summer Classes are still available – Classes are still open. Students are not required to take courses during this term since it is the approved vacation period. However, you can!

Fall 2012 Registration – All F-1 students will be required to register for a minimum of 12 credits, unless otherwise approved to drop below full-time requirement. Keep in mind that only one online (WB) or two hybrid (HY) are permitted based off 12 credits. Not abiding by this rule will result in the loss of F-1 status. Students who have questions should contact the ISC for clarification.
**Immigration Notes**

**Travel Season** - The end of the spring term is near and summer is well on its way. For those students who will be traveling outside the U.S. after completing the spring term will require a valid travel signature. A travel signature is valid up to one year from the date that it was issued. Stop by the ISC during walk-in hours to obtain a travel signature. You also need to make sure that the following documents are valid: I-20, visa and passport. The ISC recommends that you be registered for the following term and that you take a copy of your transcript. Transcripts can be obtained from Registration in A-129.

**Optional Practical Training (OPT)** – It’s not too late to apply for your OPT benefit if you are graduating this May. You must attend a mandatory OPT workshop in order to apply for OPT. Please see the workshop schedule for the next available date. Students who are graduating this May will have up to 60 days after 5/12/12 to apply for OPT.

**Graduating this May and not applying for OPT** – Any student who is graduating this May and will not be applying for their OPT benefit will have two options: transfer out to another school or make preparations to return home. Students will have a 60 day grace period from 5/12/12 in order to take care of one of the two options. Students who plan to transfer out to another school will need to complete the required ISC Transfer Request Form and submit a copy of the acceptance letter. The ISC can only release the SEVIS record to one school.

**Reduced Course Load** – Potential December 2012 graduate candidates whose remaining course load falls below 12 credits will need to complete the Reduced Course Load Form and submit this document to the ISC. An ISC Counselor will review your request. If students won’t be graduating based off their degree evaluation, the ISC Counselor will contact you via Bergen e-mail.

**I-20 Extensions** – All F-1 students should be checking their immigration documents to make sure that they are always valid. If the I-20 will be expiring soon and more time is needed, then a request must be made in order to extend the I-20. Students should complete the following forms and submit the appropriate documentation:

- I-20 Extension Request Form
- Agreement of Support
- Agreement of Room and Board (if applicable)

All requests must be made 30 days prior to the I-20 end date. Failure to submit all paperwork in a timely manner may result in the completion of the record. Once everything is in order, please submit your paperwork directly to the ISC. An ISC Counselor will review your packet and respond to you by e-mail (Bergen e-mail account only). Extensions are granted up to one year increments and based on the time needed to complete the degree.
Across
1. undecided
2. to stay positive in a bad situation
3. something that will never happen
4. saved at the very last moment (this is also the title of a television series from the 90s)

Down
1. not feeling well
2. very excessive
3. get to the point
4. go to bed
5. what some people refer to coffee as

Key
1. On the fence
2. Keep your chin up
3. When pigs fly
4. Saved by the bell
5. Cup of Joe
Hello, I’m Ibrahim AbuSaid, from Amman-Jordan. I started Bergen in Fall 2008, I attended the international orientation and I met the i-team, who made me feel comfortable and welcomed. I became friends with them and we went out bowling the same night and I got 2 strikes in a row so they gave me the nickname "LUCKY!" Since then everybody started to call me Lucky! I’ve been involved with the ISA since then and also I became part of the i-team, that's what I loved the most at Bergen. It gave me big chance to get to know all the new international students and the faculty members. I was also the President of the Muslim Students Association and Vice-President of the International Student Association. I graduated as a General Science major, and I got accepted to Montclair State University, where I’m going to start this fall to obtain my Business Management Bachelor’s, then go ahead and finish my Master’s degree in Finance. At my graduation from Bergen I was so happy, all the people and friends who supported me all the way until graduation were there for me, but still I missed my family who couldn’t come from Jordan. They are always the first ones to push me forward and support me to get my goals, but for me seeing the happy tears in my mother's eyes as she saw me crossing the stage and receiving my diploma made me feel so proud of myself after all the nights and days I spent studying hard to achieve it, and I finally got it. I'm going to miss Bergen so much. I'm going to miss the international student office, and everyone there.

Ibrahim AbuSaid

LUCKY!
**Immigration Notes**

**Reduced Course Load** – Potential December 2012 graduate candidates whose remaining course load falls below 12 credits will need to complete the Reduced Course Load Form and submit this document to the ISC. An ISC counselor will review your request. If students will not be graduating based on their degree evaluation, the ISC Counselor will contact you via Bergen e-mail.

**I-20 Extensions Alert** – All F-1 students should be checking their immigration documents to make sure that they are always valid. If the I-20 will be expiring soon and more time is needed, then a request must be made in order to extend the I-20. Students should complete the following forms and submit the appropriate documentation:

- I-20 Extension Request Form – you must indicate how many more semesters you will need.
- Agreement of Support
- Agreement of Room and Board (if applicable)

All requests must be made 30 days prior to the I-20 end date. Failure to submit all paperwork in a timely manner may result in the completion of the record. Once everything is in order, please submit your paperwork directly to the ISC. An ISC counselor will review your packet and respond to you by e-mail (Bergen e-mail account only). Extensions are granted in increments up to one year based on the time needed to complete the degree.

**Graduating in Summer 2012?**

Do not forget to file your Application for Graduation with Registration, A-129.

**Planning to Transfer?**

Stop by the ISC to pick up the Transfer Request Form. Complete this form and return it back to the ISC with a copy of your acceptance letter. SEVIS records can only be released to one school.

**Planning to apply for OPT?**

All eligible students must attend an OPT workshop. There will be OPT workshops held this summer. Check back with the ISC to find out when the next available workshop date is.

**Academic Reminders**

- Registration for the Summer and Fall terms is OPEN! Don’t wait until the last minute to get the schedule of your dreams!
- During the Fall and Spring terms only, keep in mind that if registering for 12 credits, you are permitted to take 1 online (WB) OR 2 hybrid (HY) courses.
- All F-1 students must be registered for a minimum of 12 credits by the first day of classes. Failure to register for classes will result in the loss of F-1 status. Any student that needs to drop below the full-time requirement should see an ISC Counselor as soon as possible.

**ISC ALERT**

Traveling? Any student that is planning to travel outside the U.S. during the summer needs to stop by the ISC and request for a travel signature. Make sure to bring all your immigration paperwork with you (I-20s and passport).
Got the Summer Blues?

There is plenty to do during the summer months. One of the awesome reasons about living in New Jersey is that you’re never too far from a hot destination spot.

- Visit the state parks (some parks will charge a small fee during the summer) – great opportunity to go camping, hiking, fishing, swimming, etc.
- See Niagara Falls, the Statue of Liberty, Times Square, Central Park
- Go to a theme park
  - Gillian’s Island and Water Park
  - Six Flags Great Adventure & Wild Safari
  - Steel Pier
  - Wild West City
  - Morey’s Piers and Beachfront Waterparks
- Museums (just to name a few of the many)
  - Franklin Mineral Museum - [http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com](http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com)
  - Woodruff Museum of Indian Artifacts - [http://www.bridgetonlibrary.org/Museum.htm](http://www.bridgetonlibrary.org/Museum.htm)
- Hit the beaches
- Volunteer – at the libraries, church
- Attend a sporting event

A reminder that hurricane season begins June 1st and ends November 30th. In the event that New Jersey is in the potential projected path of a hurricane, the ISC and BCC will send out alerts to students. As always, safety first.

**EVENTS/ACTIVITIES**

- Cape May County Park & Zoo - [http://www.maryhelverson.com/cape_may_county_zoo.htm](http://www.maryhelverson.com/cape_may_county_zoo.htm)
Director’s Note

Welcome new students - and welcome back to all of our returning students! Whether this is your first or final semester at Bergen, I am so pleased that you have decided to study at Bergen Community College.

I hope that you will consider the International Student Center your "home away from home." The staff in the ISC is here to help you with everything from academic advisement and immigration counseling to adjusting to life in the USA. The ISC staff can also help better connect you to the College by referring you to different offices on campus like the Transfer and Career Center, the Tutoring Center, Personal Counseling and Student Life. All you have to do is stop by the ISC or attend one of the great workshops we have coming up.

Bergen is a great place to be - there is so much to experience here and I hope that you will take advantage of it all. If you have a suggestion for the office or an idea you'd like to share, please feel free to let me know. The ISC is here to help you succeed and we are eager to hear your thoughts. Remember, this is your time, make the most of it! Enjoy the semester.

Best,
Kate Plessing

Health News

If you are not feeling well, and you need medical attention, be sure that you have your insurance card with you from the school, and go to a Valley Health Medical Group Office.

If it is an emergency, always go to the emergency room at the nearest hospital, but if you’re simply not feeling well, and would like to see a medical professional, the BCC Nurses’ Office suggests that you go to one of the offices with the Valley Health Medical Group.

Also, if you have submitted your Immunization form, this needs to be given to Health Services in HS-100.

In the event that your health will prevent you from attending your classes, please contact the ISC IMMEDIATELY!

Address Changes

Moving or have a new e-mail address? USCIS/DHS (United States Customs & Immigration Service/Department of Homeland Security) requires all F-1 students to notify the ISC of ANY home address changes within 10 DAYS of the move. In fact, if you have ANY contact information changes, like change of e-mail, or phone number, let us know! To notify the ISC, simply visit us in C-102, fill out the F-1 Change of Data Form, and we will change the information. This form is also available online at www.bergen.edu/isc/forms.
Walk-in Hours for the ISC

-- Academic* --
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm (Monday - Thursday)

-- Immigration* --
10 am - 12 pm (Monday - Friday)

-- Korean --
11 am - 1 pm (Monday - Thursday) & 10 am - 12 pm (Friday)

-- Turkish --
10 am - 12 pm (Monday - Friday)

*Appointments are available for academic and/or immigration questions, except for Fridays.

A Very Special Thank You to this Fall 2012 I-Team from the ISC...

I-Team Members (left to right - above pic): Ibrahim “Lucky”, Margarita, Gladis, Min, Silvia, Viktorya, Xue, Stefani, and Soohyun.
Not pictured: Nelson
An E grade is a grade given to a student for non-attendance. Any student who receives an E grade will have their SEVIS record terminated. E grades will result in the loss of your F-1 status. Professors are required to report attendance and the ISC monitors the attendance of F-1 students. Be aware that every professor has their own attendance policy. Please make sure to review your syllabi for your classes. We strongly encourage you to reach out to your professors, seek help the tutoring centers on campus and always see your International Student Advisor in the ISC!

The ISC is always the first place you should stop. The ISC may be able to assist you in the event that you have a medical reason for not going to class. Come see our office immediately! Never let a professor tell you not to attend a class for any reason. According to immigration, you MUST register and attend classes (a minimum of 12 credits) or you could lose your F-1 status.

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**Immigration News**

**Information Regarding DMV and SSA:**
This information below was posted on the Study in the States. It provides some information on what to do with students who are having problems getting a SSN or driver’s license.

The SEVIS system (immigration) is aware of current difficulties that some of the F-1 students have when applying for a social security number (SSN) or driver’s license. SEVP and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program are working on a solution that they will implement on September 14, 2012. PLEASE NOTE: All F-1 students are being asked to wait until **September 14th** before returning to Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and/or Social Security Administration (SSA).

**Employment:**

**Working off campus without having the proper working authorization will result in the loss of your F-1 status.** F-1 students must always obtain working permission from an International Student Counselor to either work: on-campus, off-campus when doing an internship (permission is granted on I-20 through Curricular Practical Training referred to as CPT) or working off-campus on Optional Practical Training (pre-/post-completion OPT) or through Economic Hardship. If you have a social security card, this does not grant you permission to work. This card is only legal to use if you have permission from an International Student Counselor or from USCIS. Additionally, it is illegal to use another person’s social security card. Though you may think that you will not get caught, if an immigration officer were to ask you for your legal working papers and you could not provide them, this is grounds for immediate termination of your F-1 status.

Additionally, this could seriously hurt any chances you may have at changing or adjusting your status in the future, if you opt to do this. To sum this up, working off campus without having the proper approval – DON’T DO IT!

There will be plenty of workshops this semester that will cover both working on and off campus. Students who will be graduating in December and are planning to apply for post-completion OPT, are required to attend the OPT workshop (OPT).
New Members of the ISC Team

Andreanna Znak-Madsen – will be assisting all non-F-1 applying to BCC

My name is Andreanna Znak –Madsen. I’ve been with Bergen Community College for 5 years, where I have worked for two other departments. I am excited to have joined the International Department and can’t wait to hear about your diverse backgrounds and help you get settled in. When you come to see us at the International Student Center, I’ll be one of the first people that you will meet.

I am Ukrainian, and can speak and write it fluently. I can also understand the Polish and Russian languages on a beginner level. So, if anyone needs any help, please come see me. My doors are always open. I hope you will find Bergen Community College to be the start of a successful career.

Lots of Luck to you all

Bazhayou vam vsikh bahato shchasty!

Sue Nadel – Academic Counselor

Hi! I’m Sue Nadel a new Academic Counselor in the International Student Center. I am excited to be a part of the International Student Center. I love working with students and learning about different countries and cultures so stop by and say Hello. I started working at the college in 2010 as the Student Support Services Counselor for the EPI Grant at the Meadowlands Campus. Originally from Long Island, I have a BA in Social Sciences from Stony Brook University and a Master’s Degree in Counseling, Human Services and Guidance from Montclair State University. I have over twenty years of experience working as a counselor. I started my career as a high school counselor in the New York City school system. During my career, I have counseled thousands of students in New Jersey, New York and Maryland. When not helping others at BCC, I enjoy spending time with my husband and son.

Stay connected to the ISC through Facebook!
The International Student Association (ISA) is an organization that provides the opportunity for students to share their culture, thoughts and experiences of living and studying around the world. The organization is open to both international and domestic students. We want you to become involved.

Please take two minutes to complete the following survey (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWKLV77) of the time(s) that you are available for weekly meetings.

Meetings will begin the first week in October. For information on our past activities visit http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com. If you would like to contact us, e-mail the ISA President, Gladis Oseguera at Bergen.isa@gmail.com. We have an exciting semester ahead and we look forward to getting to know you.
* FALL 2012 EVENTS *

Event dates are subject to change. Please check [http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com](http://bergeninternational.blogspot.com) for updates.

**GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE MUSEUM TRIP**

Saturday September 22
Hamilton, NJ
Bus leaves BCC Lot 8 @ 10 am and will return by 5 pm
Cost: $15

This event is going to be rescheduled for October!

**APPLE PICKING**

Saturday, October 13
Cost: $15

**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK**

Monday, November 15 through Friday, November 16

**COFFEE HOUSE**

Monday, December 3
Room C-102
If you would like additional information on a workshop listed, call 201-689-7601, e-mail isc@bergen.edu or stop by the International Student Center.

The workshops will be held in the room A-108, except for the following: October 3rd will be held in C-102 and October 25th “Choosing a Major” will be held in A-113. Please be on time. If there are no attendees 10 minutes after the advertised start time, the workshop will be cancelled.

All workshops will be approximately 1 hour.

More workshops may be added throughout the semester. Please refer to the ISC website or contact us!
Remember that it is important to ask for help when you need it. Both faculty and staff at BCC are here to help you succeed.

Feel free to stop by the ISC during walk-in hours or make an appointment with your counselor if you have ANY questions.

Any NEW F-1 student (including those that were approved for a change of status to F-1) for the Fall 2012 and did not attend the mandatory orientation will be required to attend a make-up session. Three sessions will be offered in L-160 from 2pm to 3pm.

10/5, 10/19, and 10/26

Walk-in Hours

Immigration Counseling
10 am – 12pm (Monday – Friday)

Academic Counseling
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm (Monday – Thursday)

Korean Counseling
11 am – 1 pm (Monday – Thursday)
10 am – 12 pm (Friday)

Turkish Counseling
10 am – 12 pm (Monday – Friday)

Thank you for being patient.
Job Fair

Wednesday, October 24th @ 10 am – 1 pm
Location: Student Cafeteria

Real World Interviewing
Oct. 17th @ A118
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

How to Work a Job Fair
Oct. 4th @ A118
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Oct. 17th @ A118
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Resume Writing 101
Oct. 10th @ 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm in A118
Oct. 11th @ 9:30 am – 10:30 am in A118
Oct. 23rd @ 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm in A118

College Fair

Wednesday, October 10th @ 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Location: Student Cafeteria

Save 25%
Must be a full-time student!
Go to: https://go.bergen.edu/NJTransit
Follow the instructions and buy your pass by the 10th of the month. You’ll receive your pass the next month!

Movies that send CHILLS down the spines of the ISC

Silence of the Lambs (1991) – Kate
Nightmare on Elm Street (1984) – Mine
The Birds (1963) – Sue
Friday the 13th (1980) – Patricia
Resident Evil (2002) – Vincent
The Stepford Wives (1975) – Laura
The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (1974) – Irene
Paranormal Activity (2007) – Andreanna
Sleeping with the Enemy (1991) – Nour
The Exorcist (1973) – Min
A Few Facts about New Jersey

- **State Nickname:** The Garden State
- **State Motto:** Liberty and Prosperity
- **State Slogan:** Come See For Yourself
- **State Bird:** American Goldfinch
- **State Flower:** Common Meadow Violet
- **State Fruit:** Northern Highbush Blueberry
- **State Animal:** Horse
- **State Capital:** Trenton
- **State Dance:** Square Dance
- **State Insect:** European Honey Bee
- **State Tree:** Northern Red Oak

**Largest City:** Newark
**Admission to Union:** December 18, 1787

**Some Famous People & Bands:**
- Bon Jovi
- Bruce Springstein
- John Travolta
- Ice-T
- Lou Costello
- Frank Sinatra
- Queen Latifah
- Whitney Houston
- Keshia Knight Pulliam
- Mark Ingram, Jr.
- Andrew Bynum
- Buzz Aldrin
- The Fugees
- My Chemical Romance
- Redman
- Naughty by Nature
- Trixter

**Past President:** Grover Cleveland

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**October Activities**

- **Dumont Oktoberfest Street Fair**
- **Battleview Orchards**
  [http://www.battlevieworchards.com](http://www.battlevieworchards.com)
- **Stony Hill Maze Fun Park (Home of the GIANT Corn Maze)**
- **Halloween – Trick or Treat!!**

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**FREE 8 WEEK COURSE ON ANGER MANAGEMENT BEGINNING OCT. 9TH IN HS-100 AT 12:30 PM TO 1:30 PM. PLEASE REGISTER IN HS-100. REGISTRATION REQUIRES THAT YOU MUST BE ABLE TO ATTEND ALL 8 FREE SESSIONS.**

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**Grounds for Sculpture Museum Trip**

- Hamilton, NJ
- Saturday, October 6
- Bus Leaves BCC Lot B @ 10 am and will return by 5 pm
- Cost: $15

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**International Student Association (ISA)**

The First General Meeting for ISA will be on Monday, October 1st from 12:30-1:00 pm in Room L-147.
For all conversation groups and workshops, please log in at the computer first.
Friday, October 5, 2012
4:00 p.m., Room L-131
Keynote Speaker Ambassador Sichan Siv is the former Asian-American Permanent Representative to the United Nations and author of the book "Golden Bones: An Extraordinary Journey from Hell in Cambodia to a New Life in America." This program is co-sponsored by the Center for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation.

Wednesday, November 14, 2012
1:45 p.m., Room A-104
Discussion of emerging Asian markets with Myanmar as a case study. A dialogue and discussion will feature Asian Wall Street "Young Turks."

Thursday, November 15, 2012
12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Room A-113
Come and join us as we demonstrate and taste Asian cuisine to explore hot, sweet, sour, and bitter taste buds. Learn the art of Asian cuisine and preparation.

Friday, November 9, 2012
7:00 p.m., Gym
Explore the art, culture, dances, sights and sounds of Asia. Vendors will feature an arts and crafts sale in time for the holiday season. This program is co-sponsored by the Korean Student Association.

Monday, November 19, 2012
4:00 p.m. Room C-313
Ambassador Dr. Palitha Kohona is the permanent representative from the Mission of Sri Lanka. An intellect with profound insight not only of the diplomatic world but of Wall Street, Dr. Kohona is an advocate of education, equity, education and justice. This program is co-sponsored by the Center for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation.

We would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to the Asian Heritage Committee Members, the Office of Student Life, and faculty members who support these wondrous events.
The holidays in American are a time of celebration and enjoying the moment with your family. The ISC would like to share some of our family traditions with you.

Kate - Traditionally we go to Vermont for Thanksgiving - but this year I will be having a baby on or around Thanksgiving, so we are staying local! 😊
Irene – Cook an entire Thanksgiving dinner and make fresh pumpkin pie from real pumpkins!
Patricia – We celebrate Thanksgiving dinner in our house. I bake a turkey made with stuffing and cranberry sauce. My daughter was born on 11/25 and sometimes her birthday falls on Thanksgiving Day!
Kyungsil - We Koreans do Gimjang, which is the traditional process of preparation and preservation of Kimchi before winter comes every year.
Andreanna - My tradition consists of each person bringing a special dish of theirs to the table. I make my turkey, whipped mashed potatoes and yummy eggplant; throw in butternut squash soup, green bean casserole, and add a Ukrainian twist to it all… Delicious… Then we just chillax… 😊
Laura – Telling old and embarrassing stories about each other after dinner and saying what I’m thankful for each year.
Mine – I go to Boston to visit family and eat a YUM-MY turkey dinner with them.
Natalie – Black Friday Shopping

Thanksgiving Break

BCC Closed

The College will be closed on November 22nd—25th. There will be no classes or academic services open during this time. There are no classes on November 21st, but the College will be open.

FALL BACK

Don’t forget that the time has changed on November 4th at 2 a.m. to 1 a.m.
Immigration News

♦ Diversity Visa Program will end on November 3, 2012. Click the Diversity Visa Program link for more information about this program, “Green Card through the Diversity Immigrant Visa Program”.

♦ TPS Haiti 18 month extension of Haiti Temporary Protected Status until July 22, 2014. For more information about this program, click the TPS Haiti link.

♦ Any current BCC F-1 student who will be completing their degree this December ‘12, may be eligible to apply for post-completion optional practical training (OPT). All eligible students are required to attend a mandatory OPT workshop. For times and dates, refer to the Fall 2012 Workshop Schedule.

♦ I-20 Extensions: It’s that time to check your I-20 program end date. Any current F-1 student, who will require additional time in order to complete their degree, will need to file for an I-20 Extension Request. Visit the ISC to obtain an I-20 extension packet. All you need to do is request a packet!

International Education Week

Nov. 12—16
Learn, experience, and have fun!

Academic Reminders

♦ The Registration Calendar for Winter/Spring 2013 has been posted. Please refer to www.bergen.edu

♦ Any ALP student who is completing Level III, is encouraged to attend the “ALP Level III Complete, Now What?” workshop. This workshop is offered in English, Turkish, and Korean (please refer to the workshop schedule).

♦ Graduating this December? Be sure to complete the Application for Graduation.

♦ Want to change your major? Call the ISC and make an appointment to meet with your counselor. It is highly recommended that you print from WebAdvisor your proposed degree and bring this with you during your appointment. There are no appointments available on Fridays.

♦ Haven’t taken the Math Placement Exam yet? If not, visit Testing (S-127) during your next available opportunity.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: Location for the Fall 2012 workshops has changed.
All ISC workshops are to be held in C-102.
**Address and Email Changes:** Moving or have a new Email address? USCIS/DHS (United States Customs & Immigration Service/Department of Homeland Security) requires all F-1 students to notify BCC of any home address changes within 10 DAYS of the move. In fact, if you have ANY contact information changes, like change of email, or phone number, let us know! To notify BCC, simply go to the International Student Center in A-126, fill out the F-1 Change of Data Form, and we will change the information. This form is also available online at [www.bergen.edu/isc/forms](http://www.bergen.edu/isc/forms).

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**Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow**
The beginning of the spring semester may bring snow. If the weather is very bad (a lot of snow), the school will close. To find out if BCC is closed, visit: [www.bergen.edu](http://www.bergen.edu), call (201) 447-7100, or visit: [http://www.1010wins.com](http://www.1010wins.com) to sign up for e-mail notification of college closings. You can also listen to WCBS/880, WOR/710, and WVNJ1160 on the radio or tune in to channel 12NJ on Cablevision TV.

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**International Student Association (ISA)**
ISA meets on Monday, from 12:30-1:00 pm in Room L-147.

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**Korean Daily News Education Fair:**
Every year, the *Korean Daily News*, which is the largest Korean language newspaper in the United States, organizes this day-long event where, according to the newspaper, 2,000 to 3,000 students and parents come to get information on colleges and guidance in their college application process. We were so happy to represent BCC at this event.

Kudos to both Kyungsil and Mine for participating this year!

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**Resume Writing 101**
- A118 Monday, November 12th
  - 9:30AM – 10:30AM
- A118 Wednesday, November 14th
  - 5:30PM – 6:30PM
- A118 Thursday, November 29th
  - 3:30PM – 4:30PM

**Real World Interviewing**
- A118 Monday, November 19th
  - 3:30PM - 4:30PM
ELRC Group Activities Fall 2012

Conversation Groups

Mondays at 12:30 PM  
Leader: Marzena

Thursdays at 12:30 PM  
Leader: Zohreh E-156 C

Workshops

Tuesdays, 10:00 E-156 B  
Grammar Q & A  
(Question and Answer)  
Leader: Professor Murtha

Wednesdays, 11:00 E-156 B  
Conversations from the News  
Led by Professor Ed Murtha

Tuesdays, 1:00 E-156 C  
Vocabulary Development  
Leader: Professor Heloise Ruskin

Wednesdays, 12:30 E-156 B  
Writing Puzzles  
Leader: Marilyn Pongracz

Thursdays, 2:30 E-156 B  
Vocabulary Games  
Leader: Dale Egan

Writing Strategies for Levels 2 & 3 will be offered in November

For all conversation groups and workshops, please log in at the computer first.
Attention ALP Students

Improve Your English Conversation Skills with Intercultural Conversation Partners

Meet Bergen Community College students
Learn about other cultures
Make new friends
Practice your speaking and listening
Increase confidence when speaking English

Go to The Cerullo Learning Assistance Center (L-125) or call (201) 447-7438 for an appointment and get started today!

Hours
Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday, 12th
Around the World Fair
12:00 p.m.—1:30 p.m., Student Center
Experience, learn, and have fun!

Tuesday, 13th
International Student Workshop
12:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m., C-312
Inform and update International Students of their immediate resources available to them.
Sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the International Student Association

Wednesday, 14th
Tea House and Desserts
1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m., C-102
Sample teas and desserts from around the world!

Thursday, 15th
Ebru Art, (Paper Marbling)
12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m., C-102
Check out a talented Turkish artist in action!
Sponsored by the International Student Association

Friday, 16th
“12 Angry Men”
12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m., C-102
Come and watch this classic movie with the ISC crew.

For additional information, please contact the International Student Center at 201.689.7601 or please visit room C-102.
Meet us in **Room:L-346, 12:30-1:30PM** Every Tuesday
Contact the President and VP @ 551-587-0964 /201-647-7438
STUDENTS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE ARE ALSO INVITED
Join us on facebook: http://www.facebook.com/BergenAfricanStudentUnion
DECEMBER 2012

Registration Reminder

Registration for the Spring 2013 term is OPEN!
Early bird catches the worm...don’t wait to the last minute to register for classes.

Need to know:

- Permitted to register for 1 WB or 2 HY courses per 12 credits.
- Must be registered for 12 credits by the last day of the add/drop period.

Academic Reminders

There’s still time to get help if you need it and it’s absolutely free!

For ALP – English Language Resource Center (ELRC) in E126
Intercultural Conversation Partners (ICP Program) in L-125
For College Level – Tutoring Center in L-116

HELP WANTED

Are YOU I-Team Material????

The ISC is looking for I-Team members to assist with the Spring 2013 orientation on January 17th. It’s an awesome opportunity to help new F-1 students with general questions, getting familiar with BCC, and helping with their registration.

Anyone that is interested in getting involved should contact Miné Ugurlu at muguru@bergen.edu. All I-Team members will be required to attend a meeting prior to orientation to go over the ISC’s expectations and your role during orientation.

Great opportunity to add this experience to your CV/resume!

Graduating?

All December graduates will have a 60 day grace period from 12/22/12 to either transfer out, apply for post-OPT or return to your home country.
Moving or have a new Email address? USCIS/DHS (United States Customs & Immigration Service/Department of Homeland Security) requires all F-1 students to notify BCC of any home address changes within 10 DAYS of the move. In fact, if you have ANY contact information changes, like change of email, or phone number, let us know! To notify BCC, simply go to the International Student Center in C-102, fill out the F-1 Change of Data Form, and we will change the information. This form is also available online at www.bergen.edu/isc/forms.

On December 7th and 14th, the ISC will provide travel signatures between 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. If you have dependents, please be sure to bring in their I-20. All travel signatures are valid for one year from the date it was issued.

Traveling this Winter?

Travel Signature Days

If your I-20 is about to expire (see end date on the I-20) and still need additional time to complete your program of study, you are required to apply for an extension. The extensions are only given in year increments (if needed).

STOP!

I-20 Expiring?

If you are not feeling well, and you need medical attention, be sure that you have your insurance card with you from the school, and go to a Valley Health Medical Group Office.

If it is an emergency, always go to the emergency room at the nearest hospital, but if you’re simply not feeling well, and would like to see a medical professional, the BCC Nurses’ Office suggests that you go to one of the offices with the Valley Health Medical Group.

Also, if you have submitted your Immunization form, this needs to be given to Health Services in HS-100.

In the event that your health will prevent you from attending your classes, please contact the ISC IMMEDIATELY!

ISA meets on Monday, from 12:30-1:00 pm in Room L-147.
**Holiday movies that the ISC crew love to watch!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyungsil Won</th>
<th>Andreanna Madsen</th>
<th>Irene Smith</th>
<th>Natalie Williams</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Alone</td>
<td>A Christmas Story</td>
<td>Miracle on 34th Street, Charlie Brown Christmas, The Grinch Who Stole Christmas</td>
<td>Christmas with the Kranks, This Christmas, Last Holiday</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Kate Plessing-Brunetto</th>
<th>Miné Ugurlu</th>
<th>Laura Paprotta</th>
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**Walk-in hours for December**

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>10 am—12 pm</td>
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</table>

**Appointments for December**

Any student that needs to make an appointment should contact the ISC at 201.689.7601. There are no appointments during walk-in hours and on Fridays.

**Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow**

The beginning of the spring semester may bring snow. If the weather is very bad (a lot of snow), the school will close. To find out if BCC is closed, visit: [www.bergen.edu](http://www.bergen.edu), call (201) 447-7100, or visit: [http://www.1010wins.com](http://www.1010wins.com) to sign up for e-mail notification of college closings. You can also listen to WCBS/880, WOR/710, and WVNJ1160 on the radio or tune in to channel 12NJ on Cablevision TV.