The International Student and Scholar Institute (ISSI) organizes more than three months of orientation and acculturation programming throughout the year for newly arrived international students and their peers from the United States. ISSI orientation provides a unique forum for intercultural interaction and learning, with activities that include an “airport welcome,” cultural enrichment programming, information sessions, immigration advising, regional excursions, and educational seminars that bring a cross-cultural focus to topics such as academic success, student life, and the dynamic of diversity. The ISSI orientation program begins prior to the start of the fall and spring semesters, comprising several weeks of activities that provide international students (and others who have lived abroad) an opportunity to gain familiarity with Northeastern in a cross-cultural context while also serving to facilitate the formation of friendships across cultures.

International students should plan to arrive several days before the start of the semester as outlined in their ISSI orientation schedule. All matriculating international students should receive a preliminary schedule from the ISSI prior to their arrival in the United States. Immediately prior to the start of the fall semester, the Office of New Student Orientation conducts a two-day “Academic Orientation” session as part of the ISSI orientation program, which parallels—and substitutes for—the mandatory orientation program held earlier in the summer for domestic (U.S.) students.

For further details on the ISSI orientation program, and for other information pertinent to international students, please contact:

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