What is the purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program?

The Exchange Visitor Program fosters global understanding through educational and cultural exchanges.
Thank you for being a part of UNT’s exchange program!

Welcome Spring and 2020!

Scam Alert

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be with a U.S. government agency, who asks for money to fix an immigration or tax issue, contact ISSS or the UNT police first! DO NOT send money and DO NOT give them personal information!

Helpful resources on protecting your identity and information.
- [https://www.usa.gov/housing-scams#item-211837](https://www.usa.gov/housing-scams#item-211837)
- [https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft](https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft)
- [https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness](https://oig.ssa.gov/newsroom/scam-awareness)
- [https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog)
- [https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/pass-it-on/imposter-scams#](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/pass-it-on/imposter-scams#)
- [https://youtu.be/i4nCy6Xs6R8](https://youtu.be/i4nCy6Xs6R8)

Expanded Travel Ban

On Friday, January 31, 2020 an Executive Order was issued by the U.S. President, expanding on existing travel bans already in place for Iran, Libya, North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen. This new order relates to visa issuance, screening procedures, and refugees from the following additional countries: Myanmar (Burma), Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Sudan, and Tanzania.

This expansion of the order does not directly impact the travel of F1 and J1 non-immigrant visa holders or any other non-immigrant visa holders.

In light of this Executive Order, we strongly urge immigrants (green card holders) from the affected countries to seek legal advice regarding any possible travel outside the U.S. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide additional details and information as it becomes available.

We also maintain a web page on immigration updates regarding travel ban developments, but this is not done in real time and we suggest that students and scholars from the affected countries please contact our office with specific inquiries or urgent travel issues.
Public Charge
A recent rule has been altered to expand the definition of “public charge.” While all J1 Exchange Visitors have to show proof of finances before entering the United States, it is important to remember that as an exchange visitor, you are not allowed to accept public benefits in the form of cash assistance, food stamps, housing assistance, or Medicaid. Examples of these benefits are SNAP, Section 8 Housing, free healthcare. Accepting one or more of these benefits could result in future visa denials or applications for permanent residency.

REMINDER!
Please be sure to contact International Student and Scholar Services if there are ANY changes to your J program.

Ensuring Exchange Visitor’s Health, Safety and Welfare is the University of North Texas and the Department of State’s Highest Priority
To help safeguard the health, safety and welfare of exchange visitors, there’s an Exchange Visitor Program Emergency Hotline. 1-866-283-9090
This 24/7 toll-free phone number allows exchange visitors to directly contact the Department in emergency and urgent situations.

Things to Do
International Affairs Events
Fine Arts Series
Art Gallery
Dance & Theatre
College of Music Calendar
UNT on the Square
UNT Calendar

UNT Sports
Discover Denton
Things to do in DFW
Trip Advisor
Denton County Transportation Authority
UNT Transportation Services

Friday, February 21: International Mother Language Day from 2-5 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Wednesday, February 26: NationaliTEA South Korea at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Wednesday, March 18: UNT World Fair from 3-5 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Wednesday, March 25: World Brew: Germany at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Friday, March 27: Global EncoUNTers Pakistan at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Wednesday, April 8: World Brew: Italy at 3:30 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Thursday, April 9: Global EncoUNTers Brazil at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130
Friday, April 24: Global EncoUNTers Chile at 4 p.m. in Marquis Hall 130

J-1s and J-2s are invited to join us each Friday from Noon to 1 p.m. to practice English language speaking and fluency at English Conversation CommUNiTy!

Program is held in Marquis Hall 130.
My name is Louis, I am currently a J-1 Exchange Student at the University of North Texas. I come from France – University of Tours, and I had the amazing opportunity to come here for 2 semesters. My major is Mechanical and Energy Engineering where I study very interesting courses such as composite materials, aerospace fundamentals and finite element analysis. Beside engineering, I also take courses of aviation logistics to learn useful things about passenger and cargo airlines.

Something that I really appreciate is the fact that I can choose courses I want to study, which I cannot do in my home university. Moreover, I really like the immersion in an American campus. Before to come, I did not expect the campus to be that big.

When I arrived in August 2019, an orientation day has been organized by UNT where I met a lot of exchange students from different countries in the world that are now my friends. With them, I attended several Mean Green Football games at Apogee Stadium. The atmosphere during the matches was awesome, with students supporting the players and an orchestra playing songs. I also watched a UNT basketball game and went to a NASCAR race. These were among many other things I did to discover American culture.

A place where I love to go in Denton is called the Square. There you can go for a walk, savor an ice cream during summertime, eat pizzas and burgers with your friends and even enjoy a night in a country bar with a band playing music. I was able to taste American food and Tex-Mex dishes. My experience in Texas has been wonderful so far, and I will never forget this exchange year at UNT.

Louis we’re so glad you are enjoying your time here at UNT and thank you, International Affairs Study Abroad office for making these student exchanges possible!

Contact

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Nancy Dreessen, Senior Immigration Advisor (J-1 Specialist)
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