



Welcome to UNI!

Dear Student,

On behalf of the International Team in the International Admissions and International Services Offices, I would like to congratulate you on your decision to study at the University of Northern Iowa and welcome you to our campus! I hope that the Orientation Program and the ongoing support of the International Services Office will enable you to feel comfortable and to be successful at UNI.

We have designed sessions to help you learn how the University works, how to find and use resources that will help you be a successful student, and how to adjust to life in the U.S. You will have the opportunity to register for classes, open a bank account and learn about how to find a job on the beautiful UNI campus. We'll do some shopping and we will have plenty of time to get to know each other and have some fun! We have worked hard to prepare this program for you and we would appreciate your attendance, which will be required.

Please take a good look at the following schedule and do not be afraid to ask questions about the program that we have planned for you. It will be especially important for you to arrive during the dates listed on the following page and not arrive earlier or later. Please make your travel arrangements accordingly.

I look forward to meeting you in August!

Sincerely,

Ross Schupbach, International Student Advisor

ross.schupbach@uni.edu

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

- You are encouraged to arrive on campus between August 15 – August 18.
- Please send your arrival information as soon as you know your travel plans:
 - We will arrange for airport pickups for those students arriving at the nearby **Waterloo** (Airport code: ALO) airport or the **Eastern Iowa** (Airport code: CID) airport, located further away in the city of Cedar Rapids. **We strongly recommend use of the Waterloo (ALO) airport if at all possible.** Please use the arrival form available at our web site, <http://www.uni.edu/intladm/iso/arrivalform.shtml>, to inform us of your arrival and to request transportation.
 - Even if you plan to arrive on campus without our assistance, we still need to know when you plan to arrive. Please use the form mentioned above to report your arrival date and approximate time and to remind us that you will not need assistance.
- To report delays, flight changes and other information during your trip you may call the International Services emergency cell phone number at 319-269-7278. This number will be active only from August 14 through August 31.
- As soon as possible after you arrive on campus, please bring your travel and immigration documents to the International Services Office in Maucker Union, in the center of the UNI campus. (Office Hours 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.)
- There will be an additional charge of **\$14.68** per night for on-campus housing on August 15 or earlier. International Services will pay for residence hall housing from August 16 through August 22.
- A mandatory matriculation fee of **\$125** will be charged to your account. This fee is required for **All** new international students, even if you do not arrive in time for the orientation program.
- Please note that you will need to bring your own linens (bed sheets, pillow, pillowcase, blanket, towel and washcloth) or you may purchase a full set upon arrival for \$45.
- During Orientation, we will provide two lunches and three complimentary dinners. You will be responsible for all other meals before the start of classes. Establishments on College Hill and limited on-campus facilities will be open for meals and snacks.
- Graduate students are not assigned a specific registration time. These students should contact their respective departments and arrange for a time to meet with a faculty advisor for assistance in this process.
- For students living in any of the Residence Halls, Fall 2008 meal plans will begin on Friday, August 22.
- For eligible students who have arranged to live in UNI Apartment housing, please note that these apartments are not furnished.

Monday, August 18

Early-Bird Activities

12:00 p.m. **Lunch on “The Hill”:** *Meet at the International Services Office, 113 Maucker Union*
Walk together to the College Hill district where you will find a variety of dining options including pizza, Chinese cuisine, sandwich shops and cafes where you can buy lunch.

1:30 p.m. **We’re here! Let’s have a look around!** - *Meet at the International Services Office*
Join our Student Alumni Ambassadors for a *walking tour* of UNI’s beautiful campus. This will be an excellent opportunity to ask questions and orient yourself with your new “Home away from Home!”

Student ID Cards: During your tour, you will have the opportunity to stop at the Department of Residence to get your official UNI student identification card. Remember to smile for the camera!

International Student Orientation and Registration Program

Opening Evening

- 7:00 p.m. **“Welcome to UNI” Orientation Opening Celebration:** *Old Central Ballroom, Section C, Maucker Union*

This is your opportunity to meet the UNI International Services Staff, other new international students, and to find out more details about the exciting week ahead. This session will include:

- Introductions
- Welcome from the International Student Association (ISA)
- Icebreakers (fun activities to help you get to know each other)
- Schedule Overview and lots of **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**. *Please bring this Orientation Schedule to the opening celebration*
- Light refreshments
- Student Activity Table

Tuesday, August 19

- 8:15 a.m. **Evaluation of English Proficiency:** *Baker Hall, Room 72*
This is a mandatory session for all provisionally or conditionally admitted students. Students participating in English testing will register for classes on Thursday morning. You may come to International Services at 8:00 a.m. for assistance in finding 72 Baker Hall, or go straight there by 8:15 a.m.
- 9:00 a.m. **Exchange Student Registration:** *Meet at International Services*
Meet with UNI Academic Advisors to choose your schedule of classes for the fall semester.
- 11:00 a.m. **Navigating the U.S System of Education:** *Seerley Hall, Room 115*
To “navigate” means to find your way. The U.S. system of education can be quite different than the system in your home country. Learn what grades mean, what is a program of study, and many other useful tips.
- 11:45 a.m. **All About the University Honors Program:** *Seerley 115*
The University Honors Program strives to provide outstanding educational, social, and leadership opportunities for talented and motivated students. Honors students should be prepared to make the most of their education through participation in University Honors. We’ll learn more about this program and find out how to apply for admission.
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunchtime!** Take a break and make your own plans for lunch.
- 1:00 p.m. **Safety, Security and Student Services:** *Seerley 115*
The UNI and Cedar Falls community is considered to be a safe place and this session will teach you some safety tips to help you keep yourself safe and out of trouble. Meet an officer from the UNI Public Safety Team and find out how you can work with them. You’ll also get to meet someone from the Dean of Students’ office who will let you know about more services available to help you have a safe and successful experience at UNI!
- 2:00 p.m. **How to Get Involved:** *Seerley 115*
There is much more to the UNI experience than attending classes. Find out just how much fun you can have and how much there is to do to enrich your life as a student. The Northern Iowa Student Government President will stop by to let you know all about our student government system and how you can become involved.
- 2:15 p.m. **Violence Prevention and Substance Abuse Services:** *Seerley 115*
Spend some time with UNI’s Violence Prevention Educator and learn more about violence prevention and healthy student lifestyles.
- 2:45 p.m. **Afternoon Refreshment Break:** Step into the hallway for some snacks and beverages to keep you going!
- 3:00 p.m. **Money and Banking:** *Seerley 115*

Representatives from a local bank will discuss banking options, how things work at a U.S. bank, and how you can use your accounts. Learn about Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs), debit cards and credit cards. You will have the opportunity to open an account and deposit money. Be sure to bring your money to deposit, your I-20 form or DS-2019 form, and your passport with I-94 card.

5:15 p.m. **Dinner as a Group:** *Piazza Dining Center*
Meet at International Services to walk together or go straight to the Piazza Dining Center located on the upper floor of the Redeker Center for a delightful dinner and conversation. We're buying!

6:45 p.m. **Evening Social:** *Volleyball court area outside Piazza Dining Center/Redeker*
Come relax and play soccer, volleyball or basketball with us!

Wednesday, August 20

9:00 a.m. **Your Immigration Status: SEVIS, Visas, Rights & Responsibilities:** *Seerley 115*
This very important session will highlight the basics of your immigration status and what you need to do to stay in good standing with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Bring your questions. Presented by Ross Schupbach, International Student Advisor.

10:00 a.m. **Coffee Break:** Grab some coffee, tea and treats in the hall before launching into the next session!

10:20 a.m. **Paying your "E-Bill" and Managing Your Money:** *Seerley 115*
Find out how you will pay your tuition and fees in this session with an expert from the Office of Business Operations and also get some tips about how to manage your money while in the U.S.

12:00 noon **Wonderfully Wet Wednesday:** *Meet at International Services*
Please join us for lunch and an afternoon of fun at one of the finest waterparks in the Midwest, Lost Island! Shoot down one of nine water slides, relax in the wave pool, or take a leisurely float down the lazy river with your new international friends.

4:30 p.m. **Return to Campus**
After a fun aquatic afternoon, we'll return to campus and you can enjoy dinner on your own.

Thursday, August 21

- 8:00 a.m. **Registration for Undergraduate Freshman and Transfer Students:** *Meet at the International Services Office*
Be sure to check-in on time for this important session!
- Lunch on your own**
- 1:30 p.m. **Find a Job!** *Seerley 115*
Would you like to earn some extra money? A part-time job on the University campus could be the solution. An expert will show you where to look for employment opportunities here at UNI, and we will explain what a Social Security Number is and why you might need one.
- 2:30 p.m. **Culture Shock and Shocking Culture:** *Seerley 115*
Life in the U.S. may not be quite like it is at home. Learn how to get comfortable in your new surroundings from those International Students who have survived the “shock” of arriving in a new culture.
- 5:15 p.m. **Dinner as a Group:** *Piazza Dining Center*
Meet at International Services to walk together or go straight to the Piazza Dining Center for another complementary meal.
- 7:00 p.m. **Country and Culture Celebration:** *Center for Multicultural Education*
Come and share your talents and tell us a bit about your country and culture. We’ll have a blast learning more about each other and celebrating the unique people who are part of our orientation group! You are invited to bring something from your country to “show off” or even to wear traditional clothing.

Friday, August 22

- Rod Library Tours:** Sign up in the International Services office to participate in a tour of Rod Library. Get a head start and find out where things are, who to ask with library questions, and where the best places to study are located. **There are two times to choose between: 9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.** *Space is limited, so sign up early to reserve your place!*
- 11:30 a.m. **Lunch with People from UNI!** Please join us for lunch in Maucker Union. Dine with members of the UNI community who keep the University going. *The exact location will be announced earlier in the week.*
- 1:00 p.m. **Afternoon Sessions: Meet in Room 247 of the Schindler Education Center to participate in the following sessions:**

Get Connected—An introduction to UNI E-Mail and Electronic Resources

UNI has a campus that is well connected to the Internet. Take the first step toward becoming connected yourself and attend this session where you will be able to open your UNI e-mail account, utilize the [My Universe](#) student computer information system, and the many other computer resources available all over campus.

All About Health Insurance

Health insurance can save you from financial stress when you have unexpected medical expenses. This session will explain the benefits of your mandatory insurance coverage. An insurance expert from the Student Health Center will review your policy and answer your questions.

Student Health Clinic Resources and Advice

UNI has a brand-new Student Health Clinic to celebrate, and housed within that spectacular new facility is an expert team of experienced professionals who can provide a wide variety of health services. Learn about the services available and ask questions of the staff who will be here to answer your questions. Find out why the Student Health Clinic should always be your first stop if you are not feeling well.

3:15 p.m. **Catch Up Session:** *Schindler Education Center, Room 247*

Did you arrive too late for the beginning of our orientation week? Did you miss a session? This will be a chance for you to pick up materials from earlier sessions this week and ask any questions that you might have.

6:00 p.m. **Pizza party at the Wellness Recreation Center:** Join returning international students for pizza, soda and other goodies!

6:30 p.m. **Friday Fun Night at the WRC:** *Wellness Recreation Center*

Bring your exercise clothes, court shoes and swimwear for an evening of recreation, relaxation, sport and social time. The entire WRC will be open just for us!

Saturday, August 23

9:00 a.m. **Household Item & Furniture Giveaway:** *International Services Office*

If you need any household items such as dishes, cups, towels, pots, lamps or furniture, come check out the wide variety of donated items! Everything is Free!

11:00 a.m. **Shoppers' Saturday:** *Meet at the International Services Office*

A comfortable motorcoach will be ready to take you shopping for supplies, clothing, gifts, snacks or whatever you might want to shop for. We will visit local shopping areas, which include a mall, large discount store, and a secondhand store. We will return to campus in the afternoon. Remember to bring money for lunch – you will have many choices at nearby restaurants in the food court and near the mall.

Evening: Go as a group to join other UNI students arriving on campus for an evening event. More details will be provided after you arrive on campus.

Sunday, August 24

6:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception for New and Returning International Students:

Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

It is time to celebrate! Join with other new and returning international students to celebrate the start of a great semester. There will be light refreshments, entertainment, and plenty of time to meet new people and enjoy the elegant surroundings. Make sure you are there to participate in the traditional country roll call...let others know with pride where you come from!

Monday, August 25

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **TB Testing:** *Student Health Clinic*
Health Clinic personnel will be on-hand to perform tuberculosis screening. This is mandatory for all students except for those exempt by the American Colleges Health Association. Please see the UNI Health Requirements letter sent to you or ask the International Services Staff to find out your status. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR HEALTH FORMS WITH YOU TO THIS SESSION.** You may visit the Health Clinic at any time between these hours today.

Enjoy your first day of classes!

Wednesday, August 27

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **TB Test Follow-Up:** *Student Health Clinic*
Those who were tested on Monday must return to the Student Health Clinic between 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to have the results of the test determined. You may visit the Health Clinic at any time between these hours today. **IF YOU DO NOT RETURN TODAY TO HAVE THE TEST READ, YOU WILL NEED TO BE COMPLETELY RE-TESTED.**

Saturday, August 30

12:00 noon **Picnic at Seerley Park:** *Meet at International Services to walk to the park*
Celebrate the end of the first week of classes with a picnic in the park. You may find out that you are not the only one who went to the wrong classroom, got lost, or felt totally overwhelmed. Be prepared to share your stories.