Imperial College London
International Student Support Newsletter

SPRING 2018

Newswriting
The International Student Support team have launched a new trips programme! Please like our Facebook page or follow us on Twitter so you'll be the first to know about our upcoming trips.

Day Trips

Oxford & Blenheim Palace
24th February
Sign up!

Stonehenge & Salisbury Cathedral
17th March
Sign up!

Cosmopolitan Cafe Events

Chinese New Year
21st February
14:00-16:00
Sign up!

Imperial College
Speakers Club
21st March
14:00-16:00
Sign up!
How long have you worked at Imperial?

2 and a half years

How long have you worked with international students?

28 years

What one word best describes your role?

Essential

Describe a ‘typical work day’ for you?

If the weather isn’t too bad I love to cycle to the College from my home in North London through Hampstead Heath, Regents Park and then Hyde Park - It’s a great start to the day!

Most of my day in the office is spent helping and guiding students, either in person in the office, by email or in workshops, on all sorts of issues whether it’s visas and immigration, work options in the UK after their studies or general queries about living and studying in the UK. Whatever the query do feel free to pop in to see us!

I also organise events for the international students who have their families with them, such as the annual Pumpkin Party, a trip to the Tower of London or an evening at the theatre.

As one of the College Mental Health First Aiders I am also involved in raising mental health awareness among the college community. For more information and advice on mental health and wellbeing please see Student Space http://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-space.

I’m a member of Imperial College Choir and enjoy rehearsals after work, we are rehearsing for our next concert which is on March 17th. (If you would like to buy tickets please see the Choir facebook page here https://www.facebook.com/events/232835833926929/). Sometimes we pop in to the pub after choir for a quick drink before setting off for home.

What one thing in your office could you not function without?

Sense of humour

If you could invite three people to a dinner party (current or historical figures) who would it be?

Che Guevara; Jane Austen; John Lennon

Tell us something we might not know about you?

I went on tour around Europe with the late great rock legend Lou Reed!
Spring Events in London
Our Top Picks

Dance is Art!

The Winter’s Tale
THE ROYAL BALLET
13 FEB - 24 MAR 2018
Shakespeare’s tale of love and loss becomes compelling dance drama in Christopher Wheeldon’s ballet adaptation, with music by Joby Talbot.
http://www.roh.org.uk/

Flamenco Festival London
14 - 25 Feb
Sadler’s Wells
This year’s 13th anniversary Flamenco Festival London offers a vibrant spectrum of flamenco from the traditional Gypsy roots to its modern day incarnations, performed by some of the world’s most outstanding and legendary flamenco dance and music talent.

Beats On Pointe
20-24 Feb
Peacock Theatre
Two opposing dance worlds clash as classical ballet and skilled street dancers go toe-to-toe and must find common ground in this glorious mash up of styles. With energetic dancing, freestyle acts, singing and beatboxing, a touch of comedy and plenty of feel good music. Beats on Pointe is a fun fuelled fusion of ballet and hip hop coming directly to The Peacock from its hugely successful run in Australia.

Swing Patrol Dance Classes
Thought of taking up a new hobby this year? Why not try swing? :) Lots of classes (also for beginners) at various venues across London.
http://www.swingpatrol.co.uk/
**NEW: WORKSHOP PROGRAMME**

The International Student Support Team is launching a new programme of workshops for international students to take place on Wednesday afternoons throughout term. These are free but we do require you to sign up in advance as we are limited on numbers.

**Work Options After Study**

**14th March**
- **12 – 1.30pm**
- **Sign up:** Link

This workshop will be of most interest to final year students and MSc / MBA students currently in the UK on a Tier 4 visa looking to stay in the UK to work after completing your course. We will run through the immigration options available to you and the requirements you would need to meet.

**Applying for a Schengen Visa**

**28th February**
- **2 – 3pm**
- **Sign up:** Link

The Schengen Visa workshop will cover the basics of the documents required when making a Schengen visa application. This will be helpful for any students who need to apply for a Schengen visa to visit Europe for tourism or on a College-related trip.

**Tier 4 Working During Your Studies**

**7th March**
- **1 – 2pm**
- **Sign up:** Link

Can I set up a business? Mine Bitcoin? Buy stocks and shares? If you are curious to learn more about what types of work are allowed whilst you are on a Tier 4 visa then this session will be of interest. ISS aims to cover the work restrictions for Tier 4 students and the different types of work that are and are not allowed.

**International Students Staying Safe in the UK**

**21st March**
- **1 – 2pm**
- **Sign up:** Link

Would you know what to do in an emergency? Who to contact and how? Have you ever thought about how to keep yourself and your personal belongings safe whilst you are living in London? This session, run jointly between Imperial’s Security Services and International Student Support Team will give you lots of practical information to maximise your safety and security in the
The International Student Support team aims to provide support to help with the transition into UK life. Moving to an unfamiliar country and trying to balance study commitments while raising a family can be an isolating and difficult experience. If you're an international student parent in this position, the good news is that you're not alone!

We have created the International Family Network in order to bring international families together in a welcoming and informal environment. Our meet-ups allow you to socialise and share experiences/tips with others who may be going through many of the same situations as you.

**Dates for your Diary:**

- Half Term trip to the Tower of London
  - Saturday 17.02.2018
  - Sunday 18.02.2018

- Easter Egg Hunt and Afternoon Tea
  - Imperial College Secret Garden
  - Wednesday 21.03.2018

- Hampton Court Palace and the Magic Garden
  - May 2018 date to be confirmed

Join our Family Network Facebook Group to be the first to hear of news and events organised specially for you and your family.

For more information and to sign up please email Shelagh Markey on s.markey@imperial.ac.uk
Our Service: free UK student visa advice and support for Imperial Students

Where to find us: Level 3, Sherfield Building, South Kensington Campus

Opening Hours: 9:30 - 5 (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri), 10-4 (Wed)

http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/international-students/

Email: international@imperial.ac.uk