There are many things to consider when looking at studying at a university abroad and we want to make that process easier for you by providing information on frequently asked questions for international students about what it’s like to be an international student at UNC Wilmington!

**What kind of support is there for international students?**

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) provides comprehensive support, advisory services and programs for UNCW's international students, scholars, and their dependents through the Office of International Programs.

ISSS organizes cross-cultural programs and events in conjunction with the International Student Organization and coordinates the Host Family Program which gives international students and community members the opportunity to get to know one another.

ISSS's goal is to help students prepare for their studies at UNCW and welcome and assist them once they arrive.

**What organizations are available to international students specifically in addition to U.S. students?**

ISO is the International Student Organization. Anyone can join; it's not only for international students. Their purpose is to spread cultural diversity and awareness on campus. They participate in a number of events each year and host at least two large events such as, Intercultural Week and encourage all UNCW students to participate.

**Will I have a special event for international students upon my arrival to help me adjust to UNCW in addition to other welcoming events?**

Yes! Every semester the Office of International Programs hosts a start of semester welcome event. The welcome event is an opportunity for continuing students to meet new students, for host families to meet their assigned student and for student mentors and international students to get to know one another. Welcome week for all incoming students also takes place in the fall that provides tons of fun events for students to get involved in and meet lots of new people!

**What organizations and events are available on campus and how can I get involved?**

Get involved by:

- Stopping by the annual Involvement Carnival held at the beginning of each fall semester. Most registered organizations will have signed up tables, demonstrations, and giveaways.
- Checking out the Campus Activities Events Calendar for information on organization events open to the entire campus.
- Attend a meeting or e-mail the president of the organization(s) in which you are interested. You can find their contact information in the directory.
- Calling the Campus Activities & Involvement Center at 910.962.3553 for further information on UNCW student organizations.

The Campus Activities & Involvement Center (CAIC) is your gateway to entertainment, involvement, and leadership on campus. As part of the Division of Student Affairs, they create experiences for life by
providing opportunities for students to participate actively, grow personally, and explore new ideas and interests through a variety of entertainment and involvement experiences. Their staff, and the students with whom they work with, are committed to creating a vibrant campus community filled with diverse activities for all students.

**What housing is available to international students?**

**International House**

Features:
- double occupancy
- American roommates when possible
- computer and telephone access in all rooms
- computer labs in all residence halls
- each room has desk, chair, dresser, closet, and bed

With a name like International House, students might think it is a place exclusively designed for foreign students. However, that is not the case. The I-House is a way to ensure spaces for foreign students on the campus, but it is also a place for American students to live and be educated on a variety of cultures they have never experienced before.

**What can I expect living at the I-House?**

The International House hallways are constantly decorated by the resident assistants and students, creating a warm and welcoming feeling as soon as you arrive. The I-House has a multitude of socializing opportunities for each student who lives there. Parties, get-togethers, Tri-House area programs and other social activities are common experiences and guarantees that you will make new friends!

The I-House also provides you with a great way to get studying done. The dorm has a separate study room. Also, mandatory quiet hours at night will provide you with a stress-free environment. Without a doubt, the experiences shared while living in the International House cannot be matched by any other dorm on campus.

In terms of amenities, the I-House is as luxurious as it comes. It offers larger spaces and it is well equipped. The I-House’s rooms are larger than those other Residence Halls, and we all know that when you are sharing a room with another person, every inch counts. The bathrooms have a larger quantity of showers and toilets, which is convenient no matter what time of day it is.

Finally, the I-House as part of the Tri-House area is located near Wagoner (the principle dining hall), the Recreation Center and Chancellor’s Walk (the main walkway on campus). Everything about living in the International House makes your life easier.

**Is there an international student mentoring program to help me adjust to UNCW?**
Yes! The International Programs Student Mentor Program pairs returning UNCW students with new international students. The relationship helps new international students acclimate to UNCW and provides returning UNCW students a global experience without leaving Wilmington!

The Student Mentor Program matches interested international students with UNCW students who act as mentors. The student mentors answer campus life related questions and assist students in getting adjusted to life in Wilmington. Student mentors usually have an interest in your country of origin and/or have studied abroad themselves and know what it's like to live in a foreign country. Student mentors may take students shopping, introduce new students to their friends, and in general, help new international students better understand UNCW.

**Can I have a host family for support in the Wilmington area?**

Yes! UNCW International Programs coordinates a 'friendship' program for international students and Wilmington community families. If you are an international student who would like to connect with local Wilmington residents and can commit to meeting with your host family once a month, then you can complete a [US Host Family request form](#) if you attend UNCW.

**Where can I learn more about applying?**

To learn more about applying to UNCW as an international student please visit [here](#).