

# Advising International Students at Willamette University

The Office of International Education would like to thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide to international students as they finalize their schedules and begin to navigate the U.S. educational system.

We at OIE hope you will enjoy working with these students. If you have questions about any of this, please contact us at [oiadvise@willamette.edu](mailto:oiadvise@willamette.edu) (shared OIE email).

~ The OIE Staff

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## Two kinds of international students on campus at WU and PNCA

F-1 students are degree-seeking students and they can enter as freshman or transfer students OR as graduate students.

J-1 students are short-term exchange students who will only be on campus for one or two semesters.

- CAS and PNCA undergraduate exchange students can come as sophomores, juniors, or seniors, but it is most typical that they come as juniors.
- Graduate exchange students are not at a particular level, per se, but are typically advanced beyond the first semester or year of the graduate program.
- **More and more, incoming short-term exchange students have very tight academic requirements they need to satisfy their home university.** For these students, the work of the academic advisor can be especially helpful. If you are working with an exchange student, this is a good initial question: Are you able to take anything you want while at Willamette University or do you need to plan your courses carefully? Knowing this in advance can help maximize your advising time.

## Main academic requirement for ALL international students (F-1 or J-1 doesn't matter)

CAS students must be registered for a MINIMUM of 12.0 credits every semester to satisfy U.S. immigration regulations. Like other CLA students, most of the CLA international students will register for between 12.0 and 18.0 credits.

- Graduate AGSM students must take a minimum of 9.0 credits each semester. They can take up to 18 credits.
- Graduate Law students must take ac92 reum of

Sometimes a CAS student will need extra support, especially in the first semester. Two courses that are sometimes offered can help:

- **IDS 109: Approaches to Intercultural Learning** (.5 credit) is especially designed to help new international students with the academic and cultural challenges faced initially. It is especially