Pre-Arrival Tasks

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Pre-Arrival Tasks Part 1

• All newly arriving F-1 and J-1 international students are required to complete an online course prior to arriving on campus for check-in with the Office of International Affairs

• The course is posted on Carmen, the university’s online course management system

• Failure to complete this online course may result in a hold being placed on your account, prohibiting you from enrolling in courses
Pre-Arrival Tasks Part 2

• Go to carmen.osu.edu
• Log in using your Ohio State username (lastname.#) and password
• Click the “join” link in the gray bar (located above “My Courses”)
• Read the instructions; the course you need to join is “International Arrival (Spring or Summer)”
• Return to your Carmen homepage; you should see the “International Arrival (Spring or Summer)” course listed under “My Courses,” and can then click this link to access pre-arrival information
Packing

• In your carry-on luggage, pack:
  – A printed copy of your acceptance email to Ohio State
  – Valid passport
  – Valid U.S. visa
  – Form I-20 or Form DS-2019
  – SEVIS fee payment receipt, if applicable
  – Proof of funding (financial documentation as listed on your Form I-20 or Form DS-2019)
  – Official final transcripts and proof of high school graduation
  – Any essential medications
  – Valuables
Columbus Weather

- In summer (June – August), high temperatures range from 75 – 95 degrees Fahrenheit (24 – 35 degrees Celsius); in winter, low temperatures range from 0 – 45 degrees Fahrenheit ( -17 – 7 degrees Celsius); spring (March – May) and autumn (September – November) temperatures fall in between
- Summers tend to be humid with occasional thunderstorms
- During the winter, Columbus can get a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain
- Make sure to bring a variety of clothing, appropriate for varying types of weather
Consider Packing

- Dress or cultural attire for special occasions
- Electrical adaptors/converters
- Photos or items that remind you of home (no irreplaceable items)
Do Not Pack

• Fresh fruit, produce, meat, prepared food, spices or plants — U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers will not allow you to bring these items into the country

• Large sums of cash
Baggage Allowance

- Most airlines will allow you one personal item (such as a handbag or backpack), one carry-on bag and one checked bag weighing up to 50 pounds (22 kg).
- There may be additional fees for additional bags or luggage that exceeds the weight limit.