20 years of One World Week at Warwick

One World Week is now in its 20th year! As well as being the largest student-run festival, it is also arguably one of the most inclusive. Reflecting the diversity of cultures and opportunities on campus, it aims to give students the opportunity to showcase their efforts while encouraging them to reflect about issues that affect our One World.

One World Week is comprised of five elements (Days, Nights, Forums, Conferences and Sports). Over the course of six days the campus will come alive through a series of debates and discussions, performances, sporting tournaments and events as well as cultural exhibitions and workshops. This year, there are new events such as Performance Day: Showbiz! as well as old favourites such as the World Party and Fashion Show. Our teams have put in much effort into organising this series of week-long events.

We look forward to welcoming you to One World Week 2015 from Monday 26th January to Saturday 31st January 2015. Details at www.oneworldweek.net

Explore the UK with the International Office

If you want a day away from University life and the chance to see another part of Britain, we're continuing the Saturday coach trips this term. At the time of going to print these trips still have places:

- Cardiff, January 31st, £14
- Liverpool, February 7th, £16
- Bath, February 14th, £13
- Brighton, February 21st, £19
- Norwich, February 28th, £17
- Canterbury, March 7th, £18

For more details about the destinations, and to buy tickets, please see www.warwick.ac.uk/go/international/events/uk Also, if you want to be the first to hear about new trips, you can sign up to the mailing list using this link.
Study Abroad
All 2015/16 outbound students are to be offered a 3 stage intercultural training.

The training will be delivered through a series of interactive workshops and online modules, supporting you pre-departure, while you are overseas and on your return to the UK. These interventions will help you make sense of your experience in the context of working with a range of people from different backgrounds and cultures, as well as supporting you to articulate your skills of observation, analysis and reflection in a job interview. In the words of a past participant: “The modules provide a sort of test run for different scenarios we will be put into during our year abroad. Having the opportunity to identify and work with the soft skills we need to develop in order to flourish abroad is invaluable, and will hopefully result in less embarrassing miscommunications”

Dates will be advertised through your Study Abroad briefings, which you will be informed about in early February. You can also contact us about the training using e.lim@warwick.ac.uk

Try a HOST weekend
We can recommend the HOST scheme to you as over the years it has given so many International and European students a great weekend.

On a HOST visit you stay with an approved volunteer host family who will make you a part of their own way of life for a weekend. It’s a great chance to find out about the real life of this country: sharing meals together, eating home-cooked food, chatting, asking questions. You will see life in a private home and in a local community and you can make new friends and be an ambassador for your own country.

The University pays most of the fees for your first HOST application so the cost to you is £10 for a weekend visit plus your travel costs and perhaps a small gift for your host family. To apply, click on www.hostuk.org. This website will explain to you how to apply for a HOST invitation, give you all the information you need and take you on to the application process.

Chinese New Year
Chinese New Year is on Thursday February 19th this year and many people will celebrate on that date. There’s an extra chance for a celebration at the Arts Centre on Sunday February 15th. Warwick’s Chinese Society, also known as ChiSoc, is hosting free daytime events between 2pm and 5pm such as lantern making and Chinese calligraphy. They are also presenting a New Year Gala starting at 7pm with traditional Chinese music and dancing and a fusion of Chinese and Western cultures. Tickets for the Gala cost between £10 and £14 and can be bought from the Arts Centre. There’s more information at www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2015/chinese-new-year-gala-warwick-chinese-society

UK Police Registration
If your visa requires you to register with the police and you haven’t done this yet, you must do so as soon as possible. Check the wording on your visa to see if it tells you to do this. Depending on where you live, you will have to go to Birmingham or to Leamington Spa to see your police team. This website gives information about which police force you need to see, how to get there, when they are open and what to take with you: www.warwick.ac.uk/policeregistration

You will also need to see the police again to report changes of circumstance such as a new address, new passport, new visa or change of name or marital status or if you have a baby. In some cases you will also need to see them if you leave your UK address for two months or more, if you change your course or get or leave a new job. If you lose your police registration certificate and can’t find it you must register again. For more details about changes to report to the police please also see www.warwick.ac.uk/policeregistration

Please do make sure that you comply with the police registration requirements if they apply to you: it is a legal obligation and is part of your immigration conditions. Also if you have a Tier 4 visa and need to apply for a further extension of Tier 4 leave, this will not be possible if your Police Registration Certificate is out of date.
Safety tips for Spring

Although campus is quite a safe place it's always worth considering what you can do to decrease the risk of accidents and theft. Here are a few tips:

1. Make sure your possessions are insured so that if anything is stolen you can claim the money back.
2. Keep back-up computer files on a separate computer or USB stick so that if your laptop gets stolen you don't also lose the important information you have on it.
3. When you're out and about don't make it obvious that you have something worth stealing with you (e.g. be careful where you use your mobile and don't use a laptop bag for your laptop, so that thieves don't know what you're carrying)
4. Register all your valuable possessions on www.immobilise.com to help the police know who they belong to if they are lost or stolen. This increases the chance of them being returned to you.
5. On buses, if you are at all concerned about the behaviour of other travellers, the safest seats are downstairs near the front.
6. Don't accept drinks from strangers or give them the chance to add anything to your drink.
7. Only use taxis with an official taxi licence plate attached to the back.
8. In an immediate emergency where there is serious danger the number to phone for the police, ambulance or fire services is 999 (or 22222 from a university phone).

There are more safety tips and information at www.educationuk.org/global/articles/safety

Guidelines for cycling around Warwick’s campus

Bicycles can be a good means of transport: quicker than walking, greener than driving and a good way to keep fit. But if you use one make sure you ride safely so you don’t hurt yourself or anyone else. Some of these rules apply to pedestrians when they are crossing roads also.

You must never cycle after dark or in poor visibility (e.g. when there is fog) if you do not have any lights on your bicycle. For these conditions you are required to have a white front light, a red rear light, a red rear reflector and amber or yellow pedal reflectors on the front and back of each pedal. You should also wear bright coloured clothing whether it's night or day such as a high vis jacket, and it's also good to have a bell. Helmets will help protect you if you come off your bike and can also have a light or a reflector.

A little later this term the University is giving away branded light sets and high visibility rucksack covers, so if you’re a cyclist feel free to collect one. If you don’t then you should buy lights from a cycle shop.

Like cars, you must ride on the left hand side of the road, and go round roundabouts in a clockwise direction. You must not cycle on the pavement unless there are signs saying this is allowed, though it is perfectly acceptable to get off your bicycle and walk it round busy junctions or roundabouts using the pavement. Also, don’t listen to music or use your mobile while on your bike: you need to be able to hear traffic and to concentrate without distractions.

Improving your study skills

The Centre for Student Careers and Skills offers an extensive programme of workshops throughout the academic year with workshops for Undergraduate and Masters students running every week of this term. They are well worth considering as they can help you to improve or update your skills, develop your confidence, maximise your academic success, get to know other students and learn how to articulate what you have to offer and impress potential employers. There are also programmes for PhD and other Research Postgraduate students to improve their research skills and develop in other areas. As well as that, there is the possibility to have an individual appointment and there are useful online resources you could read through. To see the wide range of opportunities available to you go to www.warwick.ac.uk/skills
Doctorate Extension Scheme
PhD students nearing the completion of their studies may be interested in applying to extend their leave under the Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES). The scheme enables Doctoral graduates to remain in the UK for 12 months after their studies to seek employment without a job offer. There are strict criteria and the timing of your application is crucial, so if you are interested in applying, please refer to the Immigration Service website in the first instance: www.warwick.ac.uk/go/immigration/employment/after/doctoral

Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur
The University continues to sponsor outstanding graduates under the Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur route. To qualify you must be a non-EEA student due to graduate in 2015 and have a brilliant idea for a new business based in the UK. The process is jointly managed between Student Careers and Skills and the Immigration Service; for more information, please see www.warwick.ac.uk/skills/enterprise/tier1

Immigration Workshops
Throughout 2015 the Immigration Service will be offering campus-based workshops on the Doctorate Extension Scheme and on Post-study Work options. Workshop dates and locations will be published on our website shortly. For updates and to register your interest in attending see www.warwick.ac.uk/go/immigration/connect/workshops

Keeping Your Contact Details Up To Date
Did you get a new phone for Christmas? If so, please remember to update the University with your new contact information. It is a Home Office compliance requirement that the contact information we hold for you is accurate, so please keep us informed of any changes to your address or telephone number. using www.start.warwick.ac.uk

Bank Statements
If you need to extend your visa while you are in the UK, make sure you choose the option to receive bank statements through the post as you may need these for making a visa extension. And make sure you keep them all. However, if you need to ask your bank for an extra statement not every bank can issue them immediately so try to ask them for the statement at least one week before you need it. For visa applications, funds normally need to be maintained in an account for 28 days.

Happy New Year from the Immigration Service!
We hope you had a safe and happy holiday and wish you all the best for 2015.

Go Global Ambassadors
We have recruited 28 Go Global Ambassadors from a range of University departments to support the Go Global initiative – a range of activities which will help you gain a global perspective while you’re studying here at Warwick. Meet one of our ambassadors and hear more about how you can ‘go global’ this year…

“Hi, my name is Joelle and I am one of the 2014-15 Go Global Ambassadors. I am from Switzerland and during my undergraduate degree I studied one year at Cardiff University. This experience taught me to be more confident and got me excited about living and studying abroad, and meeting new people from all over the world. I also did an internship in New York, where I gained valuable skills from networking in a multicultural community to finding my way around a gigantic city. Now I am studying for an MSc in Intercultural Communication at the Centre for Applied Linguistics, and feel that going global is an amazing opportunity for Warwick students. Study or work abroad if you can, and get to know the international student community on your doorstep – it will broaden your horizons!”

To find out more about how you can go global this year, take a look at our portal at www.warwicksu.com/goglobal. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/goglobalwarwick and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/warwickgoglobal