Good Luck on Exams & Happy Holidays

Congratulations on making it through McGill's first full virtual semester!

Here at ISS, we want to wish everyone the best of luck with your upcoming final exams, papers, and projects. We know that this time of year is extremely stressful. If you are in Quebec, you can schedule an appointment with the Local Wellness Advisor for International Students, Jos Porter, or if you are abroad, you can speak to a professional 24/7 with Keep.meSAFE.

During these ever-changing times, we are constantly trying to adapt our services and programs to help you. We would like to collect some information on your current location, your immigration documents, and your intention to travel to Canada if you are outside the country. We would greatly appreciate it if you could take 5 minutes to complete this short ISS Fall 2020 survey.

We wish you a healthy and safe end of 2020 and a hopefully brighter 2021!

International Student Services

Will you be in Quarantine?

SIGN UP: McGill Quarantine Listserv

Quarantine Support Group
McGill cares about you and is here to support you during your 14-day quarantine period. When you sign up for this quarantine listserv, we will contact you about our programs, events, services, and Facebook group to support you and to help you connect with other students during your quarantine period. These services will be available throughout the month of January 2021.

Sign up for the Quarantine Listserv

Have you been instructed to self-isolate for 14 days by Public Health or the Canada Border Services Agency? This online support group is an opportunity to come together, share what you’ve been going through, and receive support. Participants are welcome to attend any or all sessions while they self-isolate.

Register Here

#ImmigrationTipTime

Travelling over the holidays?

Thinking About Going Home for the Holidays? Before you do, we want to make sure you understand any and all potential consequences of travelling abroad this winter season! First, the Government of Canada is strongly discouraging international travel at this time; second, the international travel situation is very fluid and border closures may arise while you are away; and finally, students who choose to travel internationally will be required to quarantine for 14 days when re-entering Canada, and will be asked to provide a quarantine plan at the border.

Here are some tips that we have for you, to ensure smooth travels!

- If you have obtained your new study permit after applying to extend it from within Canada and require a TRV, you will have to apply for your TRV separately either before you leave Canada or from your home country before you return to Canada. More information.
- If you applied to extend your study permit from inside Canada before the expiry date and are still waiting for your document to be approved, you are advised not to travel outside of Canada in order to maintain your implied status and authorization to study while waiting for your study permit to be approved. Please contact our office if you plan to travel.
- If your study permit has expired (out of status) and you have applied to restore your status, please contact our office if you plan to travel over the holiday break.
- Health insurance card/proof of coverage while outside of Quebec or Canada is available 24/7 on Minerva – in case it will be needed.
Entering Canada

McGill University is on the list of approved designated learning institutions (DLIs) and able to welcome international students.

In order to enter Canada, you must meet all of the entry requirements. You should not make any travel plans until you meet all of the entry requirements (e.g. your study permit application has been approved and you have the letter of introduction).

Please review the message on the International Student Services' website under Entering Canada for full details on the entry requirements.

When entering Canada make sure that you bring the following documents with you:

- a valid study permit or a copy of your port of entry letter of introduction (study permit approval letter)*;
- a copy of a valid letter of acceptance from McGill and proof of enrolment, if you are returning student;
- proof that you have enough money to support yourself during your stay in Canada;
- your CAQ;
- a valid eTA or Temporary Resident Visa (TRV). *ONLY U.S. Citizens are exempt from needing an eTA or a TRV. For more information on entry requirements, see IRCC’s website;
- your passport; AND
- all other supporting documents included in your study permit application.

*Note: International students that are US citizens or permanent residents may apply for their study permits upon entry to Canada.

International students must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to Canada. As of November 21, 2020, if you're flying to Canada as your final destination, you must use ArriveCAN to submit your:

- travel and contact information
- quarantine plan (unless exempted under conditions set out in the mandatory isolation order)
- COVID-19 symptom self-assessments

For more information on ArriveCAN and where to download the mobile app, see the Government of Canada’s website.

While you may continue to study remotely from outside of Canada, it is important to note that under the current COVID-19 facilitative measures only online studies completed from abroad until April 30, 2021 will count toward your future post-graduation work permit (PGWP). For more information about the impact of online studies on your eligibility and the length of your PGWP, see IRCC’s website.

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A note about your travel coverage under the International Health Insurance plan

If you were physically present in Canada during the Fall 2020 term, your International Health Insurance (IHI) plan is active.
You will have access to full travel benefits on the IHI plan as long as you did not have symptoms of COVID-19, have not tested positive for COVID-19 (or awaiting a test result), and have not been in contact with anyone who tested positive in the last 14 days before leaving Canada.

If you plan to travel outside of Canada during the holiday break, please review our website to find out more about your travel health insurance coverage under the IHI plan.

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**ISS Upcoming Events**

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**McGill Winter Break Clubs**

*Do you love receiving mail?*

Make someone's day bright and create a care card at this year's ISS Winter Break Club Social!

The McGill Art Hive in collaboration with International Student Services will help you to create a holiday card to send to a friend or family member. Who doesn't love real mail?!

And, come find out about the fun virtual events in Montreal over the break.

**Graduate Students:**
Friday, December 18th, at 10 am
[Register here](#)

**Undergraduate Students:**
Monday, December 21st, at 10 am
[Register here](#)

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**Séance d'information sur la Résidence Permanente**

Le ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration (MIFI) et Montréal International, via son initiative Je choisis Montréal, invitent les étudiants internationaux, qui souhaitent s'établir au Québec de façon permanente, à assister à des séances d'information virtuelles et gratuites.

**Ces séances seront en français uniquement.**

- Jeudi le 03 décembre à 12h
- Vendredi le 04 décembre à 12h
- Jeudi le 10 décembre à 12h
- Vendredi le 11 décembre à 9h
The Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill University Students’ Society is looking for art submissions for the Dec 6th vigil in memory of the victims of the École Polytechnique shooting.

Art submissions can take any form (poetry, prose, visual art pieces, music, etc). Pieces should centre around themes such as addressing violence against women and anti-hate and pro-feminist values in memory of the victims.

If you are interested in presenting a piece, please contact SACOMSS and send submissions to events@sacomss.org
LIVING IN MONTREAL: ETHNICITY AND "RACE" FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

Taught by Prof. Mary Anne Poutanen
Friday 11:35 am - 2:25 pm
mary-anne.poutanen@mcgill.ca
Open to all McGill students.

What does it mean now to be a Québécois and a Montréalais? Debates, at times acrimonious about systemic racism, reasonable accommodation, the proposed Charter of Values, and more recently Bill 21 have dominated public discourse in Québec for more than a decade. To place these deliberations in perspective, this multidisciplinary seminar, with the participation of academic guest speakers and community leaders, takes a close look at ethnicity, "race", gender and class in Montreal from the nineteenth century to contemporary society. Community-engaged learning internships (in a remote setting) will be made offered in well-known Montreal organizations. Open to all McGill students. Info: stephan.gervais@mcgill.ca
Contact us

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