

UNIVERSITY OF
MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

MORE
IS WHAT MOVES US

Global Triton Welcome
Pre-Departure Orientation

Welcome to UMSL Global



Jessica Lynn Hylton, EdD

- Director, Internationalization Strategies and International Student and Scholar Services
- Primary Designated School Official
- 18 years in higher education
- 11 years working with international students
- Been with UMSL Global for 2 years

Marisa Roth, M.Econ.

- Data Analyst & International Promoter
- Future Designated School Official
- Joined UMSL Global in January 2023
- UMSL Alumna

Sarah Jimenez, M.Ed.

- International Student Support Coordinator
- Designated School Official
- Been with UMSL Global for 1 year
- UMSL Alumna
- Worked with international students since 2015

Where are you
from?

Excited? Overwhelmed?

Let's Find out!



What's a Triton?

This is Louie the Triton, UMSL's mascot.

Upon joining the UMSL Community, YOU also become a Triton!

A #GlobalTriton, representing the best of the Triton Community!
#UMSLProud



Ready for Your Travels?

Let's Find out!





Immigration

- Passport
- I-20 (F-1)
- DS-2019 (J-1)
- F-1 or J-1 Visa
- I-901 SEVIS Fee

Passport

- Must be more than 6 months from expiration prior to stepping on the airplane
- Make a good electronic copy of your passport
- Make 2 good hard copies of your passport
 - One copy to leave with a trusted person in your home country prior to departure
 - One copy to put in your checked baggage
- Always carry your original passport with you when travelling to the USA.
 - Do not put your physical passport in your checked baggage
- **Always keep an electronic copy of your passport!**

I-20 & DS-2019

- I-20 for F-1 Students and DS-2019 for J-1 Students
- **It is a VERY important document**
- The I-20 and the DS-2019 is what allows you to setup an appointment at the embassy/consulate to interview for your respective Visa
- Once you enter the United States, your I-20 or DS-2019 is the document that keeps you legal and in-status.
- Make sure that all information is correct on your I-20 or DS-2019
- Make sure to read PAGE 3 of the I-20 & PAGE 2 of the DS-2019
 - **Most students ignore the fine print but there is a lot of important information that the government expects you to know.**
- Print your document & then sign and date in **BLUE** ink!

F-1 & J-1 Visa

- The Visa is the document that allows you to step on to the airplane and to land at a US Port of Entry (POE)
- It then allows you to ask Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for permission to enter the United States
- Once you enter the United States, the visa allows you to exit and re-enter if the visa is valid and you keep your I-20 or DS-2019 in status and legal!
- The most crucial step to obtaining the F-1 or J-1 Visa is the interview
 - *(more information in next section)*

I-901 SEVIS Fee

- The I-901 SEVIS Fee must be paid by all new F-1 and J-1 international students.
- You should pay the SEVIS Fee online and print the payment confirmation at www.fmifee.com
- Transfer Students: You do NOT need to pay the SEVIS fee again.
- If you have dependents who are applying for F-2 visas, they do not need to pay the SEVIS fee.



Preparing for the F-1 (or J-1) Visa Interview

- Overview of Visa Interview
- How to prepare for Interview
- What to Know for Interview

Visa Interview Preparation

- The interview will only be a few minutes.
 - You have very little time to make a positive impression.
- Practice, practice, practice with a trusted friend, family member, or teacher
- Demonstrate Strong Ties to Your Home Country
 - **You must be able to demonstrate that you have reasons for returning to your home country after you complete your program of study that are stronger than those for remaining in the United States.**

Visa Interview Preparation

- Be prepared to discuss how you will finance your studies. Having the documents is not enough.
- Speak For Yourself and Plan To Answer Questions in English
 - Do NOT bring parents, spouses, or family members with you to the interview.
 - The consular officer wants to interview you, not your family.
 - Only dependents who are applying for F-2 visas should accompany you.
- Know Your Program of Study and Major
 - If you are not able to explain the reasons why you want to study in a [particular program and major at UMSL](#), you will not succeed in convincing the consular officer that you are planning to study

Visa Interview Preparation

- Know UMSL and Saint Louis
 - Learn everything you can about [UMSL](#) and [Saint Louis](#) and be prepared to answer questions about UMSL, Saint Louis, and why you wish to study here.
 - Focus on things that you have learned about UMSL and Saint Louis, not just generic answers about the weather and sports teams
- Know Your Career Plans and Intentions After Your Program Completes
 - You must be able to clearly articulate your plan to return home at the end of your program and what you plan to do with the knowledge you obtained when you return to your Home Country.
 - If you plan to engage in OPT or STEM OPT be honest about it and share what knowledge you hope to gain from those experiences as well to bring back to your home country.

Visa Interview Preparation

- **Be Brief and Concise in your Answers**
 - Keep your answers to the Consular Officer's questions short and to the point without being dismissive.
 - Do not just say "no" or yes"
- **Maintain a Positive and Respectful Attitude**
 - Be Brave
 - Be Polite
 - Be Respectful
 - **Do not engage the Consular Officer in an argument!**

Other Resources

- While UMSL Global currently does not offer individual Visa Interview Preparation Sessions, if this is a service you are looking for, we can direct you to the company [Argo Visa](#).
- UMSL Global does not formally endorse this company, but it is a resource you can utilize if you are looking for such a service.
- There are costs associated with this service.
- The company has many free online resources as well
- UMSL Global will offer a one more group Visa Interview Preparation Session on Tuesday, July 18 (12:00AM (00:00) - 2:00AM (02:00) CDT <UTC - 5>)



Money and Communications

- Cashless Society/Traveling with Cash
- International use of Debit/Credit Cards
- Wi-Fi and International Phone Plans

Traveling with Cash

- It is important to travel with some US currency/ cash in hand and it is legal to transport any amount of currency or other monetary instruments into or out of the United States, **BUT...**
- If you transport, attempt to transport, or cause to be transported (including by mail or other means) currency or other monetary instruments in a combined amount exceeding \$10,000 USD (or its foreign equivalent) at one time from the United States to any foreign country or into the United States from any foreign country, you must file a FinCEN Form 105 (“Report of International Transportation of Currency or Monetary Instruments”) with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Source: https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-195?language=en_US

Cashless Society

- The United States is swiftly becoming a cashless society.
- It is imperative that students bring a debit or credit card with them that can be used internationally that has funds available on it
 - It is important to make sure this card can be used internationally prior to departure from your home country.
- While the student most likely will set up a US Bank Account once they are settled, there may be several weeks between arrival and the time the bank account is activated.
- In the meantime, the student must have a card to do any type of transactions that they may need.
 - Everything from taxi service, to accessing airport Wi-Fi, to pizza delivery to securing accommodations to getting a US SIM CARD requires a working debit or credit card
- Traveling without a debit or credit card will cause hardships that you want to avoid
- Once you are settled and have your US based bank account, you can discontinue use of the home-country based card

Prepaid Cards

Prepaid foreign currency card you can load prior to departure from your home country that works like a debit or credit card

- [YES Bank Multi-currency](#)
- [HDFC Regalia Forexplus](#)
- [FirstBank Visa Debit Multi-Currency Card](#)
- [UBA Prepaid Card](#)
- [HBL UnionPay International Prepaid](#)

Communications

- Before you depart your home-country, if you are traveling with a mobile phone, make sure the SIM card works internationally **prior to departure** from your home country and will work once you land in the United States.
- While Wi-Fi is plentiful in the US, it is not always free. Often Wi-Fi access requires a debit or credit card to access and/or is password protected.
- You cannot depend on the use of Wi-Fi for communication upon arrival. Make sure you can use international data, even in limited capacity, for your initial arrival to the US
- You will obtain a US SIM card but not within the first few days of arrival.

Make sure your phone will work with DATA in the United States before departing your home country!



Arrival

Destination: Saint Louis (STL)



What is Your Destination?

You have your Admission Letter, Passport, I-20, and F-1 Visa! Time to purchase your plane ticket!

- Make sure you purchase a through ticket to [STL](#) (Saint Louis Lambert International Airport)
- If you only purchase ticket to your Port of Entry city (example Chicago, Atlanta, Dallas) you may have issues at CBP
- While it may seem tempting to take a bus or train from your POE to STL, please **DO NOT**.
 - These methods of travel add several **days** to your journey.

Arriving to St. Louis

- You legally can enter the US up to 30 calendar days prior to your program start date of 14/August/2023. - Your entry date is on your I-20 or DS-2019
- You must enter PRIOR to Monday, August 14th, 2023 to be on the UMSL campus for **Global Triton Welcome** (*new international student orientation*)
- If you are **living on campus**, airport pickup will be provided Friday, August 11th, Saturday, August 12th, and Sunday August 13th only.
- You **CANNOT** arrive to campus early, move in for international students is Friday, August 11th, Saturday, August 12th, and Sunday August 13th.
- Until August 11th there will be no staff available to support you.
- If you arrive prior to August 11th, you will need to make accommodations at a **hotel**
 - Please do not book Airbnb's or room shares until you become more familiar with the United States

You must report to the UMSL Campus on 14 / August / 2023 at 8:00AM for the **Global Triton Welcome**

Airport Pickup

Residential Students ONLY

- Airport pickup will only be provided for the following dates:
 - Friday, August 11th, 2023
 - Saturday, August 12th, 2023
 - Sunday, August 13th, 2023
- ONLY for students who live in on-campus accommodations
 - Proof of on-campus accommodation booking must be provided to be eligible to for the free airport pickup.
- An email will be sent in the coming weeks to confirm plans for August 2023 and will contain a link to register for Airport Pickup.

Immigration Check-In: Keeping Legal

- A formal and **REQUIRED** check-in with UMSL Global will be done during Global Triton Welcome week.
- If you arrive early, you can stop by to say hello, but we will not do a formal check-in with you. There will be NO staff available to answer questions as we will be preparing for the Global Triton Welcome.
- Bring your I-20, visa, I-94, and passport to Global Triton Welcome Week, so that we can scan your documents
- **You will be given specific directions during orientation about the in-person check-in**



Weather

- Summer Weather
- Winter Weather
- Severe Weather Safety

Weather in St. Louis



| High °F | Low °F | | High °C | Low °C |
|---------|--------|-----------|---------|--------|
| 41 | 24 | January | 5 | -5 |
| 45 | 27 | February | 7 | -3 |
| 57 | 38 | March | 14 | 3 |
| 69 | 48 | April | 21 | 9 |
| 79 | 60 | May | 26 | 15 |
| 88 | 69 | June | 31 | 21 |
| 91 | 73 | July | 33 | 23 |
| 89 | 70 | August | 32 | 21 |
| 83 | 63 | September | 28 | 17 |
| 70 | 50 | October | 21 | 10 |
| 56 | 37 | November | 13 | 3 |
| 46 | 30 | December | 8 | -1 |
| 68 | 49 | Year | 20 | 9 |

Summer Weather in St. Louis

Temperatures

- In the Summer, temperatures can range from 70°F-89°F (21°C-31°C), but can be much higher.
- It's important to be aware of any heat advisories and dress appropriately.

Precipitation

- During the summer, there are more chances of severe weather like thunderstorms and tornados.
- Be sure to listen to all weather reports on the news.

Summer Clothing

- Avoid black clothing, as it absorbs heat from the sun more than other colors.
- Wear clothes that cover as much skin as possible to avoid skin damage from the sun.
- Light-weight, loose-fitting fabrics.

Daily Clothing

- Due to the extremes between outside and inside temperatures, it is recommended that you learn to dress in layers that you can remove inside or add when you go outside or vice versa.

Winter Weather in St. Louis

Temperatures

- In the Winter, temperature ranges average between 20°F (-6°C) and 40°F (4°C) but can fall much lower to at or below 0°F (-17°C) in extreme winters.
- It is important to dress appropriately for these temperatures.

Precipitation

- Saint Louis has winters where no snow nor ice fall.
- However, there are also winters where every few weeks a good snowfall or icy precipitation occurs. Be prepared for anything by planning ahead and always paying attention to the local weather forecast.

Winter Clothing

- Make sure you pack OR are prepared to purchase the following winter clothing items:
 - Coat
 - Hat
 - Gloves
 - Scarf
 - Warm close toed shoes or boots with tread
 - Socks

Daily Clothing

- Due to the extremes between outside and inside temperatures, it is recommended that you learn to dress in layers that you can remove inside or add when you go outside.



Packing

- Carry On Bag
- Checked Bag
- Advice on What To Pack

Carry On Bag: Documents

Carry in a secure, waterproof folder, that is easily accessible

1. Valid Passport
 - Make sure this passport is more than 6 month from expiration
2. Valid F-1 or J-1 Visa in your passport
 - DO NOT ENTER THE USA on a B1/B2 Visa, you will not be permitted to register for courses if you enter on a B1/B2 Visa
3. Valid and signed I-20 or DS-2019
 - Do not forget to sign your I-20 on Page 1 on the bottom of the document in BLUE INK
4. I-901 SEVIS Fee Receipt
5. Proof of Financial Support
 - Bring the documents you presented to the US Embassy or Consulate when you applied for your F-1 Visa
6. Other immigration documents such as your payment receipts for the various fees you paid
7. Emergency Contact Information
8. Admission Letter from UMSL
9. Scholarship Letter from UMSL (if applicable)
- 10. Official Copies of all your transcripts and diplomas/degrees**
11. Official Copies of your English Language Test Scores (TOEFL / IELTS)
12. Copies of your immunization / vaccination records in English especially your proof of COVID Vaccinations

Carry On Bag: Emergency Contact Information

UMSL Emergency Contact

Dr. Jessica Lynn Hylton, EdD

E: JessicaHylton@umsl.edu

M: +1- 314-435-2474 (*Text, Voice, WhatsApp, Telegram, and Other Social Media*)

O: +1- 314-516-5798

<https://global.umsl.edu>

1 University Boulevard | 359-C SSB |

Saint Louis, Missouri, USA 63121

Emergency Contact of Trusted Person in Home Country

Full Legal Name

Relationship to you

Spoken Languages

Email

Phone Number with country code

Carry On Bag: The Rest

Details on what is allowed on US Bound flights: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all>

1. Face masks (recommended, but not required)
 - Bring a few for your long journey so you can change them out as you sweat, eat, and breathe in them.
2. Hand sanitizer
3. Cash
4. Debit or Credit card that works internationally
5. Smart phone with SIM Card that works internationally
6. Charger of phone with adaptor that works in the US
7. Laptop and charger (not required but if you have one, please carry-on)
8. Pen to fill immigration forms
9. Jacket or blanket (it gets cold on the plane)
10. Travel-size skin care and personal care (under 100ml) in a zip bag
 - Make sure to bring lotion and Chapstick, the airplane makes your skin very dry.
11. Socks or slippers
12. Refillable water bottle
13. International Driver's Permit (if you have one, not required)
14. Bring an extra pair of glasses or contact lenses (if applicable)
15. Prescription Medication (if needed) – Make sure it is labeled appropriately

Carry On Bag: DO NOT PACK

Details on what is allowed on US Bound flights: <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all>

- NO liquid more than 100ml
- NO Alcohol
- NO Lighters
- NO Knives or sharp utensils
- Make sure your medication is labeled.
- Perishable food should be finished before you enter the US
- Drink your liquid before security check point

Checked Bag

Check with your airline for checked bag rules (size, weight, pieces, costs)

1. Clothes
2. Closed Toed Shoes (Tennis shoes are recommended)
3. Socks
4. Winter Clothing items or make sure to have money set aside to purchase them after a few months.
5. Personal care items not available in the US that you cannot live without.
 - Make sure anything liquid is packed in a zipped plastic bag in case it explodes
6. Enough toiletries and personal hygiene items for a week or two (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, soap, feminine hygiene etc).
 - You will be able to buy new items in the United States once you arrive.
 - Do not bring large amounts. They tend to explode under the flight pressure and ruin other packed items.
7. Extra Prescribed medication with your prescription – make sure it is labeled
8. Travel universal adaptor
9. Extra Copies of Paperwork
 - Extra copies of all important paperwork listed for carry-on in waterproof envelope/folder
 - Carry these copies separately in your checked baggage
 - Make sure to also leave a copy of all these items at home with a trusted person

Advice From Past International Students

- **DO NOT over pack.**
 - Avoid baggage overage fees by planning to ship clothing later as needed or buying it in the United States after you arrive and acclimate.
 - Check the US TSA Site for what NOT to pack in your carry-on or checked baggage – [What Can I Bring?](#)
 - Check your airline for more information
- **Do not bring meat or fresh produce in your checked or carry-on baggage**
 - In general, avoid bringing any food items into the USA
- **Medical Condition**
 - If you have a specific medical condition, bring this information in English from your doctor in your home country so you can easily share this information with your new doctor in the United States
- **English translation device or book in case you struggle to communicate**



Health Immunizations & Vaccines

- COVID-19 Travel Requirements
- UMSL Requirements
- Recommendations

COVID-19: Requirements for Air Travelers to USA

- Please keep up to date with the everchanging COVID restrictions and requirements
- <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/diseases/covid19>
- As of 12:01 am EDT May 12, 2023, noncitizen nonimmigrant air passengers no longer need to show proof of being fully vaccinated with an accepted COVID-19 vaccine to board a flight to the United States.
- There are some exceptions to this rule, please check with your home country travel restrictions and with rules from your home country to the United States.

Other Immunizations at UMSL

- **Required (either prior to departure or upon arrival to US)**
 - Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
 - Meningococcal Vaccine
- **Required Upon Arrival**
 - Tuberculosis (TB) Screening
- **Recommended but not Required**
 - Tetanus/ Diphtheria/ Pertussis
 - Hepatitis B series (3 doses)
 - Influenza vaccine
 - Varicella (chicken pox)
 - COVID 19
- You will be able to obtain all vaccinations at the UMSL Health Services: <http://www.umsl.edu/hcdas/health/>

DRINK WATER!

Make sure to drink as much water as possible while you travel and avoid caffeine and alcohol.

It helps prevent dehydration (which will make you VERY sick) and to help lessen the jetlag effects.





Accommodations

- Where will you live?
- On-Campus Housing
- Benefits to On-Campus Living
- What to consider for Off-Campus Living

On-Campus Accommodations

- We **STRONGLY** recommend living in on-campus accommodations.
- Oak Hall – 85% capacity as of 07/13/2023
 - Traditional Dorm Style Living
 - South Campus
- University Meadows - 100% capacity as of 07/13/2023
 - Apartment Style Living
 - South Campus

Oak Hall

- Traditional Dorm Style Living on South Campus
- **Typically** for Students under the age of 25 years.
- Suite Style Dorms (4 bedrooms to 1 bathroom)



University Meadows

- 3rd Party Service Partner with UMSL.
- Apartment Style Living.
- Full furnished apartments available.



10 Reasons Why You Should Live on Campus

- Better Grades-students Who Live On Campus Have Better Grades!
- Build Leadership Skills And Opportunities.
- Live Safely And Securely!
- No Hidden Costs- It Is All Included.
- Make Your Transition To Independent Life And Living Simpler In The USA.
- Convenience- Spend Less Time Commuting And More Time Engaging In Campus Life And Studies!
- Close To Everything-UMSL Is Connected To St. Louis Public Transportation
- Extra Support- The Triton Community At Its Best!
- Community and Friends- Meet New People, Make New Friends, and Open Your Network!
- Connection- Feel Like You Are Part of Something Bigger

Off-Campus Housing

- UMSL Global **cannot** endorse any specific off-campus housing location.
- Here are locations that some students have chosen to live in but note, they are not endorsed by the university and are only being provided as a courtesy:
 - Suburban Heights Apartments
 - Bermuda Heights Apartments
 - University Villa Apartments

Housing Update: July 2023

- University Meadows is currently filled. If you are on the waitlist for an apartment, there is a chance that you may NOT get what you applied for.
- **Only available option on campus is Oak Hall.** We understand that dorm-style living may not be ideal for some students but still encourage you to apply to live there.
- If more options become available, information on housing will be sent out via email in the coming weeks.
- *Possible* future option for UMSL approved off-campus living are forthcoming.

Off-Campus Housing: Things to Consider

Some students will find off campus living is a better fit for them. Before YOU make that decision, please consider the following questions.

1. How much can you afford to pay for monthly rent and utilities such as gas, electricity, water, Internet, cable/streaming services, trash, sewer? Most places in the United States are not all inclusive, each bill is the renter's individual responsibility.
2. Do you have enough money for first month rent, last month rent, and a deposit to pay upfront?
3. Do you have enough money for fees associated with establishing utilities?
4. How much is renter's insurance?
5. How far will you commute to campus and what form of transportation are you willing to use?
6. If it is a far commute, how much is public transportation daily? Do the lines run regularly or only sporadically during the times you need to come and go from campus?
7. How much will purchasing, licensing, paying sales tax (once) and personal property tax (yearly), and insuring a car be? How much will you spend on gas for the commute?

Off-Campus Housing: Things to Consider

Some students will find off campus living is a better fit for them. Before YOU make that decision, please consider the following questions.

8. Will you be dependent on someone else with a car? Do they have a similar school schedule to you? Are they involved and interested in the same things you are On Campus?
9. How suitable is your housing for daily life – grocery shopping, public transportation, entertainment, distance from university, et cetera?
10. Can you afford to buy furniture and household goods? How will you transport them to your apartment if you do not have a car or truck? Most off-campus housing is not furnished.
11. Where will you launder your clothes? Some apartments provide a washer and dryer but most do not.
12. Are you willing to maintain the property? For example, if you rent a house, you may be expected to shovel the snow or mow the lawn.
13. Do you (or any of your potential roommates) have a social security number? Most landlords will want to do a credit check prior to approving your application to rent an apartment.
14. Do you feel safe in the neighborhood you are thinking about living in?
15. What is the maximum occupancy of the dwelling you and potential roommates are thinking about living in? Many students think it is okay to have many people living in a cheaper place, however, if occupancy rules are violated, the students could end up with very large fines and can be evicted from the dwelling.

Early Arrivals and Off-Campus Students

- UMSL is a short distance from the airport.
- There are many hotels near to the airport
- **DO NOT STAY WITH STRANGERS!** Even if they are from your home country.
- Please do not book Airbnb's or room shares until you become more familiar with the United States
- Uber and Lyft rideshare apps require the use of a credit or debit card to use the app, please download & setup the app BEFORE leaving your country
- County Cab: <https://countycab.com/> or Laclede Cab: <https://lacledecab.com/> are the local taxi companies that may accept cash



UMSL Technology

- Post Admission Checklist
- SSOID
- MFA
- MyGateway
- Email, Canvas, & MyView
- Triton Tech Tutorials

Single Sign-On (SSO)

- Your SSO or SSOID is your official UMSL login for all applications, including your email, Canvas, and MyView.
- To access your SSOID, you will need your student number (On Your Admissions Letter). You can find your SSOID online at <https://apps.umsi.edu/webapps/sso/apps/SSOsearch/search.cfm>
- Your SSOID will be your UMSL email address (example: Jki89@umsystem.edu)

Make sure to know your SSOID BEFORE leaving your home country.

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

- Multi-factor authentication (MFA), also known as two-step or two-factor authentication, adds a second layer of protection to your University account in addition to your username and password.
- This extra layer prevents anyone, but you from logging in to your account, even if they know your password.
 - A common example would be a verification code sent via text to your cell phone when you try to log on, which you then must enter before access is granted.
- Multi-factor authentication requires a short registration process to connect your personal information to your account.
- It is recommended to download the Microsoft Authenticator App to your phone for easier access to codes.

Make sure to setup your MFA BEFORE leaving your home country.

MyGateway

- MyGateway is the central portal for all UMSL student applications including student email access, Canvas course management, MyView enrollment and payment services, MyDegree academic progress, MyConnect advising services, MyDrive Google services, and much more.
- SSO required for signing into the portal.

The screenshot shows the UMSL MyGateway portal for a user named Sarah Jimenez. The header includes the UMSL logo and 'My Gateway' text. The main content is organized into two sections: 'UMSL SERVICES' and 'ADDITIONAL SERVICES'. The 'UMSL SERVICES' section contains seven tiles: Canvas (coursework), MyView (enrollment/payment), MyDegree (academic progress), UMSL Web Mail (communications), MyConnect (advising), MyDrive (Google services), and Missouri Online Teaching (remote instruction resources). The 'ADDITIONAL SERVICES' section contains one tile for SMS Permission Settings. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the screenshot area.

UMSL My Gateway


Hello, Sarah Jimenez

UMSL SERVICES

- Canvas**
My coursework: syllabus, instruction, assignments, etc.
- MyView**
Enroll/Pay for courses, Financial Aid, Grades, etc.
- MyDegree**
Check my degree progress
- UMSL Web Mail**
Official school communications
- MyConnect**
Connect with my advisor and my success network
- MyDrive**
Google Drive
- Missouri Online Teaching**
Resources and actions to take when shifting from face-to-face to remote and online instruction

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- SMS Permission Settings**
View/Change your SMS permission settings



UMSL Student Email

- Your UMSL email address is your SSOID@umsystem.edu
- To activate your Microsoft 365 account:
 1. Activate your UMSL SSO ID.
 2. Log in using your ssoid@umsystem.edu username and password.
- All official University communications will be sent to your campus email address.
- Make sure to download the Microsoft Authenticator App before accessing your SSO



Make sure to setup your UMSL Email BEFORE leaving your home country.

Canvas Course Management

- Canvas is a learning management system (LMS) for faculty and students. Through Canvas, you can find your courses, class grades, and other resources from your instructor.
- If you are taking an online class, this is the platform you will use.
- All International Students are added to a course called: “ORG-INTERNATIONAL-STUDENT” where important announcements will be made about immigration and events throughout the year.



MyView

- MyView is the system that stores all important student record information including grades, course schedule, personal demographics, and other records.
- You will use MyView for
 - course registration
 - to view your university charges and bills
 - To view your grades each semester



MyConnect

- MyConnect, also referred to as Starfish, is the system that connects with your UMSL success network like your academic advisor, counselors, and instructors.
- You can use MyConnect to schedule appointments with your academic advisor or other support staff.



Triton Tech Tutorials

- The Triton Tech Tutorials, which can be found online, will guide you through using any of these applications and more.
- Make sure you visit this website to see how your questions about triton tech can be answered!



Still Need Help?

Technology Support Center

314-516-6034

helpdesk@umsl.edu



Registering For Classes

- Read Your Admissions Letter!
- Academic Advisor
- Course Registration
- English for Academic Purposes

Who is my Academic Advisor?

- Each student is assigned an academic advisor to help them create a course schedule each semester and guide them through their academic career.
- You will find your assigned advisor in the following places:
 - MyView in your student center under “Advisor”.
 - The Triton Portal listed under your student success team.
 - MyConnect under your “Success Network”.
- Students should go to the College or School Academic Advising Office that houses their major. Some colleges may refer you to a faculty advisor in your department.
 - Search for your academic department on the UMSL.edu website. There will be department contact information on the bottom left if you scroll to the end of the website page.

Registering for Classes

- Once you get your advisor's name from the Triton Portal you can reach out to your academic advisor via email
 - You can look up your advisor's email via the directory: <https://www.umsl.edu/directory/>
 - To learn more about academic advising, please visit here: <http://www.umsl.edu/~academicadvising/>
- You CAN register for classes while you are still in your home country.
 - The sooner you register the better.
 - If you are unable to come to the US after you register, you will be dropped from all courses and incur no charges.
- We will offer time to meet with your advisor on Tuesday, August 16th or on Thursday, August 18th in-person to register for classes during Global Triton Welcome Week.
- We recommend registering prior to arrival.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

- Students who are required to take the EAP exam will be emailed soon with more detailed information
- If you receive the EAP exam email, you are **REQUIRED** to take the placement exam.
- The EAP placement exam is required based on English Proficiency scores and Academic Department requirements.
- Students must take the placement test **BEFORE** they arrive to the United States.
- Depending on the results of the exam, you may be required to enroll in EAP Classes during your first semester.
 - These classes are counted as electives in most undergraduate degree programs.
 - These classes will be an additional cost for graduate students
- Students can register for classes prior to taking the test with the understanding that if EAP is required, they will need to change their schedules.
- The placement test is called the Avant STAMP 4S English Placement Exam.
- If you have to take this exam you will receive detailed information via email in the coming weeks.

J-1 Students Registering for Classes & EAP

- An email with your advisor information was sent to your UMSL and your personal email.
- If you have not received this information, you may be missing a form and will have to email Annie Hyde at ahyde@umsl.edu to make sure all your required materials are processed.
- If you are a J-1 Student for a semester, you are not required but encouraged to take the EAP test or any EAP classes.
- If you are a J-1 Student for the Academic Year, you are required to take the EAP test (if you are from a non-English speaking country), and highly encouraged to take any recommended courses.
- Contact your advisor if you plan to enroll in any EAP classes.
- EAP Exam fees are covered by UMSL Global ONLY for J-1 students with applications in Triton Globetrotter.



Admissions Reminders

- Review Admissions Letter
- Official Transcripts
- Official English Proficiency Test Scores

Read Your Admissions Letter

- Carefully read your admission letter
- There is a lot of **VERY** important information in the letter that you need to know.
- Make sure to read about the EAP Testing
- **Make sure to read about the official transcripts and language test scores**

Official Academic Transcripts

- Individual Semester Marksheets & Degree Certificate
- In a Sealed and Stamped Envelope
 - Transcripts should be sealed by the accrediting University- we will not accept any transcripts not sealed.

International Admissions will **not** accept transcripts electronically over email. They must be physical copies.



Official English Proficiency Test Scores

- Official English test scores are to be sent directly to UMSL from the testing center.
- If International Admissions does not receive your test scores, it is YOUR responsibility to contact the testing center to figure out a solution.

Contact International Admission

- For any questions you have regarding your transcripts or test scores, please contact international admissions.

International Admissions

intadmission@umsl.edu

You have one semester of grace period to turn in your official documents.

DO NOT WAIT until the last minute to turn this in. Come to the USA prepared with your admission documents!



Miscellaneous Matters

- Health Insurance
- On-Campus Employment
- Important Dates
- What to Expect Next

Health Insurance

- All international students will be signed up for mandatory university health insurance.
- We will go over details of the insurance during the Global Triton Welcome
- Waivers for health insurance are **not** permitted.
- Health insurance and medical care are **very** different in the United States and the mandatory health university health insurance is in place to protect our Global Tritons!

Food & Water

- Tap water is safe to drink in the United States
- Food is different in the USA
 - Different does not necessarily mean bad just different
 - It is often a difficult adjustment to change food.
 - During orientation UMSL Global will do its best to make sure you have food but be prepared that it will not be your mother's cooking
 - After you are settled into your accommodations, you will be able to cook your own food.

On-Campus Employment

- Opportunities for on-campus employment are very limited. You should not expect to be able to find an on-campus job unless it is part of your admissions offer (e.g. research assistantship)
- To stay in compliance with your immigration status, you are NOT allowed to work off-campus (unless through CPT or OPT) and you are NOT allowed to work for more than 20 hours a week during the semester on-campus.

Global Triton Welcome

New International Student Orientation

MANDATORY / REQUIRED / COMPULSORY

- Takes place **Monday, August 14th through Sunday, August 20th**
- **YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND EVERY DAY FOR THE ENTIRE DAY!**
- Classes start on **Monday, August 21st , 2023**

Late arrivals will not be permitted

If you cannot arrive in time to attend orientation by Sunday, August 13th, 2023 you will have to defer admission to Spring 2024.

Addresses to Note

UMSL Global

One University Blvd
362 Social Sciences &
Business Building
St. Louis, MO 63121
#B-6 on the [Campus
Map](#)

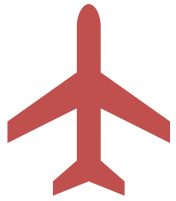
Oak Hall

2911 Laclede Ln
St. Louis, MO 63121
314-507-0277
#E-13 on the [Campus
Map](#)

University Meadows

2901 University
Meadows Dr. #4632
St. Louis, MO 63121
314-805-2801
#D-11 on the [Campus
Map](#)

Emails to Watch For



**Airport Pickup
Sign-Up**



**Global Triton
Welcome Details**



**EAP Test
Information**



**Course
Registration**

Join the Fall 2023 WhatsApp Group!

- Join our WhatsApp Group for our #GlobalTritons who plan to join us in Fall 2023!

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BbZUsDTebpT1XYs7KxPj26>





Mark Your Calendars!

- Visa Interview Preparation Sessions
- Pre-Departure Orientations
- Airport Pick-Up
- Global Triton Welcome

Global Triton Welcome: Visa Preparation Session

Get more information and guidance for your Visa Interview.

Monday, April 10, 2023

9:00AM (09:00) - 11:00AM (11:00) Central Daylight Time <UTC - 5>

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

12:00AM (00:00) - 02:00AM (02:00) Central Daylight Time <UTC - 5>

Thursday, June 08, 2023

9:00AM (09:00) - 11:00AM (11:00) Central Daylight Time <UTC - 5>

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

12:00AM (00:00) - 02:00AM (02:00) Central Daylight Time <UTC - 5>

All times are in Central Daylight Time.

Central Daylight Time - CDT - <UTC - 5>.

Please adjust for YOUR time zone accordingly.

Global Triton Welcome: Pre-Departure Orientation

- If you want to attend this session again, here are additional dates, you can sign up at the link you signed up for this session!

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, June 14 | 12:00AM (00:00) - 2:00AM (02:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |
| Saturday, June 17 | 9:00AM (09:00) - 11:00AM (11:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |
| Monday, June 26 | 12:00AM (00:00) - 2:00AM (02:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |
| Wednesday, June 28 | 9:00AM (09:00) - 11:00AM (11:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |
| Tuesday, July 11 | 12:00AM (00:00) - 2:00AM (02:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |
| Thursday, July 13 | 9:00AM (09:00) - 11:00AM (11:00) CDT <UTC - 5> |

- **All times are in Central Daylight Time. Central Daylight Time - CDT - <UTC - 5>. Please adjust for YOUR time zone accordingly.**

Global Triton Welcome: Airport Pickup

- Airport pickup from Saint Louis Lambert International Airport (STL) will be offered on the following dates to Global Tritons who have **signed a contract and will be living on the UMSL campus** in Oak Hall or University Meadows

Friday **August 11, 2023**

Saturday **August 12, 2023**

Sunday **August 13, 2023**

- Future emails will be sent with more detailed information

Global Triton Welcome: Global Triton Welcome and Triton Take Off

This is a mandatory/compulsory event for all new Global Tritons. You will learn everything you need to know about UMSL to start your educational journey successfully. You will also take applicable placement tests, register for classes, meet fellow classmates, and have some fun as you acclimate to life in the United States, Saint Louis, and UMSL!

Monday, August 14th - Sunday, August 20th , 2023

ALL days are mandatory/compulsory

You must arrive in STL by Sunday, August 13th or you will need to defer your admission to August 23

First Day of CLASSES for the Fall 2023 Semester is Monday, August 21st, 2023!



Read Your Email!

Keep an eye on your email in the coming weeks for more information and details about these events and more!

Excited? Overwhelmed?

How Are You Feeling Now?



Turn Your Cameras
on and Let's Take a
Picture!



Thank You!



We Look Forward to Seeing You in August 2023!

UNIVERSITY OF
MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

