International Affairs works in collaboration with the colleges and regional campuses to promote international education, research, outreach, and service programs. It is comprised of the following units: International Services, Education Abroad, the Confucius Institute, and the Japanese Outreach Initiative. It also has oversight of the Peace Corps and Fulbright programs.

Confucius Institute

Mitsuo Ogishima
Email: mogishima@iac.usf.edu
Phone: 813-974-9948
Web Site: http://global.usf.edu/joi.php

The USF Confucius Institute is one of 56 Confucius Institutes in the United States and one of nearly 300 worldwide. The USF Confucius Institute assists the educational and business communities in Tampa Bay to develop closer ties with China through Chinese language instruction and cultural exchange. The USF Confucius Institute offers Chinese language and culture classes year round. The Institute focuses on educational initiatives related to tourism, trade, and sustainable healthy communities. The Confucius Institute at the University of South Florida is a collaborative effort between China’s Office of Chinese Language Council International under the Ministry of Education and Nankai University. Nankai University is USF’s designated university partner.

Japanese Outreach Initiative

The USF Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI) Coordinator promotes understanding of Japanese culture, language, and business practices for USF students as well as the broader Tampa Bay and Florida communities. The JOI Coordinator facilitates dialogue about current Japan-U.S. issues and gives Japanese language and culture presentations, and organizes events. Presentations include: Japanese culture and language, comparative analysis of the U.S. and Japan, conducting business in Japan, preparing for job interviews, in addition to numerous other topics.

Office of International Services

The University of South Florida welcomes qualified students from all over the world to our campus community. The resulting international educational exchange leads to the enrichment of our common life, the intellectual development of our students, the research endeavors of the University, and mutual understanding between the peoples of the world represented at USF. The ensuing exchange of life stories exposes all USF students, faculty, and staff to the likenesses and differences that exist between cultures, worldviews, experiences, and ideas.

The mission of International Services is to promote awareness, understanding and compliance of federal immigration regulations and university policies while supporting and enhancing the academic, cultural and social experiences of all international students, scholars and staff at the University of South Florida. International Services staff advises the 1,400 international students and 200 visiting scholars regarding immigration compliance, visa status maintenance and acculturation issues. In addition, they conduct orientation programs for new students and offer workshops on employment, career planning, and cultural adjustment. The office promotes cross cultural understanding by working with USF departments and other on campus organizations to plan events and inform students and scholars about upcoming activities, via listserv, email and the International Services website.

For more information about International Services, please call (813) 974-5102.

Education Abroad Office

USF offers students the world as their classroom through its programs abroad. Whether a student chooses a short-term summer program, a semester or year at a university overseas, an internship or service learning, there is a program for nearly every student need. For students who have studied abroad, the program serves as one of the most outstanding and memorable experiences of their entire academic career.
Students in most disciplines can find a program of study to complement their undergraduate degrees. Most programs provide USF credit and thus students can be assured that if they plan carefully, they will continue to make steady progress towards graduation while abroad. For those students looking for truly international qualifications, several programs lead to dual degrees, certificates, or double majors.

Students can study abroad at any time in their academic careers, and have a wide range of study options with programs ranging from one week (over spring break) to a year. A large number of faculty-led summer programs of 2-6 weeks provide the opportunity to concentrate study abroad in a summer session and help students fulfill the 9-hour summer graduation requirement. All programs are developed as cost-effectively as possible, recognizing the financial concerns of today’s students. Federal and state financial aid can be applied to USF programs abroad, and some additional scholarship assistance is available through the Education Abroad Office.

For additional information or for individual program brochures, please visit the Education Abroad Office, or access the web site.