Tax Issues

- Tax year: January 1\textsuperscript{st} to December 31\textsuperscript{st}

- Taxes due April 15 for previous year

- ALL \textbf{international} students and their dependents must complete US tax forms for each year they are in the US even if they have NO US income! (so if you entered in 2018 you will need to complete a form in March)
Tax system is complex so you will need to devote time to reading and filling out forms.

Tax information session for international students and tax advising in March.

Students on Athletic Scholarship will need to apply for a tax ID number NOW!

If you want to train as a tax volunteer, see Linda.
Immigration Jeopardy...

• WHERE do I report my address change (Hint: it’s 2 places)???

  myGEO portal and my.unm.edu

• If I want my I-20/DS-2019 signed on the same day when do I have to bring it to GEO?

  At advisor walk-in hours – M-F 1:00 – 3:00!!!!

• How long can I stay in the US in F1 status after I graduate if I don’t apply for work authorization?

  60 days
Immigration jeopardy...

• How many hours per week am I authorized to work on campus during Fall and Spring semesters?  
  20 hours

• What should I download every time I return to the US?  
  I-94

• If I’m a graduate student with 9 credits, what happens if my professor gives me a grade of “W”?  
  You are out of status!!!!!!!
Other Rules and Laws

You need to know

ONE SIMPLY DOES NOT

BREAK THE RULES
Campus & Cultural Rules

- No alcohol on campus (except Faculty House)
- Illegal drugs are ILLEGAL!!!
- Smoking is allowed in designated areas only and almost NEVER inside
- Americans are sensitive to smell - wash your clothes and body often and wear deodorant to avoid judgement from others and embarrassing situations!
UNM Campus Police: police.unm.edu

- Contact Info: Hokona Hall 1st floor across from Hospital; 277-2241

- Safety Escort Service: Takes you from one on-campus location to another

- Bike registry on website: May help if your bike is stolen.
UNM Campus Police

Real Police force:
Can make arrests and carry weapons; officers in uniform and no uniform patrol campus and respond to emergency calls
What to do for Emergencies

- **Campus Emergencies**: Call 277-2241
  - this # is on your Lobo card or use blue emergency phones located throughout campus
- **Emergencies anywhere in US**: Call 911
- **If non medical or criminal emergency after hours**: Call GEO at 277-4GEO
  (e.g. stuck at a border, consulate, etc.)
Bicycle Safety

• ALWAYS wear a helmet

• Use lights at night!

• Be careful. Some areas are not bike friendly

• Buy U locks for your bike; bike theft is common on campus—available at UNM Bicycle Shop, East Entrance to Johnson Center

• Find bike map at www.cabq.gov
NEW MEXICO DRIVER’S LICENSE:

• You need a NM driver’s license or Driver Authorization Card (DAC) if you will drive regularly and will live for more than 6 months in New Mexico

• If you will not drive regularly, an international license should work, but insurance coverage is more expensive (you have to have it)

• Driver’s license or state ID is a good idea for everyone as a form of legal identification (info in packet)
Car Regulations and Safety

NEW MEXICO DRIVER’S LICENSE:

- If you do **NOT** have a U.S. Social Security Number, you have to make an appointment **online**

- You need to tell the MVD whether you will apply for a “Real ID” license or a “DAC”

- You will need to bring all of the requested documents - 2 pieces of ID (SSN, passport, birth certificate, other license) and 2 of residency (utility bill with name and address, apartment lease with name and address, etc.)
Car Regulations and Safety

• You MUST have car insurance when driving
• Pay TICKETS! (Parking, Speeding, etc.)
• Do not make any “special request” if the police officer gives you a ticket!
• If you are stopped by the police: Do not get out of the car. Place your hands on the wheel where the officer can see them. Get out license, registration and insurance when asked
Car Regulations And Safety

Don’t drink and drive!

* Yellow Cab Company
  (505) 247-8888

* Albuquerque Rapid Transit
  (June 2 – Sept 17)

Coming soon!
Consumer Related Issues

• Internet scams: Don’t send anyone money you don’t know!
• No government office or bank will call you on the phone and ask you to provide your SSN or payment
• Buy insurance for any large money transactions (i.e. use Paypal if available)
Housing Regulations

• Information at: geo.unm.edu

• Renters Guide and General Landlord/Tenant Information: www.lawhelpnewmexico.org

• Problems? Contact - New Mexico Legal Aid free hotline: (866) 416-1922
WHEN YOU HEAR
THE DRINKING AGE IS
21
WHAT? YOU MEAN...

NO DRINKING UNDER 21???
Drinking Laws

• Have to be 21 to drink in the US
• An ID is required to get into bars and at restaurants if ordering alcohol
• IT IS A FELONY (SERIOUS CRIME) TO GIVE ALCOHOL TO ANYONE UNDER 21!!!
• ABQ Police “Party Patrol” often raids parties in the area near campus; if you are hosting a party with alcohol, make sure guests are over 21!!!
Legal and Criminal Issues

- Important to know the laws that are problematic
- Avoid getting into trouble in the first place!
- Violations impact you financially and may affect your immigration status
- If you are charged with a crime or arrested, seek legal assistance and talk to a GEO advisor to understand the issues
If You are Stopped by the Police, Immigration or FBI*

• Stay calm and be polite. Don’t run or resist. Keep your hands where the police can see them.

• Right of refusal to search. You have the right to refuse unless there is a warrant.

• Ask if you are free to leave. If the officer says yes, calmly walk away. If you are under arrest, you have a right to: remain silent, have an attorney and contact your consulate.

• Do not lie or give false statements and do not sign anything without talking to a lawyer.