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# Academic Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 21</strong></td>
<td>Arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(If you are participating in the host friend program)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 21-24</strong></td>
<td>Host Friend Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Students stay with an American host friend. Do not miss this unique experience!</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 24-28</strong></td>
<td>Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Attendance is require for the entire orientation week.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August 24</strong></td>
<td>Residence Halls open at 7:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Hosts &amp; Peer Guides will help you move into the dorms</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 2</strong></td>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 7</strong></td>
<td>Labor Day (No Classes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 26-29</strong></td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 30</strong></td>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 14-18</strong></td>
<td>Final Exam Week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Center for International Education (CIE)

Address: Schofield Hall 3, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

Hours: 7:45 a.m.– 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

Telephone: 1-715-836-4411

Fax: 1-715-836-4948

Email: inted@uwec.edu

Web: www.uwec.edu/cie

CIE Staff

Dr. Karl Markgraf               Ms. Shu-Chuan Cheng
Director                        Chinese Program Coordinator
markgraf@uwec.edu               chengshu@uwec.edu

Ms. Jodi B. Simek              Ms. Catherine Lee
International Student Adviser   IEP Coordinator
jbsimek@uwec.edu                thompse@uwec.edu

Ms. Maria Carvalho             Ms. Sarah Vowels
International Student Adviser   Community Outreach
carvalmc@uwec.edu               Coordinator
vowelssj@uwec.edu

Services of the CIE

UW-Eau Claire recognizes that international students have needs different from those of other students. Our staff provides a wide variety of services to international students. Services include visa advising, orientation, and culture adjustment. The CIE encourages students to take advantage of these services and meet with the advisers about concerns.

The CIE also offers cultural programs for international students to get involved with the community and other UW-Eau Claire students. Visit “Cultural Programs” for more information at:

http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/divisions/services/students.htm
Welcome to Eau Claire!

Dear Student,

Welcome to UW-Eau Claire! We are excited to meet you at International Student Orientation. Orientation begins on August 24, at 8:30 a.m. in the Davies Center at UW-Eau Claire. You are required to attend the entire Orientation. You will have the opportunity to meet students, register for classes, learn about immigration regulations, employment, health insurance, banking, housing, campus facilities, and student life at UW-Eau Claire.

During orientation, you will have student guides, called Peer Guides, to assist you. The Peer Guides have a great deal of expertise and experience at UW-Eau Claire.

We strongly encourage you to participate in the Host Friend Program, which is from January 17-21. The deadline to apply is November 30, 2014. Through the host friend program you will stay with an American friend for a few days before orientation. Most students find this time with their hosts very pleasant and relaxing. Hosts introduce you to American life, the city of Eau Claire, and serve as excellent resources for you throughout your time at UW-Eau Claire.

You will move into your residence hall on August 24, at 7:45 a.m. As soon as you know your arrival day and time, please email your arrival information to hostfriend@uwec.edu. We do not pick up students in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Therefore, you should arrange your own transportation to Eau Claire (see page 11). If you arrive between August 21-24 your host friend will meet you either at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport or Chippewa Valley Airport Service shuttle terminal in Eau Claire.

We look forward to welcoming you to UW-Eau Claire soon!

Sincerely,

The Center for International Education Staff
Preparation Checklist

Below is a list of Important Tasks you Should Complete

⇒ Obtain your F-1 or J-1 visa to study in the United States.

⇒ Complete a student profile for the Host Friend Program. To apply, go to http://www.uwec.edu/cie, then click on the “Host Friend Program” icon button. Once in the “Host Friend Program” website, select the “Students” icon button and then follow the “How to Apply” link. The deadline to apply for the program is June 30 for fall semester arrival, and November 30 for spring semester arrival. Your profile will be used to match you with a host friend in Eau Claire. Your host’s contact information will be emailed to you. Students say having a host friend is one of the best parts of their study at UW-Eau Claire!

⇒ Purchase an airline ticket that will allow you to arrive in Eau Claire to participate in the Host Friend Program and orientation. You must arrive in the U.S. before your program start date. Your return flight should not depart before your program end date. (Program start and end dates are listed in #5 on an I-20 and #3 on a DS-2019).

⇒ If you do not participate in the Host Friend Program or arrive early, you should make hotel reservations.

⇒ If you arrive at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport and are not flying to Eau Claire, you should make a reservation on the airport shuttle service.

⇒ Send your arrival date, time, place, and flight number to hostfriend@uwec.edu

⇒ Notify your host friend of your arrival date, time, and place.

⇒ We do not recommend you carry a large amount of cash with you.

⇒ Travel with your host friend’s phone number and address in case your flight arrives early or is delayed.

⇒ Bring pictures, traditional clothing, and other items of cultural significance from your country to share with your host family and new friends. We have many opportunities and events for you to share your culture.

⇒ Visit the Center for International Education’s website at: www.uwec.edu/cie
Obtaining Your U.S. Student Visa

Your I-20 or DS-2019 Document
The I-20 or DS-2019 will allow you to apply for your F-1 or J-1 student visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate. Applying for a U.S. visa can take anywhere from one day to four weeks, or longer.

SEVIS Fee
The SEVIS fee is imposed by the USCIS (United States Citizenship & Immigration Services). The SEVIS fee must be paid and the I-901 Form (SEVIS fee receipt) must be fully processed before the applicant arrives at the consulate. You will not be issued an F or J visa without paying this fee.
Payment may be made by credit card, debit card, check or money order.

Applicants must bring a SEVIS fee payment receipt with them for the visa interview, or, for those who do not need a visa, to the U.S. port of entry.
Having a receipt for the SEVIS fee payment will facilitate the visa application process. However, if you are unable to print a receipt from an online payment and/or do not receive your mailed receipt in time for your visa interview you can still go to your interview and attempt to obtain your visa as long as your fee has been processed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Fee payment video tutorial: http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2013/10/i-901-sevis-fee-payment-tutorial
Fee payment process: http://www.ice.gov/sevis
Fee payment & online I-901 Form: http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index.htm

Entering the U.S.
To enter the United States, you will need your I-20 or DS-2019, passport, and visa. Do not attempt to enter the U.S. without these documents. Please contact your local embassy or consulate to determine if there are other entry requirements specific to your country.
Obtaining Your U.S. Student Visa

Tips for the Visa Interview

1. Tell the Truth
Be honest. Do not lie or answer questions falsely. Students have been denied visas for presenting false information.

2. Ties to your Home Country
You must be able to show that you have reasons for returning to your home country that are stronger than those for remaining in the United States. “Ties” to your home country that bind you to your homeland, or current place of residence such as job, family, financial prospects that you own or will inherit, investments, etc.

3. Financial Support
Make sure you bring sufficient proof that you have enough money to support yourself in the U.S.

4. English
Anticipate that the interview will be conducted in English and not in your native language. One suggestion is to practice English with a native speaker before the interview, but do NOT prepare speeches! If you are coming to the U.S. to study only English, be prepared to explain how English will be useful for you in your home country.

5. Know the Program and How It Fits Your Career Plans
You should be able to explain how studying in the U.S. relates to your future professional career.

6. Employment
Your main purpose in coming to the U.S. should be to study, not to work in the U.S. before or after graduation. While many students do work on-campus during their studies, employment is not their main purpose of their U.S. education.

Please visit the website of the U.S. Consulate in your home country for further information about preparing for your visa interview.
Host Friend Program
Deadline to Apply: November 30 (Spring) & June 30 (Fall)

What is the Host Friend Program?

- Live with an American host for 3-4 days before the start of orientation
- Your host will introduce you to life in the United States and you will get to know one another
- You and your host will maintain contact during the semester by going to events or doing activities together that you enjoy

How Can I Apply to the Host Friend Program?

1. Go to: http://www.uwec.edu/cie/divisions/friend/students.htm
2. Click the “Apply Now” button
3. Complete the information and click “Submit”

After submitting your Student Profile, you will be matched with a host friend. The name and contact information of your Host Friend will be emailed to you. Once you receive this information, email your Host Friend to introduce yourself. Remember to include your arrival information (date, time, place, and flight number). Your Host Friend will meet you when you arrive in Eau Claire.

If you have any questions, contact Sarah Vowels at hostfriend@uwec.edu.

I encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! I look forward to helping you meet your host friend and begin the adventure of living in the U.S.

Sincerely,
Sarah Vowels
Community Outreach Coordinator
hostfriend@uwec.edu
Host Friend Program

Expectations and Responsibilities

What students are expected to do:
- Respond to invitations/emails/phone messages from the hosts
- Notify hosts in advance if you must cancel a meeting
- Be kind and respectful towards the host
- Be on time for scheduled meetings with hosts
- Contact the CIE you cannot continue the relationship for any reason
- Contact the CIE if the host does not contact you after a six week period

What students should NOT expect their Host Friend to do:
- Provide transportation for your friends
- Provide lodging for visiting family and friends
- Give or lend money to you (including financial support)
- Provide housing for long periods of time between semesters or during vacation periods

What your Host Friend is expected to do:
- Pick you up at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire or Chippewa Valley Airport Shuttle Service (Eau Claire Terminal), and house you for three to four nights before Orientation
- Bring you to UW-Eau Claire for Orientation and move you into the residence hall
- Contact you by phone/email at least once a month during the semester
- Be kind and respectful toward you
- Contact the CIE if the host can no longer continue the relationship
- Contact the CIE if you do not contact the host within a six week period

What a Host Friend is NOT expected to do:
- Provide housing for long periods of time during academic breaks
- Pick you up at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport
- Loan you money
- Assist with immigration, visa, academic, emotional and/or medical problems
Preparing to Arrive

Email arrival date, time, place, shuttle arrival time and flight number, to hostfriend@uwec.edu and your host friend.

Housing

Register for housing at https://rms.uwec.edu. All new international students must live on campus. You are guaranteed preferred housing in the residence halls when the registration deposit is received by July 15. You do not need to pay a separate $75 housing deposit as listed on the housing website; your registration deposit will serve as your housing deposit. You can learn more about on-campus housing at: http://www.uwec.edu/housing/index.htm You will be notified of your room and roommate assignments a couple weeks before you arrive.

Host friends will only pick up students in Eau Claire, so please plan your trip all the way to Eau Claire.

Most students fly into the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP). The Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport is only 145 km (90 miles) west of Eau Claire. (www.mspairport.com).

You may arrive to Eau Claire either by:

1. Shuttle service from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport

The Chippewa Valley Airport Service is the most convenient transportation method to get to Eau Claire from Minneapolis/St. Paul. It leaves directly from the airport. Reservations are necessary. To see the departure schedule and to make a reservation, visit: www.chippewavalleyairportservice.com or call: 715-830-9400.

2. Airplane to Chippewa Valley Regional Airport

You may fly directly to Eau Claire. The Chippewa Valley Regional Airport (EAU) is the airport in Eau Claire. For more information, visit: www.chippewavalleyairport.com or call: 715-839-6241.
Hotels and Taxis in Eau Claire

Students can not move into the residence halls before orientation.

If you will be arriving in Eau Claire before the start of orientation and/or the Host Friend Program, you may consider the following hotels and taxi services in Eau Claire. These hotels are near UW-Eau Claire and range in price from $70–$100 per night.

**Hotels**

**America’s Best Value Inn**
www.americasbestvalueinn.com/
A 15 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

**Days Inn**
www.daysinn.com
A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

**Hampton Inn**
www.hamptoninn.com
A 30 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

**Plaza Hotel**
www.plazaeauclaire.com
A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire

**Taxi Services**

**Delivery Fix Taxi Service**
http://www.deliveryfix.com/Home.html
(715) 835-5853
Many international students open bank accounts while they are studying in the United States. You might require a bank account if you are receiving certain fellowships or have an on-campus job.

Opening a bank account at US Bank is part of International Student Orientation

**US Bank** (on campus)
Davies Center
77 Roosevelt Road
https://www.usbank.com/
715-830-5103

*There are other banks in the Eau Claire area at which you can open a bank account if needed.*
2014–15 Money Matters

$150 Registration and Housing Deposit

Registration Deadline (see page 20):

- July 15 (Fall)
- December 15 (Spring)

All students must pay a $150.00 non-refundable down payment by 

**July 15** for the Fall Semester and/or by **December 15** for the Spring Semester. This $150.00 will pay for the required tuition and housing deposit. See page 15 for accepted forms of payment.

**You will pay all other fees and charges (room, board, insurance, etc.) after arrival.**

Cost Considerations

*Exchange students must pay orientation fees, book rental fees, insurance, and special course fees (if applicable).

*Personal expenses vary per student. This is only an estimate.

*Some courses have special course fees not included in the above cost estimate.

For degree seeking students

Estimated Costs for One Year at UW-Eau Claire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$16,830</td>
<td>$18,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Hall Room and Meals</td>
<td>$ 7,360</td>
<td>$ 7,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accident/Sickness Insurance</td>
<td>$ 1,500</td>
<td>$ 1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textbook Rental and Supplies</td>
<td>$  490</td>
<td>$  740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Expenses</td>
<td>$  3,310</td>
<td>$  3,310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL ESTIMATE FOR ONE YEAR: $29,490 $31,370
Paying Bills at UW-Eau Claire

* Your student ID number/ Blugold number is on the upper right hand corner of your acceptance letter.

1. Some Credit Cards
   * UWEC accepts credit card payments online using MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express.
   * A 2.75% convenience fee will be added to each credit card transaction.
   * To make a credit card payment, go to: http://www.uwec.edu/Busoff/studentfinancials/payment.htm

2. Peer Transfer
   * Follow instructions on page 16.

3. Electronic Payment—only from bank accounts within the United States
   Instructions are at: http://www.uwec.edu/bussvs/busoff/payment/index.htm

4. Wire Transfer
   One of the safest ways to pay your tuition and health insurance fees is by wire transfer. Before sending a wire transfer, it is important for you to know that:
   * A wire transfer must be in U.S. dollars.
   * You are responsible for all bank charges incurred for sending and receiving the wire transfer.

5. International Money Order / Bank Check
   The international money order or bank check/draft must be made in U.S. dollars and made payable to the “University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.” UW-Eau Claire will require a period of 60 days to clear and receive funds from a money order or bank check.

More information about payments and due dates can be found at:
http://www.uwec.edu/Busoff/index.htm
http://www.uwec.edu/Busoff/studentfinancials/upload/MoneyMatters.pdf
Peer Transfer Procedure

How to send money to UW-Eau Claire with Peer Transfer:

Step #1
* Go to the CIE’s website at: http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/divisions/services/students.htm
* Click on “Paying your deposit” for screen-shot instructions
* Log onto: https://www.peertransfer.com/school/uwec and follow the CIE instructions

Step #2
Send an email to the Center for International Education (cie@uwec.edu). **Include the following information:**

* Student’s name
* Name of person sending money (for example: name of parent or sponsor)
* U.S. Dollar amount wired to UW-Eau Claire
* Type of Payment (credit card, peer transfer, etc.)
* Academic year/term that you will attend UW-Eau Claire
* Purpose of the payment (registration deposit and/or insurance fee)
Accident & Sickness Insurance Policy

UW-Eau Claire requires all international students to purchase the Accident and Sickness Insurance policy. This policy is through Rust International Associates. The approximate cost of the policy is $1,500.00 per year or $750.00 per semester. The insurance requirement cannot be waived. Do not plan to be covered by only your own policy. Additional information, visit: http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/divisions/services/students.htm

**You do not need to do anything at this time. You will pay for your insurance after arrival in Eau Claire.**

Policy Coverage*

*Policy information may change without notice.

Total Benefit: $250,000

Medical Evacuation: Reasonable and Customary Expenses up to $100,000

Repatriation: Reasonable and Customary Expenses up to $20,000

Co Pay: $25.00. If you see Health Services on-campus first and then get a referral to an off-campus facility, the deductible is $0. An emergency room visit will be $100.00, but it is waived if you are immediately admitted.

Pre-existing Condition: $5,000

For additional coverage information please contact the Center for International Education (cie@uwec.edu).

Prescription Medicine:
The Accident & Sickness Health Insurance helps to cover part of the cost of prescription medicine. You must use your Insurance/Drug Card when you purchase your prescription medicine at a pharmacy. The Insurance/Drug Card is very simple to use.

You will go to a participating pharmacy and show your card to the pharmacist. The pharmacist will charge your prescription directly to the insurance company. You will only pay the co-pay, instead of the full amount of the prescription. The co-pay costs for generic brand prescriptions are $10, brand names are $20, and multisource is $30. You do not need to submit an Insurance Claim Form.
Orientation Week

Attendance for the entire week is REQUIRED for all international students

The Peer Guide Program

Peer Guides (student guides) have been selected to assist you during your arrival and orientation to the university. They come from a variety of backgrounds, countries, and majors. You will be introduced to your Peer Guide on the first day of orientation. New international students are placed in small groups ranging from 8 to 10 students and assigned to a Peer Guide. You may ask them questions and get to know them. Your Peer Guide will:

- Introduce you to other students
- Provide a campus tour
- Provide essential information on social customs in the U.S.
- Assist you in the registration process
- Answer your individual questions

Transfer Students

Students transferring from another college or university will receive an official transfer credit evaluation from UW-Eau Claire. In some cases, this evaluation will be included in the acceptance package. In other cases, it will be provided when the student arrives at UW-Eau Claire for orientation. If you have questions about how your credits will transfer, or if you have courses listed as “consult” or “defer,” you should plan to meet with the Associate Director of Admissions during orientation.

International students who transfer from institutions within the United States must complete transfer procedures with the United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS). Notify your present university that you are transferring, so your International Student Adviser can help you with the immigration transfer procedure. Your present university must release you from SEVIS (Student Exchange Visitor Information System) before your new university (UW-Eau Claire) can issue you a DS-2019 or I-20 form.
English & Math Placement Testing

**ESL Placement Exam**

The purpose of this exam is to determine whether each non-native speaking student’s language proficiency is sufficient for active involvement in UW-Eau Claire coursework.

International students who do not submit a TOEFL score of 79 iBT (550 pBT) or greater will take an English as a Second Language Placement Exam during orientation.

Students with a TOEFL score below 79 iBT or 550 pBT should expect to take some ESL courses during their first semester at UW-Eau Claire.

If you have a TOEFL score of 79 iBT, or 550 pBT (or higher), you do not need to take the ESL Placement Exam. However, you must provide proof of the TOEFL score with your application.

Acceptable English Proficiency can be found at:

http://www.uwec.edu/Admissions/upload/English-Proficiency-2013.pdf

**Math Placement Test**

The math placement test is required of ALL students who are seeking an undergraduate degree at the university, unless math credits have been transferred to UW-Eau Claire. Transfer students are required to take the test as well. The test serves as an advising tool so that students are placed in the appropriate math classes.

You may learn more about the test at:

http://www.uwec.edu/Testing/placement/math.htm

If you believe that you may have transfer credit which satisfies UWEC’s math requirement, please contact Ms. Heather Pearson at pearsonh@uwec.edu in the Admissions Office.
On-Campus Housing

- July 15 (Fall)
- December 15 (Spring)

**Refer to your acceptance email for information on how to register**

UW-Eau Claire has twelve residence halls, and guarantees rooms for new international students. Roommate assignments are made through the Housing Office. Prior to your arrival, you will receive an email from the Center for International Education indicating which residence hall you will be living in and your roommate’s contact information. We encourage you to contact your roommate before you arrive, as they will not have your contact information.

- Fall-students notified mid August before orientation
- Spring-students notified mid January before orientation

All rooms have two beds, two desks, book shelves, closets, and dressers. Toilet and shower facilities are in a common area shared by other students on that floor. Bedding and linens are provided to all new international students. ([http://www.uwec.edu/housing/ResidenceHalls/index.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/housing/ResidenceHalls/index.htm))

The Residence Halls and the Center for International Education do not have the storage space to receive your personal packages before your arrival. Please have packages sent to your residence hall after you have arrived in Eau Claire.

Some halls close during holiday breaks. Students may need to move to other halls. Please contact your hall director and plan ahead.

**Vaccines**
Wisconsin State Statute 36.25(46) requires that all students who will be residing in a campus residence hall to receive information regarding the risks associated with Hepatitis B and Meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of the vaccines available to prevent these diseases. You are NOT required to have vaccinations for these diseases. If you wish to receive vaccinations for these diseases, you may receive them at UW-Eau Claire’s on-campus Health Services.
Scholarships and Employment

Scholarships
Additional information: http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/divisions/services/students/resources/index.htm

Incoming International Student Scholarship:
Degree seeking students may apply upon acceptance. The award for this scholarship varies from $1,000-$5,000 per year. Continuing students may apply for renewal. Additional information is available at:
http://www.uwec.edu/Admissions/scholarships/international.htm

Once you have been at Eau Claire for two semesters, you may apply for the following:

Haas Scholarship
Degree-Seeking International student with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0, involved in community and campus activities, and show financial need may apply for this scholarship. You may only receive this award once.

Foundation Scholarship
Degree Seeking International student with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.25, involved in community and campus activities, and show financial need may apply for this scholarship. You may re-apply for this award every year.

Dolly Rounds Scholarship
Degree-Seeking International student accepted to UW-Eau Claire will be considered for grants. Freshmen through graduate students can apply. Minimum 3.0 GPA; no geographic preference; open to all academic fields. Scholarship based on academic merit, exceptional talent, unique personal characteristics or future potential. Financial need is not a requirement; open pool annually. Prior recipient can reapply with possibility of continuity for same recipient.

Employment
Many international students work on-campus as part of their university experience. During orientation you will learn about the employment regulations and restrictions for your visa. Students should not expect to work off-campus because all off-campus employment is restricted by your student visa. Most students are eligible to work on-campus up to 20 hours per week. Please contact an International Student Adviser if you have questions.
Student Organizations & University Recreation

Getting involved in a campus organization or club is a good way to have fun and meet domestic students. UW-Eau Claire offers over 200 clubs and student organizations. You can get involved in professional, ethnic, leadership, human rights & social justice, or general interest societies, services organizations, sport clubs, or religious organizations. You are bound to find a club or student organization that interests you!

For a complete list of clubs and organizations, go to: http://www.uwec.edu/studentorgs

University Recreation

University Recreation provides a variety of programs that meet the needs and interests of students. These various programs include intramurals, bowling and billiards, a fitness center, special events, hiking, camping, canoeing, basketball & volleyball courts, softball, soccer, football, and numerous other program. The facilities on campus are among the best in the state. Wisconsin is well known for its many recreational activities. http://www.uwec.edu/recreation/

Intramural Sports

Previous sports experience is not required for participation. Intramural sports promotes team, league, tournament, individual and dual sport competition. Over 40 men's, women's and co-ed activities are offered to students interested in competitive sports in a recreational atmosphere. Leagues and tournaments are organized for all skill levels. Intramural teams can advance to regional and national tournaments in certain sports. For more information, visit: http://www.uwec.edu/recreation/scripts/Intramurals/index.php

UW-Eau Claire Athletics

UW-Eau Claire has athletic teams for both men and women in swimming, soccer, basketball, ice hockey, softball, golf, volleyball, and many other sports. These teams compete with other schools of similar size. For more information, visit: http://www.uwecblugolds.com/
Where is Eau Claire?

**Eau Claire, Wisconsin and the Midwest**

Eau Claire is the heart of West Central Wisconsin at the confluence of the Chippewa and Eau Claire rivers. It is approximately 145 kilometers (90 miles) east of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a population of approximately 65,000, the city offers numerous reasons why it is a great place to live, work, and grow. Eau Claire has a perfect mix of urban and rural life, providing many of the things that people value.

Wisconsin is a scenic state with a population of 5 million people. Wisconsin is bordered by Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior, and the states of Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, and Iowa. Wisconsin is known for its nature and outdoor activities, and dairy products such as cheese and milk. The capital city is Madison, which is approximately 260 kilometers (160 miles) from Eau Claire.

The Midwest is known for its high quality of educational institutions. The people are friendly and willing to assist you when needed. Minneapolis/St. Paul or otherwise known as the “Twin Cities” offers many cultural activities, museums, theatres, sporting events, as well as great places to shop. It is near the Mall of America, America’s largest shopping mall.

**Websites of Interest**

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<th>Eau Claire</th>
<th>Minneapolis/St. Paul</th>
<th>Wisconsin</th>
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**Winter Weather**

You can experience all four seasons in Wisconsin. The weather changes dramatically throughout the year. Summers are warm with temperatures averaging 70° F to 90° F (20° C to 32° C). Late November, December, January, February, and March are cold and snowy. Temperatures are frequently below freezing (32° F; 0° C). January is normally the coldest month with an average temperature of 17.5° F (-8° C).

You should buy a warm jacket or coat. Gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, earmuffs, and long underwear are essentials at this time of the year. You will also need boots to keep your feet warm and dry. Plan to dress in layers to keep warm while you are walking to class. During the winter season in Eau Claire there are many fun activities. Despite the cold temperatures and snow, you may find winter an enjoyable season!
Share your Culture with the Eau Claire Community

The Center for International Education (CIE) provides many opportunities for international students to share their culture with the Eau Claire community. For more information visit:

http://www.uwec.edu/CIE/divisions/services/students.htm

We encourage you to bring traditional clothes and items that represent your culture to share your home with Eau Claire.

International Folk Fair

Every October, the CIE coordinates the International Folk Fair. The fair brings people together to celebrate culture through educational exhibits, food, and cultural performances. Students, community groups, and student organizations represent more than 40 different countries/cultures every year, and thousands of students and community members attend.

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