



WELCOME TO AUCA





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ASIA

The American University of Central Asia is an international, multi-disciplinary learning community in the American liberal arts tradition that develops enlightened and impassioned leaders for the transformation of Central Asia. Our campus has become a home to artists, researchers, innovators--those who are looking for knowledge.



AUCA PRESIDENT DR. ANDREW KUCHINS



PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FRESHMAN ORIENTATION PROGRAM

[ONLINE Freshman Orientation Program 2020](#)





“KNOWLEDGE & VALUES”

Welcome dear AUCA freshmen! The Freshman Orientation Program is designed to facilitate the transition between your previous learning experience and the one that awaits you at the university. This year’s academic program adopts the theme of **“Knowledge and Values”**. Our orientation events are packed with academic learning activities that foster development, freedom and AUCA’s values as a liberal arts institution.

The goal of the academic sessions is to introduce you to the interdisciplinary and challenging study ethos of AUCA, which includes creative, yet fun, learning experiences and intensive writing across a variety of genres and texts. You will read, explore, and work extensively on texts through writing and other creative approaches. Although it might be difficult to do it online and to imagine what to expect in your first weeks of university, the goal is to enable you to experience a glimpse of the challenging and unique intellectual learning culture in a liberal arts institution in Central Asia.

While you might be wondering how you can savor all activities that will last for two weeks, bear in mind that the Orientation Program is a great way to start an exciting journey of your university life and beyond as well as to make new friends and lasting memories. Make the most of it as you read through all the material and actively participate in the events planned for you by following the links.

We hope that you will learn not only important information on academic issues, institutional policies, and regulations, but also gain a first-hand understanding of the liberal arts learning within a diverse community, while making social connections that will remain with you throughout your academic career and beyond. We look forward to your active participation as we welcome you to our AUCA community!

ONLINE ATTENDANCE OF ALL ACADEMIC SESSIONS IS MANDATORY. YOU CANNOT MISS ANY OF THE ACADEMIC SESSIONS IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE A PASSING GRADE FOR THE ACADEMIC ORIENTATION PROGRAM.



STAYING ON TRACK

EVERY academic year comprises two semesters and a summer school term for some. Each semester has 15 weeks of classes and one to three weeks of examinations.

Academic calendar 2020-2021

FALL 2020

August 17, Monday – August 28, Friday - Freshman Orientation Program*
August 31, Monday Independence Day**
September 1, Tuesday Classes begin
September 1, Tuesday - September 7, Monday Add/Drop period
October 2, Friday Professor's Day
October 9, Friday Last day to change Incomplete grade
November 6, Friday Course Withdrawal Deadline
November 7, Saturday and November 8, Sunday Days of History and Memory of Forefathers (no classes on Saturday) **
November 9, Monday - November 14, Saturday Fall break (no classes)*
November 18, Wednesday Initiation Day (50 min. classes)*
November 23, Monday – December 4, Friday Registration for Spring 2021
November 26, Thursday Thanksgiving Day (no classes)**
December 12, Saturday Last Day of regular classes
December 13, Sunday–December 19, Saturday Final Exams***
December 25, Friday Christmas Holiday recess begins**

Total: 16- week semester

Final grades due on or before January 6, 2021

SPRING 2020

January 11, Monday Classes begin
January 11, Monday – January 18, Monday Add/Drop period
February 19, Friday Last day to change Incomplete grade
February 23, Tuesday Defender of the Fatherland Day (no classes)**
March 8, Monday International Women's Day (no classes)**

March 19, Friday Course Withdrawal Deadline
March 21, Sunday Nooruz Mayram - Holiday
March 22, Monday - March 27, Saturday Spring break (no classes)*
April 7, Wednesday Day of April National Revolution (no classes)**
April 19, Monday – April 30, Friday Registration for Fall 2021
May 1, Saturday Labor Day (no classes)**
May 5, Wednesday Constitution Day (no classes)**
May 8, Saturday Last Day of regular classes
May 9, Sunday Victory Day**
May 10, Monday - May 18, Tuesday Final Exams***
May 13, Thursday Orozo Ait**
May 21, Friday – May 31, Monday State exam period

Total: 18-week semester

Final grades for graduating seniors due on May 19 for all other students – June 1
June 5, Saturday Commencement



* AUCA Computer lab and the library work on a reduced schedule

** AUCA Computer lab and the library do not work

*** AUCA Computer lab and the library work on expanded schedule

Note: If a public holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday will also be a public holiday.

Follow the link for more information from the AUCA registrar's office: [Academic Rules and Registration](#)

DISCOVER AUCA

One of the aspects that sets the American University of Central Asia experience apart from other universities in the region is the wealth of extracurricular opportunities available to students. There are not only numerous longstanding organizations on campus that operate in such diverse areas as student dance and theater, young entrepreneurship and sports but also the opportunity for students to pursue their own unique interests with the backing of the student life office that models the unique "AUCA spirit", a point of pride of the entire university community.

Initiation Day



Every year on the second Wednesday in November, the Student Life Office organizes the Initiation Day, the day freshmen are officially initiated into the university and traditionally held the new Student Senate inauguration. After the official part of the ceremony, the [AUCA Student Theater "Mirrors" annually presents a 50-minute musical](#). Initiation Day is indeed one of the most significant ceremonies at AUCA and everyone loves to get an invitation to it! Freshmen and their parents are obviously all invited.

Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. During the holiday students are post their “THANKS” for faculty, parents, friends, those they love, and whatever else they are grateful for on the walls to make a remembrance of their love and appreciation. Traditionally, we are here today to recognize achievements of our students who devoted tremendous amounts of time, energy and have been working hard from their freshmen years in university "corridors". This is the award for student life excellence for outstanding contribution to extracurricular activities. Then, at the end of the day, all students gather at the main foyer and eat turkey and other foods and enjoy the concert that was prepared by the Student Life Office.



STUDENT LIFE AWARDS

Recognizing performance beyond academics, the Awards acknowledge student contributions in leadership, arts and culture, community service, and campus vibrancy, among others.

Diversity Week

AUCA is really unique as it has students of more than 20 ethnicities. Diversity week is a cultural week that gathers all nations to perform and show their traditions and culture. There are 4 days of diversity week: Presentation Day, Video day, Food day and Final concert day.



Valentine's day concert



Donkey Bridge (Juniors Ball)

In the middle ages, the Pythagorean theory was considered as very hard one and sometimes was called “Donkey Bridge” or “escape of cripples”. Because some cripple students who did not have a serious training were skipping the geometry, they had to leave the school they were in to. Some weak students learning by heart the theory without understanding it, were called “donkeys”.

They couldn't overcome the Pythagorean theory, which was an impassable bridge for them. Those students who got over this bridge were considered as real students and they deserve to graduate the university. Passing the “Donkey bridge” was considered as festival of the certain year, where students were initiated to the graduates (in those who have to graduate the university). This festival had a form as a ball. AUCA juniors have “Donkey Bridge” ceremony as well. The ceremony is conducted in the form of ball, where juniors get over the bridge and become real students who will soon graduate the university.



Commencement

The graduation ceremony is traditionally held in early June. On this day students are awarded Bachelor's and Master's degrees, receive their Kyrgyz and US-style diplomas. It is called Commencement because it is thought to be the beginning of a new life. Greetings from honored guests, the President, faculty and students form an integral part of this ceremony. The awards ceremony is a real holiday and one of the most memorable events in the students' lives.



February/March

Career Fair

Interact and network with potential employers to get a head start in your career planning.



Open Doors Day

Find out everything you need to know about learning and living in AUCA.





There is free Wi-Fi everywhere on AUCA premises so you can stay connected

Beyond the Classroom

Look out for these other events which are regularly held throughout the year:



Academic events

like symposiums, talks and forums featuring prominent speakers.



Bazaars, festivals and fairs.



Arts and music lovers can look forward to a wide range of **exhibitions, performances, concerts and recitals** organized by AUCA student clubs and Student Theater “Mirrors”

AUCA provides a holistic education. You can hone your entrepreneurial skills, or make an impact in the community, while making new friends.

GET INVOLVED

AUCA STUDENT CLUBS

1. Rotarct Club
2. Enactus Club
3. Football Club
4. Women’s Football Club
5. AIESEC Club
6. Debate Club
7. Theater “Mirrors”
8. Basketball Club
9. Women and the Arts Club
10. Photography and Models Club
11. NeoBis – Mobile Apps Development Club
12. Outdoor Club
13. Young Leaders Association
14. Filmmaking Club
15. Board Games Club
16. AUCA Movie Club
17. Global Citizenship Club
18. AUCA TEDex Club
19. The Sexual Kaleidoscope
20. The Japanese Club
21. AUCA Green Community Club
22. AUCA MUN Club
23. Philosophy Club
24. Ballet Dancing Club
25. AUCA Memeborship Club

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic Advising

Whether you are seeking guidance on courses and study requirements, choosing which department to apply or deciding on your future career path – Academic Advising Office is here to help you. We aim to provide necessary tools and information to align your liberal arts education and professional experience with your personal goals.

Academic Advising

Support

Development

Challenge

Aspirational
Explore

Resources

Champion

Encourage

Aid

Partnership

Mentor

Orient

Retain

Journey to success starts with setting your own goals, it is an important task. Through the act of doing, representatives of Academic Advising Office will help you to stay focused, motivated and organized. This includes assisting you in shaping your decision-making, both within and outside of AUCA campus.

Writing and Academic Resource Center



We provide free, one-on-one tutoring in the following subjects: Writing, Mathematics, Economics,

Accounting, Programming, Kyrgyz Language, Russian Language, and English Help. To see the schedule and make or cancel an appointment, click [HERE.](#)



International Students Office



The student body currently numbers approximately 1,300. AUCA has a highly trained faculty, with professors from Kyrgyzstan and the United States as well as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Romania, Russia, and Turkey. The student to faculty ratio 10:1, meaning that students enjoy individualized instruction and the opportunity to work closely with professors.

International Student Office helps AUCA and international students achieve their educational and personal goals. The office advises local students on study abroad programs and helps international students on all matters pertaining to their legal status, cultural, social, educational, and personal concerns in Kyrgyzstan. International Student Office at AUCA works to

prepare incoming exchange students for the AUCA experience and provides information to permanent AUCA students on opportunities available to study abroad at AUCA's numerous partner universities.



Organizer: [AUCA Orientation Director](#)

AUCA LIBRARY

AUCA Library is a dynamic partner of the university community. We leverage technology and creativity to promote access to collections, to help students to be responsible consumers of information, and to encourage lifelong learning. We support faculty and researchers by providing access to a variety of information sources and formats. We manage our print and digital resources and assist the community in using them.



Our Vision

We believe that freedom of expression, critical inquiry, and academic honesty should be integral part of academic life. We collaborate with faculty to foster intellectual relationships,

to model new approaches to teaching and learning, and to encourage the open exchange of ideas. We help our students to become fluent users and creators of information across and beyond the curriculum.

In Collaboration with: [AUCA Student Life](#)

Collections and Location

AUCA Library has three locations within the campus:

Core Collection (Room 340)

- a book collection, which contains one copy of each book store in the library, as well as monographs and reference materials;
- reserved materials;
- individual study spaces for those looking for a quiet place;
- group study room that fit 10 people.

Multimedia & Periodicals (Room 330)

- audiovisual materials;
- periodicals: academic journals, popular magazines and newspapers;
- four desktop computers, printer and scanner;
- study spaces for individual and collaborative use.

Education USA Corner (Room 330)

- Preparation materials for TOEFL, IELTS, GMAT, GRE & SAT;
- NATO Multimedia Corner - books related to the NATO history and its current activity, defense and security issues, international relations, environmental science, education, economics and politics in Central Asia, etc.
- DVD collection of feature and documentary films that address the contemporary issues of war, terrorism, international politics, migration, etc.

Textbook Storage (C10)

- multi-copy textbooks;
- archived library materials, journals and newspapers.

Off-Campus Access to e-Resources

Most of electronic resources the AUCA library subscribes to are available off-campus for current faculty and students.

There are various ways to access licensed electronic resources remotely from the Library website:

1) Using the option 'All' in the searching box on the **main page**:

- carry out an author, title or keyword search;
- click 'Search' button;
- in the new tab a login page will appear;
- enter your AUCA network username and password.

2) Through the **list of online research databases**:

- click on a link of the certain database;
- in the new tab a login page will appear;
- enter your AUCA network username and password.

3) Using the URL field below:

- log in here: <https://ldb.auca.kg:6443/form>
- enter your AUCA network username and password.



STUDENT SUPPORT



CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

There are various ways you can take advantage of AUCA's career services, either as a client seeking help in managing your career or as a contributor offering assistance to students and recent graduates who are considering their employment options. Services include assistance with resume and cover letter writing, access to career-related events and skills development workshops, and information about employers and job and internship opportunities.

Follow the links below to learn more:

STUDY STRATEGIES

SOFT SKILLS TRAINING FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

MENTORING PROGRAMS

LOCAL CAREER CENTERS COLLABORATION

MANUALS

PROGRAM ON "PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS"

ENTREPRENEURSHIP CURRICULUM

SHARED SERVICES CENTER



The purpose is to help students in the best way possible. We serve to answer your questions, advise you during your studies within our university and assist you in administrative issues. Whether it's Registrar/admissions, Human Resources, Finance, IT or Research Administration support, our staff is ready to assist in any way possible. The Shared Service Center team is eager to work collaboratively with units on campus to achieve their missions and develop great relationships to ensure students' customer satisfaction.

Our objective is to provide you with dedicated interlocutors that will know you, answer your needs and anticipate your questions. Our agents and stewards will be glad to welcome you and answer your questions every day.

AUCA MEDICAL OFFICE

The objectives of the Medical Service are:

- to protect and promote the health of students, faculty and staff of the University;
- to conduct medical and health measures;
- to conduct a medical examination of students with chronic health conditions;
- to implement a systematic medical monitoring of morbidity and physical development of students, faculty, and staff members;
- to monitor the implementation of sanitary norms and rules in the institution of education, including the food service at the University.



AUCA IT SUPPORT

IT Department manages the AUCA's network and communications infrastructure, as well as campus data center facilities. In addition, IT Department provides a wide range of technology services and related applications that support campus research, learning, teaching and advanced patient care. These include telecommunication systems, research computing infrastructure, web hosting and development.

Help Desk

The Help Desk provides support for technology-related problems or questions from the AUCA Community. Help Desk representatives work to resolve your issue quickly. If we can't solve the issue, we route your information to the appropriate person or department, or assign a technician to contact you and address your problem.

See the IT Handbook for Students: [CLICK HERE](#)



CONNECT TO WI-FI ONCE ON CAMPUS:

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more

AUCA DINING SERVICES

When on campus AUCA offers several dining options







Organizer: [AUCA Orientation Director](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/MyAUCA>

#217707623



<https://www.instagram.com/myAUCA/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/school/american-university-of-central-asia/>



@MyAUCA



<https://www.youtube.com/user/aucapubrel>

