



# COVID-19 Updates for Fall 2020 Admitted Graduate & Professional International Students

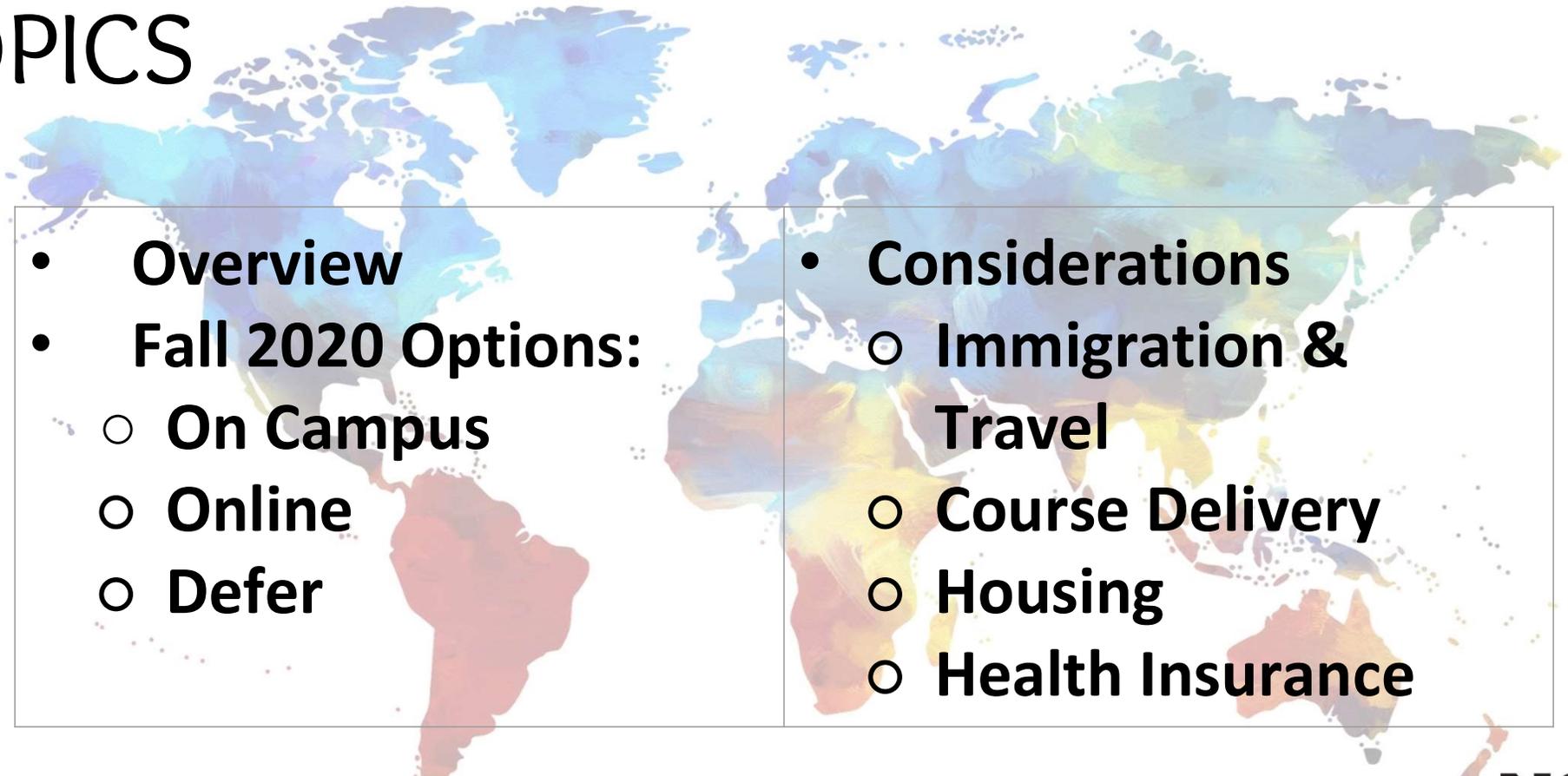
July 9, 2020

# Introductions



**Jeannie Jaworski**  
Director,  
International Affairs

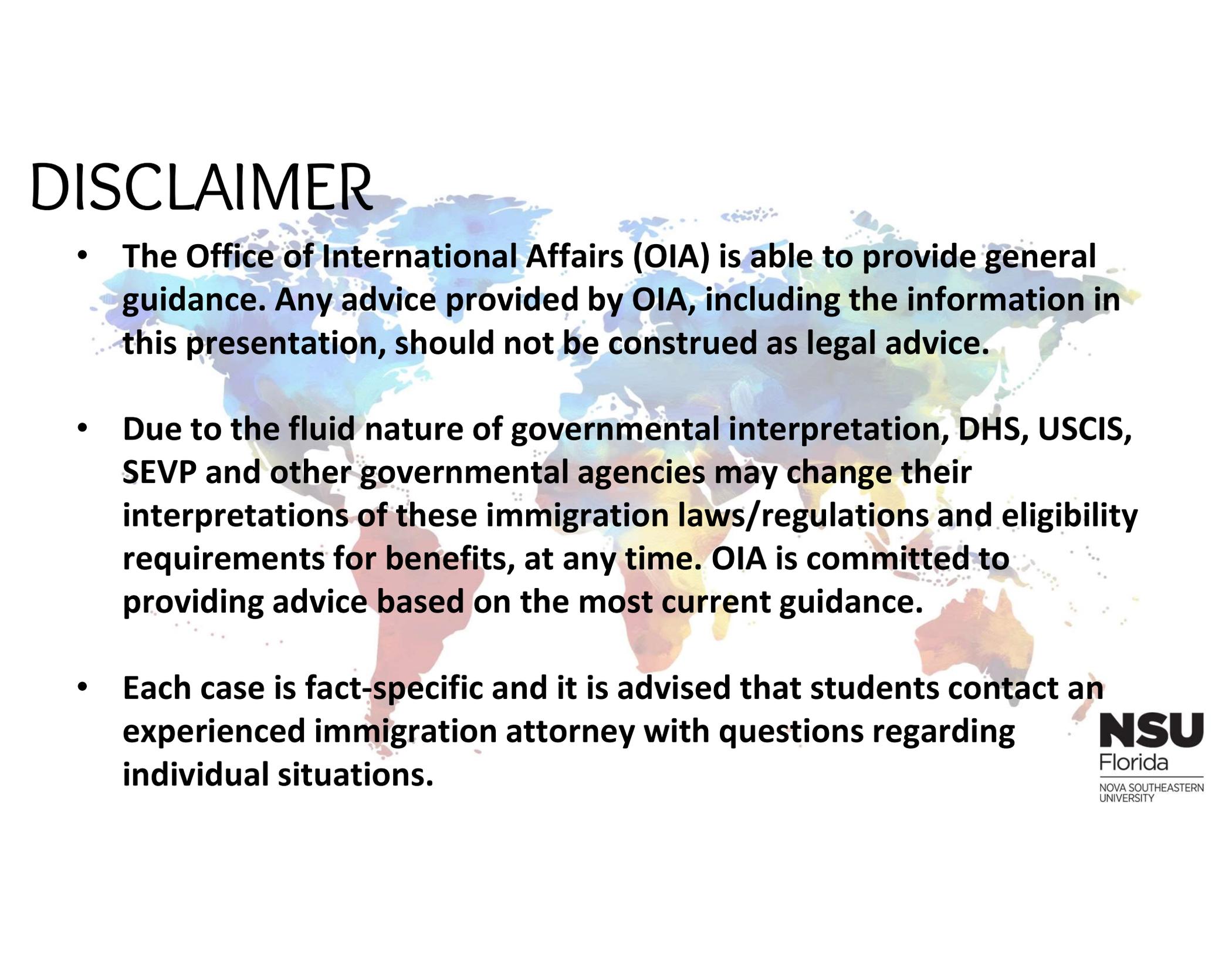
# TOPICS

A world map with a colorful, abstract overlay in shades of blue, green, yellow, and red, serving as a background for the slide.

- **Overview**
- **Fall 2020 Options:**
  - **On Campus**
  - **Online**
  - **Defer**

- **Considerations**
  - **Immigration & Travel**
  - **Course Delivery**
  - **Housing**
  - **Health Insurance**

# DISCLAIMER



- **The Office of International Affairs (OIA) is able to provide general guidance. Any advice provided by OIA, including the information in this presentation, should not be construed as legal advice.**
- **Due to the fluid nature of governmental interpretation, DHS, USCIS, SEVP and other governmental agencies may change their interpretations of these immigration laws/regulations and eligibility requirements for benefits, at any time. OIA is committed to providing advice based on the most current guidance.**
- **Each case is fact-specific and it is advised that students contact an experienced immigration attorney with questions regarding individual situations.**

# DISCLAIMER – COVID-19

- **This situation is entirely unprecedented at NSU, within the United States, and within our modern world.**
- **University officials may only present factual statements based on existing knowledge. We may not provide information to students that relies on anticipations, guesses, wishes, or other uncertainties.**
- **NSU and all DSOs are legally bound to fulfill SEVIS reporting requirements, respond to governmental directives, and adhere to the F-1 regulations.**
- **NSU will continue to prioritize the best interests of all NSU students – including F-1 international students – in decision-making related to COVID-19 and beyond.**

# FALL 2020

## **NSU's 5/1/20 Announcement:**

**NSU will resume in-person classes for the fall 2020 term at all campuses, subject to the Governor of Florida's executive orders at the time of opening, as well as CDC and local government directives.**

**Courses will also be offered via synchronous online delivery.**

# Fall 2020 Academic Calendar



## Thanksgiving Break:

**“Please note that the last day for traditional, in-person undergraduate classes will be Friday, Nov. 20. Those traditional undergraduate courses will conclude in the fall semester fully online. Some undergraduate in-person health care and nursing programs will continue in-person or through hybrid delivery.”**

**Although announcement was for undergraduate specifically, we anticipate many graduate programs to also follow this format. Confirm with your academic program.**

# Fall 2020 Options



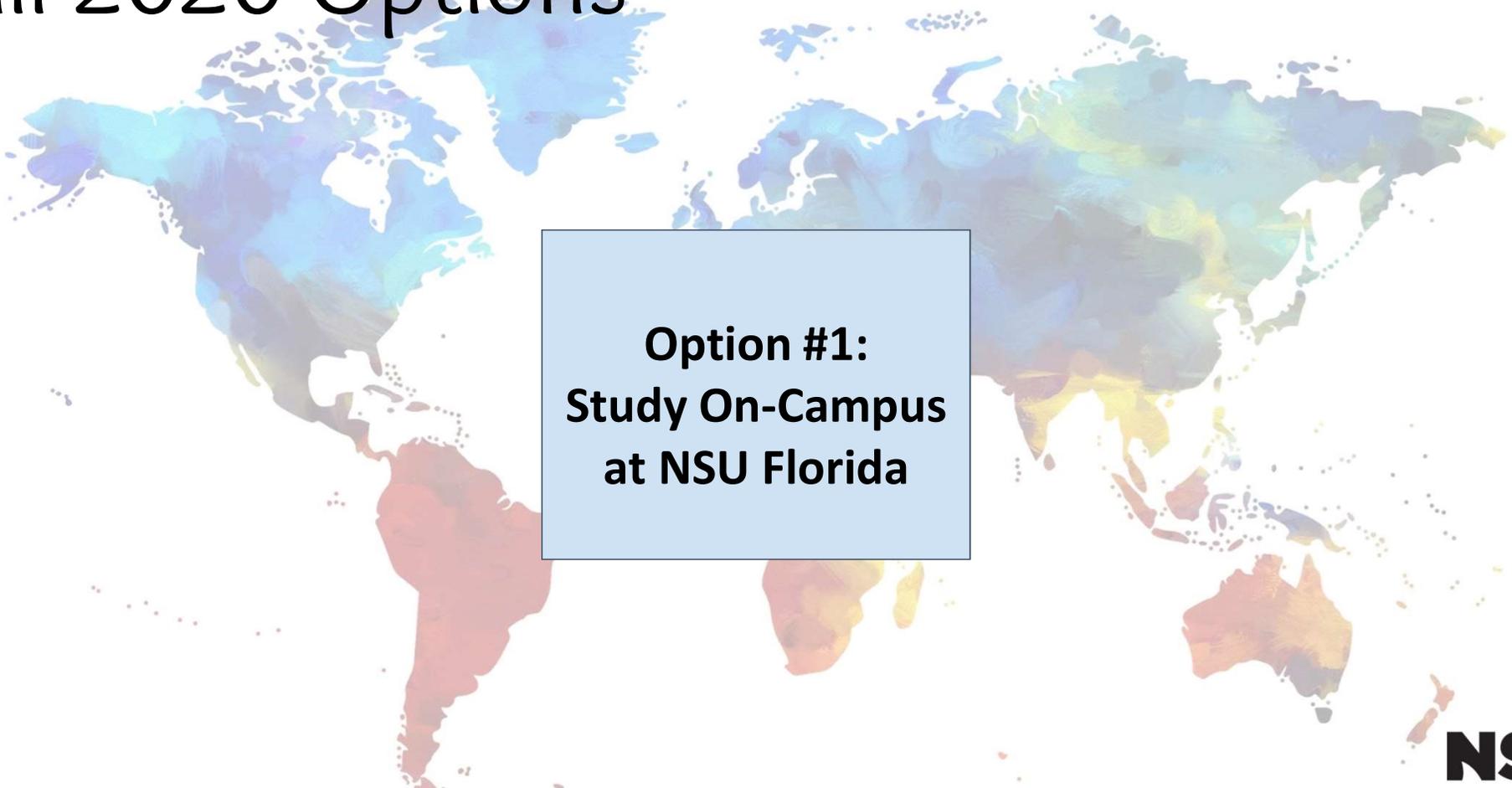
**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021**

**All options may not exist for all programs.  
Please confirm with your academic program.**

# Fall 2020 Options



**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

# Visa Concerns

- Many U.S. embassies remain closed around the world, preventing the ability to get visa appointments (and visas) prior to start of Fall 2020 term.
- Students may not be able to obtain a visa in time to arrive for fall 2020. An alternate visa type (B-1/B-2) may not be used to study in the U.S.
- Students should plan to arrive prior to start of classes.
- If unable to arrive by move-in date, flexibility will given to the extent possible by federal regulations:

**LAST DAY TO ARRIVE IN THE U.S. FOR FALL 2020:  
THREE WEEKS AFTER PROGRAM START DATE, AS LISTED ON I-20.**

**MOST FALL 2020 START DATES: AUGUST 17, 2020  
LAST DAY TO ARRIVE FOR MOST: SEPTEMBER 7, 2020**

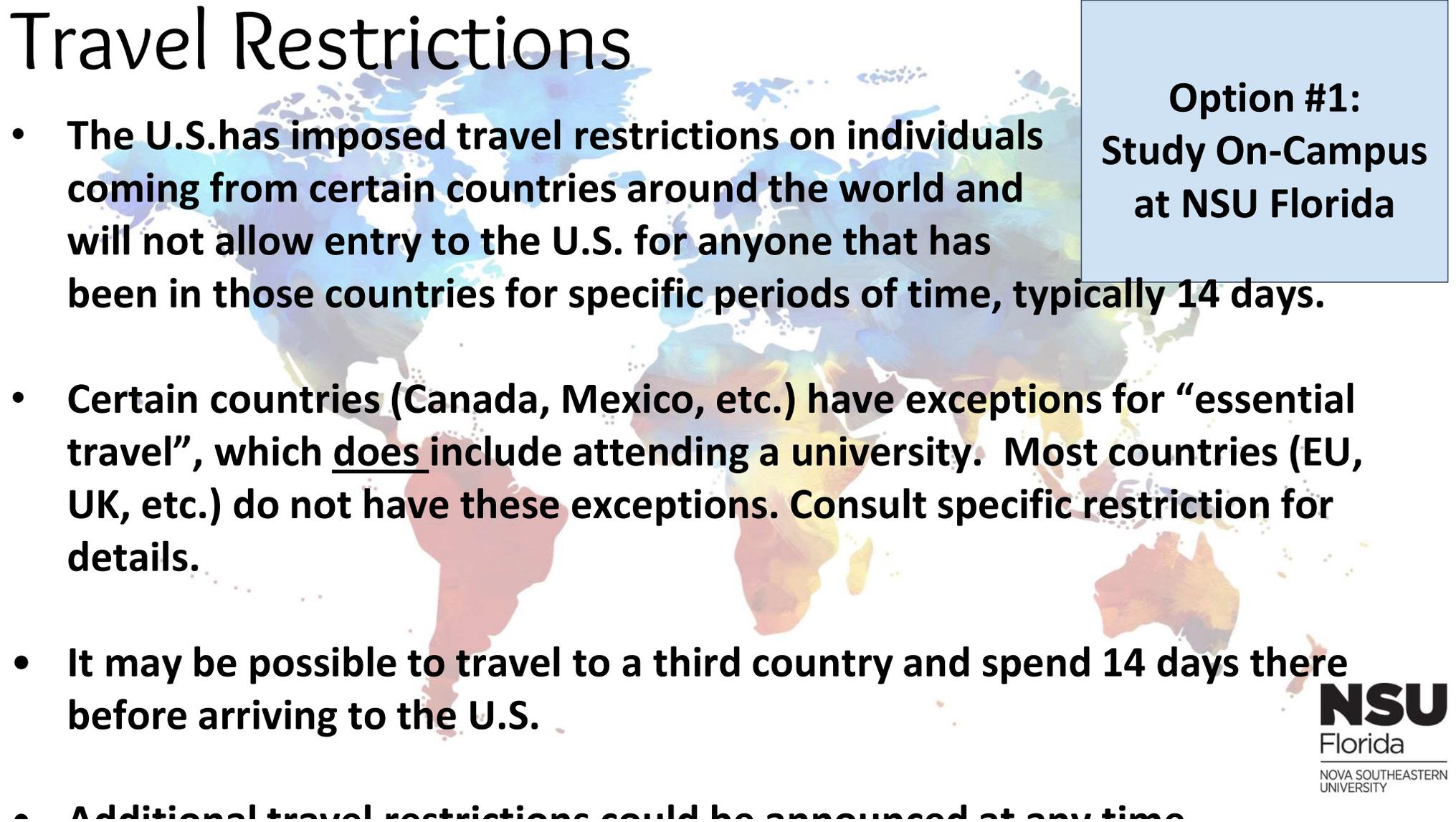
**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

# I-20s for Fall 2020

- If you have already received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will be issued a new one that includes a new remark that NSU will be offering sufficient coursework for you to study on-campus for fall 2020.
- You will need this new I-20 to enter! Your previously issued I-20 will no longer be sufficient. No new information will be required from you.
- This new I-20 will be issued by August 4, 2020 and sent to you by email.
- If you have not yet received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will need to request a new I-20. Information on requesting your I-20 is available at [www.nova.edu/admittedf1](http://www.nova.edu/admittedf1).

**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

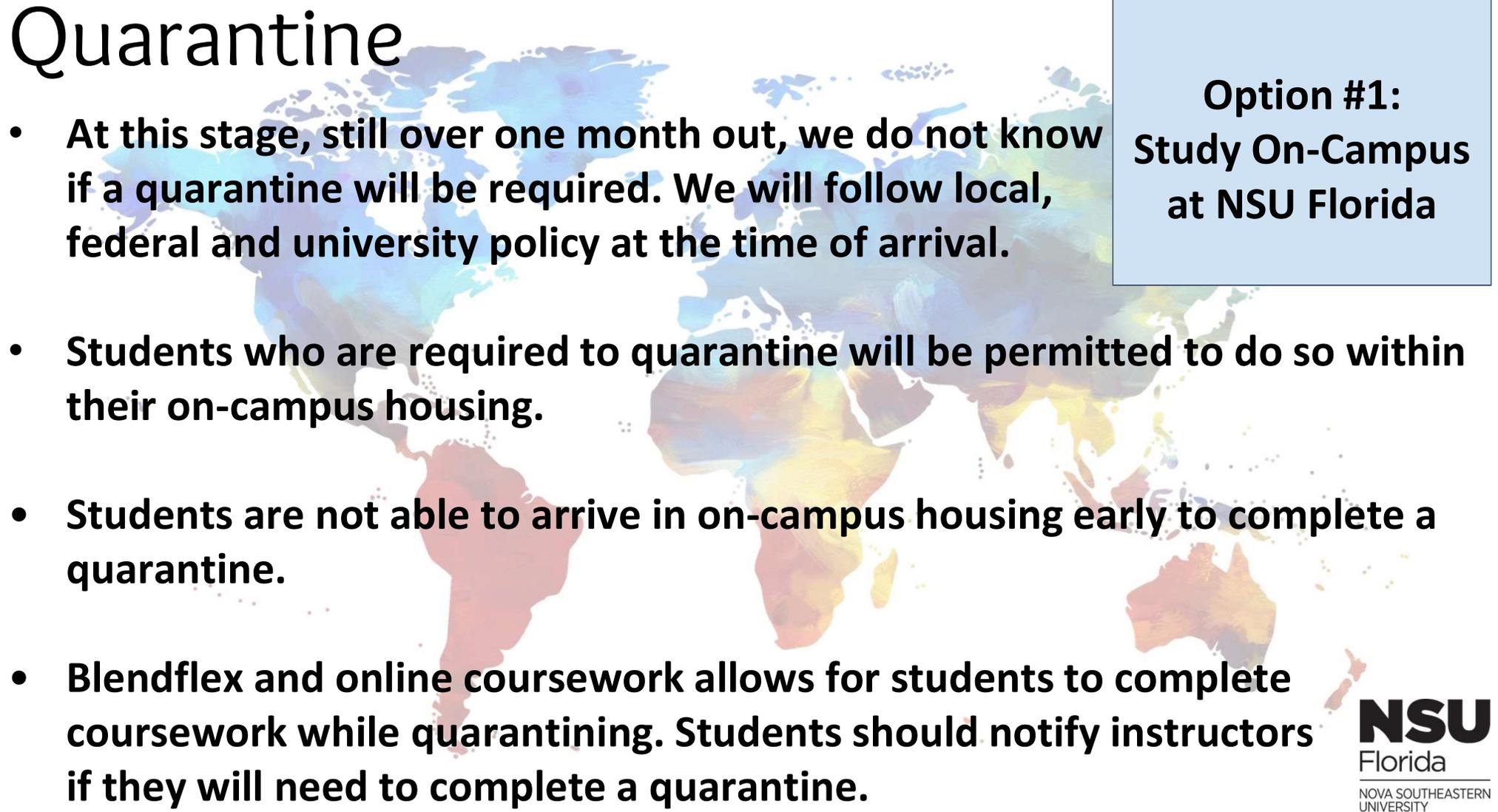
# Travel Restrictions



- The U.S. has imposed travel restrictions on individuals coming from certain countries around the world and will not allow entry to the U.S. for anyone that has been in those countries for specific periods of time, typically 14 days.
- Certain countries (Canada, Mexico, etc.) have exceptions for “essential travel”, which does include attending a university. Most countries (EU, UK, etc.) do not have these exceptions. Consult specific restriction for details.
- It may be possible to travel to a third country and spend 14 days there before arriving to the U.S.
- Additional travel restrictions could be announced at any time.

**Option #1:  
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# Quarantine



- **At this stage, still over one month out, we do not know if a quarantine will be required. We will follow local, federal and university policy at the time of arrival.**
- **Students who are required to quarantine will be permitted to do so within their on-campus housing.**
- **Students are not able to arrive in on-campus housing early to complete a quarantine.**
- **Blendflex and online coursework allows for students to complete coursework while quarantining. Students should notify instructors if they will need to complete a quarantine.**

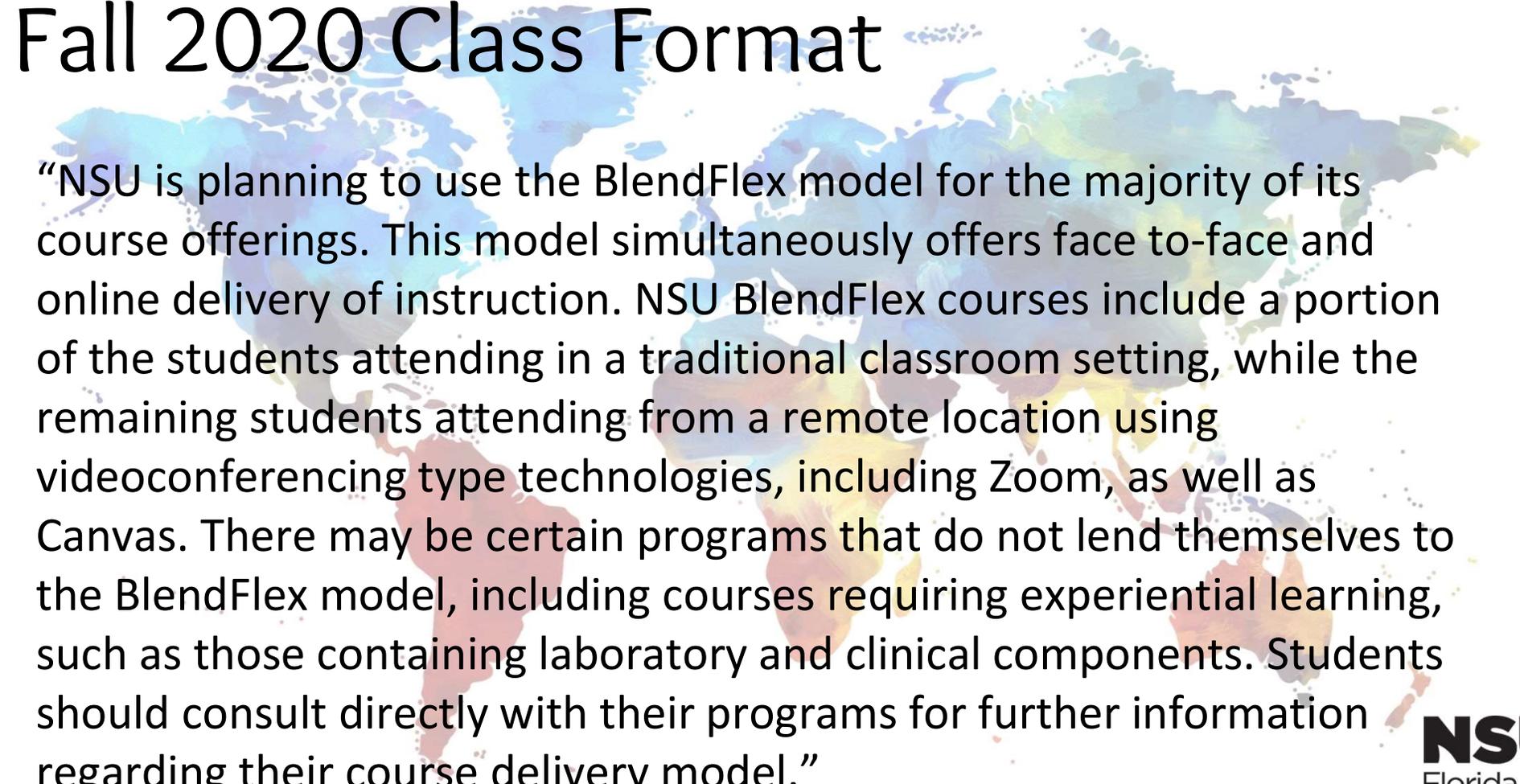
**Option #1:  
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# On Campus Coursework

- **Students will be able to enroll in a mixture of blendflex and online courses.**
- **Even if not required by the instructor, F-1 students will have to attend in-person requirements for blendflex courses.**
- **All undergraduate coursework, and many graduate programs, will transition to fully online after Thanksgiving Break, which begins on November 20. Winter 2021 (January) is currently expected to resume in person as normal.**
- **Blendflex courses will adhere to social distancing requirements. Masks will be required.**

**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

# Fall 2020 Class Format



“NSU is planning to use the BlendFlex model for the majority of its course offerings. This model simultaneously offers face to-face and online delivery of instruction. NSU BlendFlex courses include a portion of the students attending in a traditional classroom setting, while the remaining students attending from a remote location using videoconferencing type technologies, including Zoom, as well as Canvas. There may be certain programs that do not lend themselves to the BlendFlex model, including courses requiring experiential learning, such as those containing laboratory and clinical components. Students should consult directly with their programs for further information regarding their course delivery model.”

# Fall 2020 Class Format



## **Blend Flex Model:**

- **50% in classroom, 50% outside classroom**
- **Online aka “fully remote”**

**Synchronous:** Classes are streamed “live” via Zoom at a certain day and time

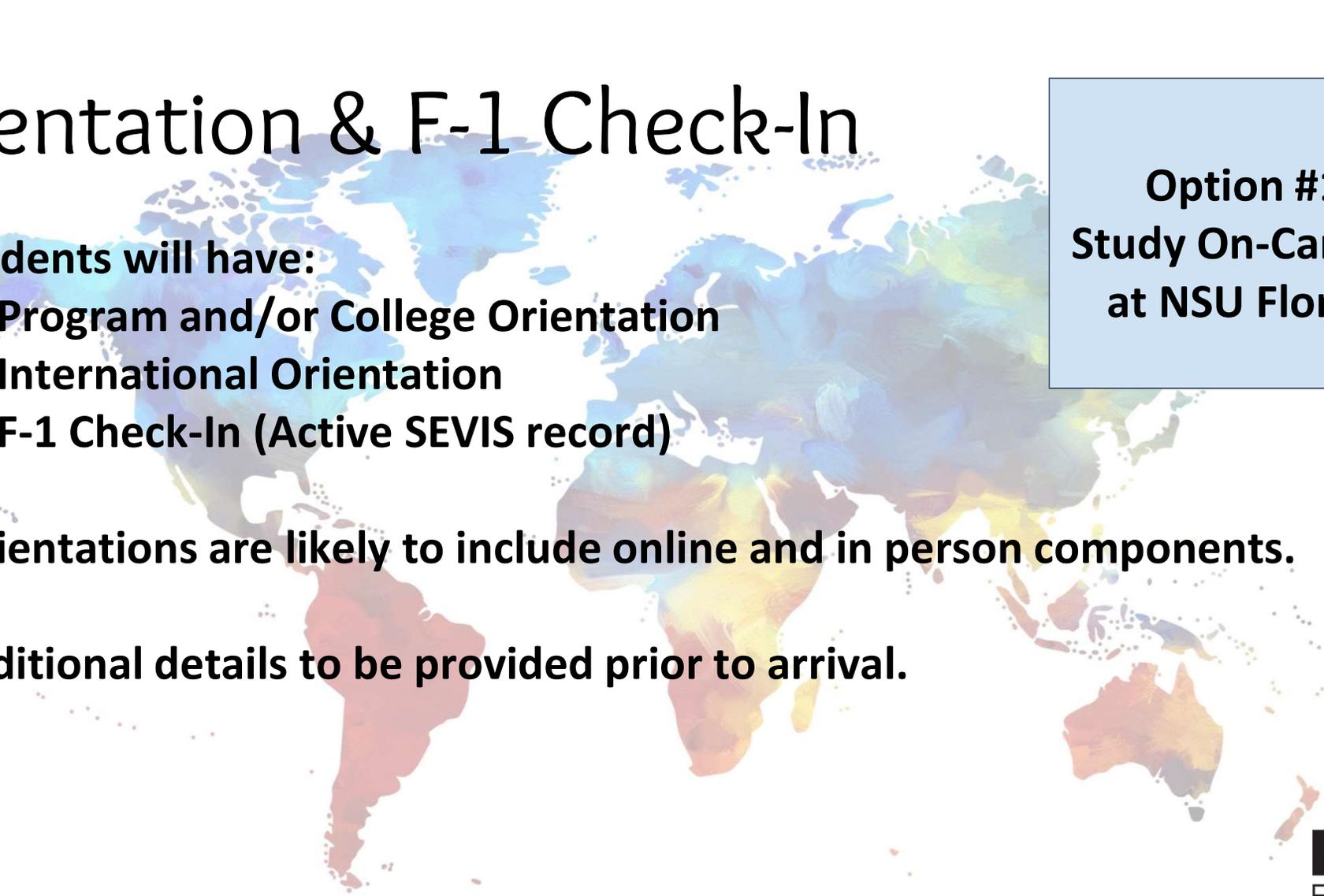
**Asynchronous:** Classes are available 24/7

# Housing

- Questions about housing should be directed to [housing@nova.edu](mailto:housing@nova.edu).
- Although subject to change, at this time we do anticipate that students will be able to remain in on-campus housing when coursework moves online (after Thanksgiving break) and through winter break.
- We do not yet have instructions for move-in procedures, including if parents will be able to assist with move-in and/or if parents will be required to complete any type of quarantine.

**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
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# Orientation & F-1 Check-In



- **Students will have:**
  - **Program and/or College Orientation**
  - **International Orientation**
  - **F-1 Check-In (Active SEVIS record)**
- **Orientations are likely to include online and in person components.**
- **Additional details to be provided prior to arrival.**

**Option #1:  
Study On-Campus  
at NSU Florida**

# BE A SMART SHARK.

## MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCE.



*Handshakes and hugs aren't a good idea, but a wave and a "Fins Up!" are!*

## USE A FACE COVERING.



*Cover your mouth and nose and avoid touching your face.*

## WASH YOUR HANDS, PLEASE.



*Spend at least 20 seconds and use plenty of soap and water.*

## DON'T FEEL WELL? STAY HOME.



*Monitor your symptoms and call your doctor early on.*

## KEEP IT CLEAN.



*Clean and disinfect all surfaces and objects you frequently touch.*

## STAY INFORMED.



*Visit [nova.edu/coronavirus](https://nova.edu/coronavirus) and [cdc.gov](https://cdc.gov)*

**NSU** Florida

**NSU**  
Florida  
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN  
UNIVERSITY

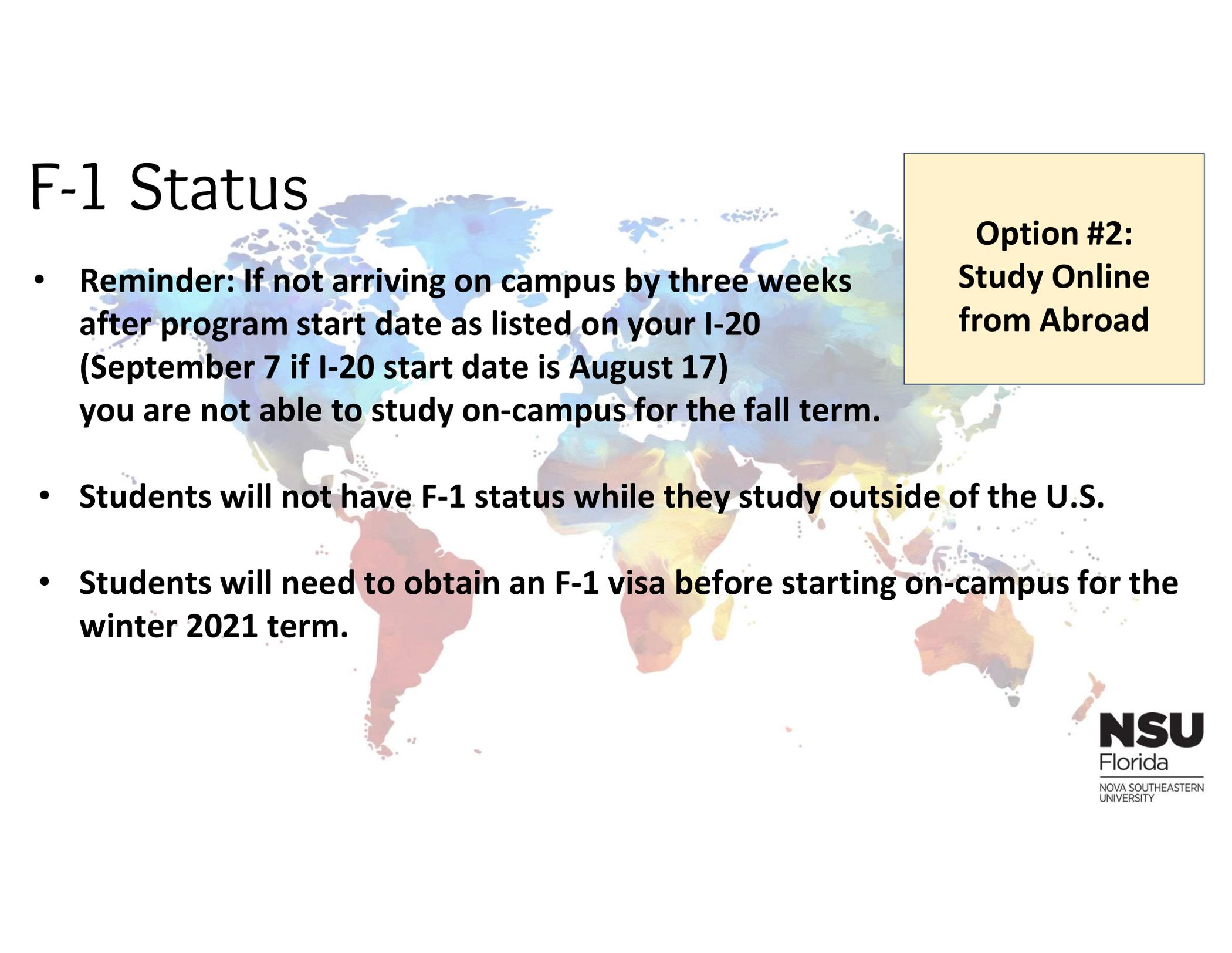
# Fall 2020 Options



**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

**This option may not exist for all programs.  
Please confirm with your program if studying online  
for the fall 2020 term is an option for you.**

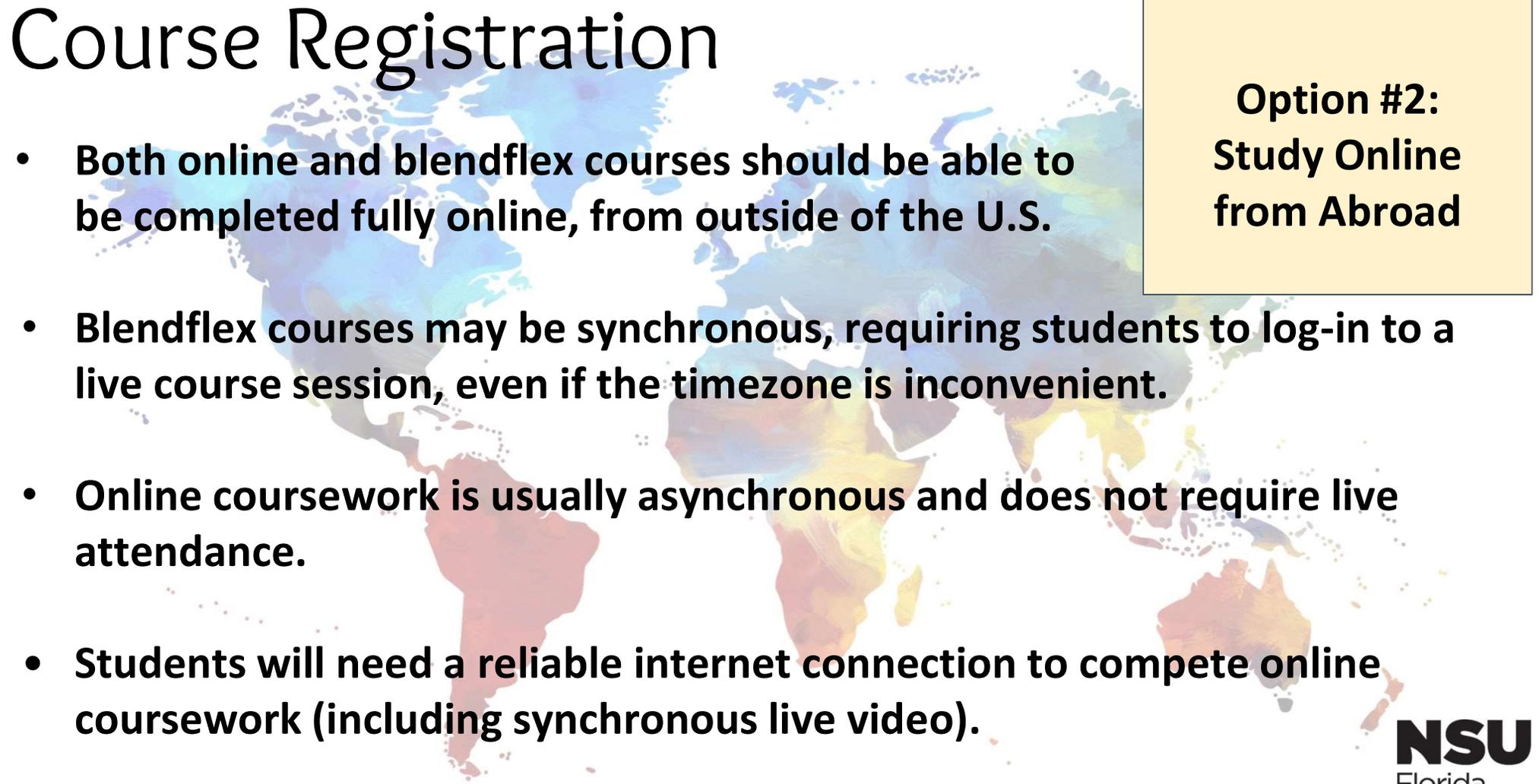
# F-1 Status

A stylized world map in the background, with colors ranging from blue and green to red and orange, representing different continents and regions.

- **Reminder: If not arriving on campus by three weeks after program start date as listed on your I-20 (September 7 if I-20 start date is August 17) you are not able to study on-campus for the fall term.**
- **Students will not have F-1 status while they study outside of the U.S.**
- **Students will need to obtain an F-1 visa before starting on-campus for the winter 2021 term.**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

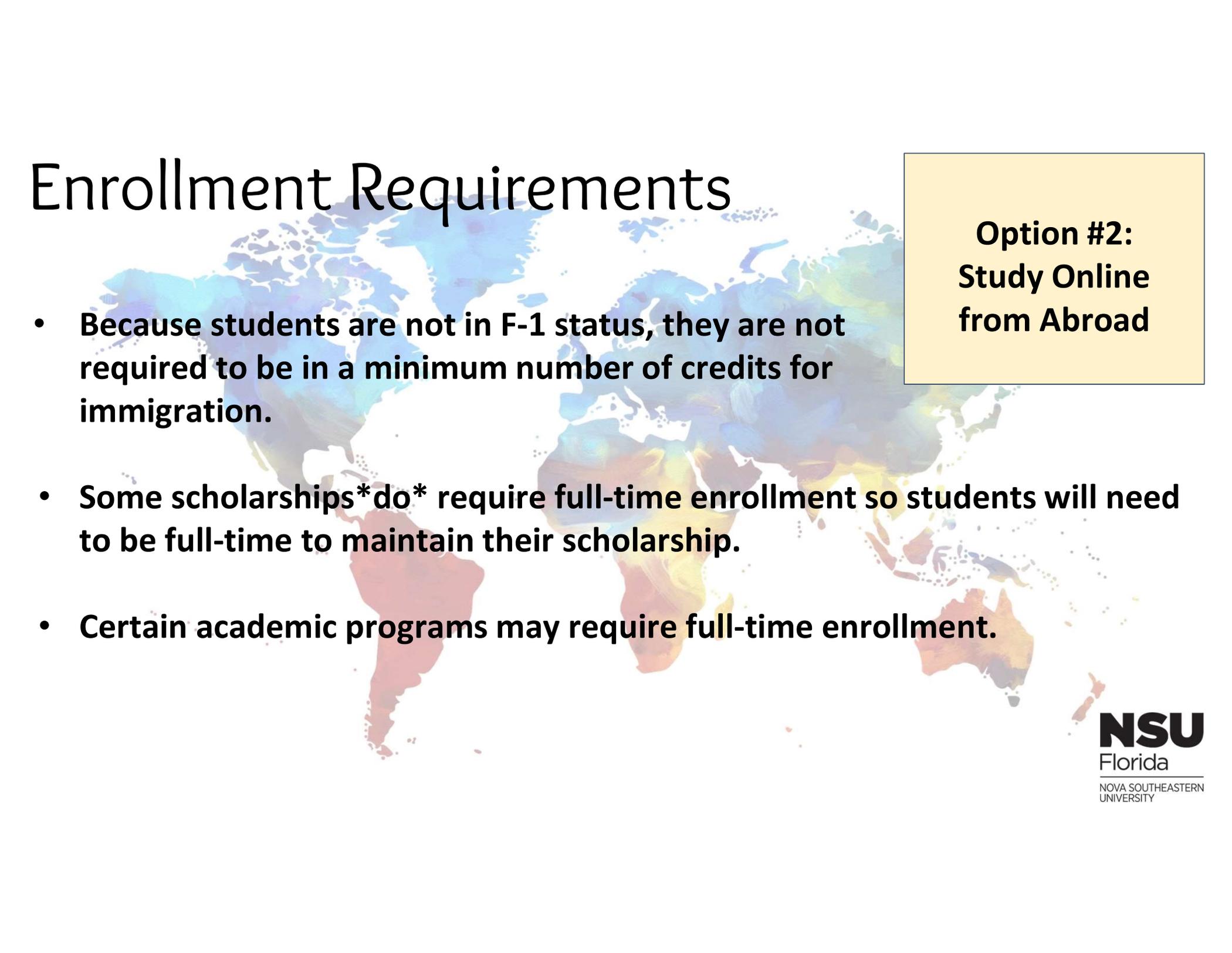
# Course Registration

A stylized world map in the background, with colors ranging from light blue to red, representing different continents and regions.

- **Both online and blendflex courses should be able to be completed fully online, from outside of the U.S.**
- **Blendflex courses may be synchronous, requiring students to log-in to a live course session, even if the timezone is inconvenient.**
- **Online coursework is usually asynchronous and does not require live attendance.**
- **Students will need a reliable internet connection to compete online coursework (including synchronous live video).**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

# Enrollment Requirements



**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

- **Because students are not in F-1 status, they are not required to be in a minimum number of credits for immigration.**
- **Some scholarships\*do\* require full-time enrollment so students will need to be full-time to maintain their scholarship.**
- **Certain academic programs may require full-time enrollment.**

# Tuition & Fees

A stylized world map in the background, with colors ranging from light blue to dark red, representing different continents and regions.

- **Online and blendflex courses are charged at the same tuition rate as on-campus courses.**
- **Students will have access to full range of university services, remotely.**  
**This includes:**
  - **International Affairs**
  - **Academic Advising**
  - **Tutoring & Testing**
  - **Writing Center**
  - **Alvin Sherman Library**
  - **Center for Counseling & Wellness**
  - **Virtual events and programming campuswide**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

# Transitioning to On-Campus



- **Students will need to obtain an F-1 visa to begin their studies in person at NSU Florida, hopefully in winter 2021.**
- **Visa issuance is never guaranteed. While we hope that all students will be issued visas, it is possible that a student could be denied an F-1 visa even after completing a full semester online at NSU.**
- **Special accommodations are being made for fall 2020. Students should not assume that their academic programs can be completed online in winter 2021 or beyond, unless it is a program that is typically offered fully online.**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

# I-20s for Winter 2021

- **If you have already received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will need to request a deferred I-20 for winter 2021.**
  - **Process for requesting new I-20 to be announced by August 1.**
  - **Updated financial information may be required for both new I-20 and for F-1 visa appointment.**
  - **If you have already paid your I-901 SEVIS fee, you should not need to repay this fee.**
- **If you have not yet received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will need to request a new I-20. Information on requesting your I-20 is available at [www.nova.edu/admittedf1](http://www.nova.edu/admittedf1).**

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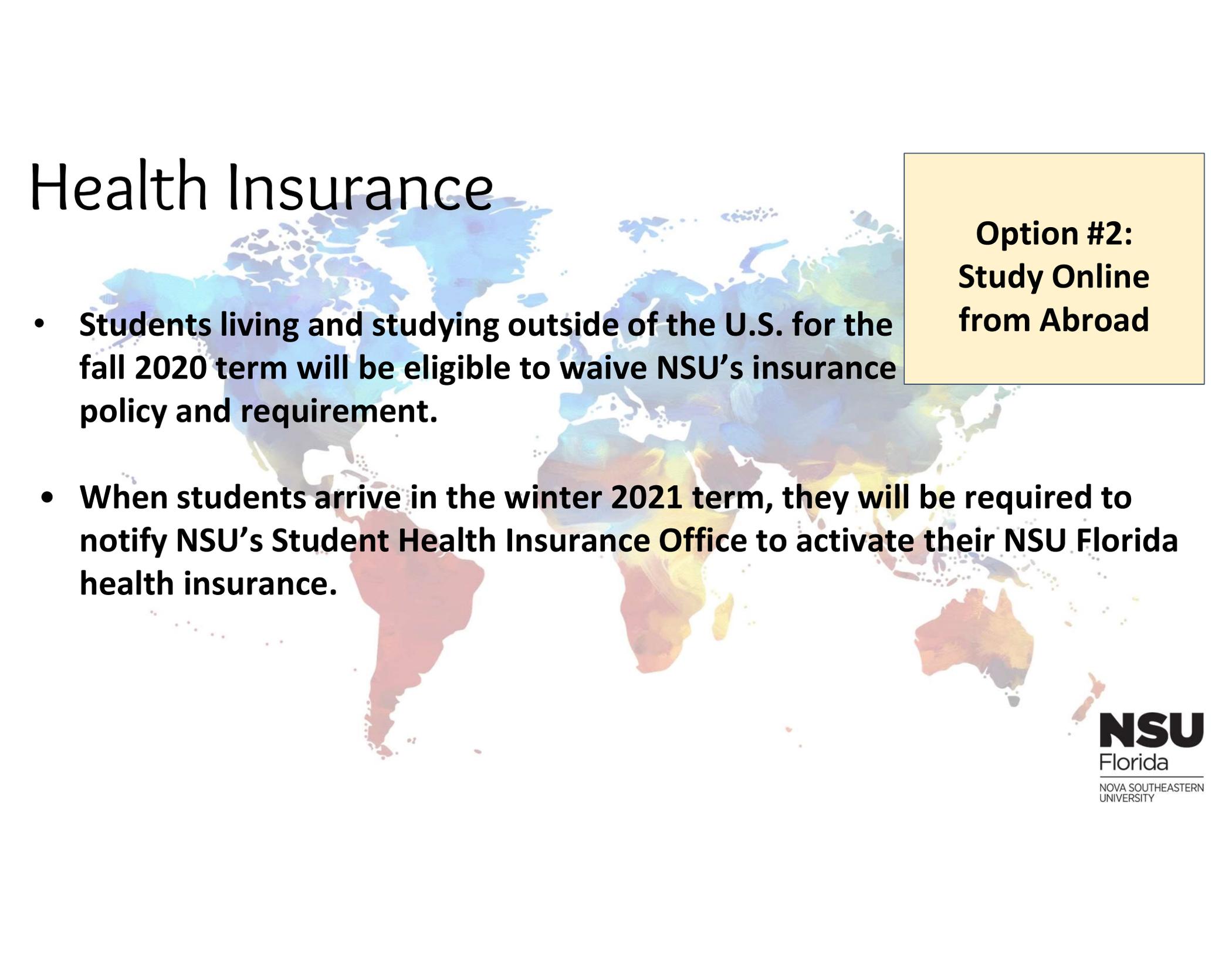
# Housing



**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

- **Questions about housing should be directed to [housing@nova.edu](mailto:housing@nova.edu).**
- **This includes questions about ending your fall 2020 housing contracts and the availability for winter 2021 housing.**

# Health Insurance



- **Students living and studying outside of the U.S. for the fall 2020 term will be eligible to waive NSU's insurance policy and requirement.**
- **When students arrive in the winter 2021 term, they will be required to notify NSU's Student Health Insurance Office to activate their NSU Florida health insurance.**

**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

# Orientation



**Option #2:  
Study Online  
from Abroad**

- **The Office of International Affairs will offer remote orientation and support opportunities throughout the fall 2020 term.**
- **Programs and/or colleges are likely to also offer online orientation options - may colleges already have these options available. Check with your program.**

# Fall 2020 Options



**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021 or Fall  
2021**

**This option may not exist for all programs.  
Please confirm with your program if studying online  
for the fall 2020 term is an option for you.**

# Confirm Deferral Eligibility

A stylized world map in the background, with colors ranging from light blue and green in the northern hemisphere to orange and red in the southern hemisphere. The map is semi-transparent and serves as a background for the text.

- **Certain programs do not allow for deferrals. Check with your Academic Program to make sure a deferral is an option.**
- **Once you make your decision to defer, your Academic Program will need to update your NSU student record to change your entry date to Winter 2021 or Fall 2021. This update must be made before your new I-20 can be processed.**

**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021**

# I-20s for Winter 2021

- **If you have already received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will need to request a deferred I-20 for winter 2021 or fall 2021.**
  - **Process for requesting new I-20 to be announced by August 1.**
  - **Updated financial information may be required for both new I-20 and for F-1 visa appointment.**
  - **If you have already paid your I-901 SEVIS fee, you should not need to repay this fee.**
- **If you have not yet received your fall 2020 NSU Florida I-20, you will need to request a new I-20. Information on requesting your I-20 is available at [www.nova.edu/admittedf1](http://www.nova.edu/admittedf1).**

**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021**

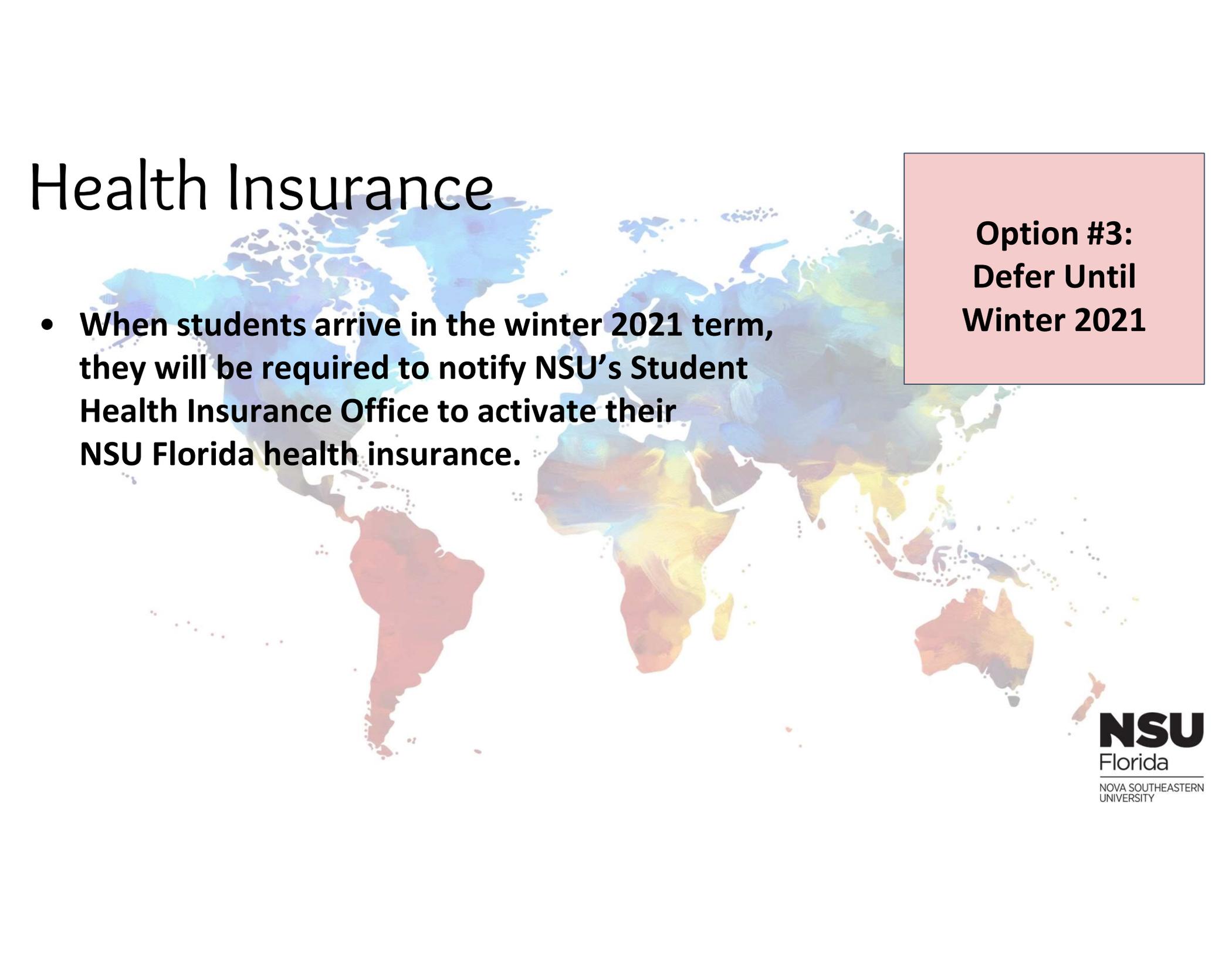
# Housing



**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021**

- Questions about housing should be directed to [housing@nova.edu](mailto:housing@nova.edu).
- This includes questions about ending your fall 2020 housing contracts and the availability for winter 2021 housing.

# Health Insurance



- **When students arrive in the winter 2021 term, they will be required to notify NSU's Student Health Insurance Office to activate their NSU Florida health insurance.**

**Option #3:  
Defer Until  
Winter 2021**

Q&A



# ACTIVATE YOUR SHARKLINK.

All-access, online portal to:

- NSU Email – all important university communication comes here
- Course Registration

Step 1: Access your online NSU identity  
[nova.edu/resources/nsuidentity](https://nova.edu/resources/nsuidentity)

Step 2: Log in to SharkLink  
[nova.edu/sharklink](https://nova.edu/sharklink)



# REMINDERS



- **Set up multi-factor authorization using the Authenticator app to prevent interruptions to access for NSU email, Canvas, and other SharkLink**
- <https://www.nova.edu/oit/office-365/help/multi-factor-authentication.html>

# REMINDERS



- **Sign up for NSU Alerts**
- <https://www.nova.edu/emergency/notification/registration-process.html>.
- **Official method of communication with students is via NSU email address!**

# THANK YOU

## OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

- Email: [intl@nova.edu](mailto:intl@nova.edu)
- Phone: (954) 262-7240
- Advising by Zoom:
  - Monday-Friday: 10am-12pm & 2pm-4pm
  - <http://bit.ly/nsuoissadvising> (or from [nova.edu/internationalaffairs](http://nova.edu/internationalaffairs))