

First Gen Programs

at the

University Service Center

Program Viewbook 2012

First Gen Programs at the University Service Center

Overview

The First Gen programs hosted by the University Service Center are geared toward students who are among the first in their families to attend college. Through First Gen programming, the USC hopes to serve as a resource to students to help them smoothly and successfully transition from high school to college life. The USC First Gen events allow students to meet each other and enjoy refreshments and conversation in an informal, friendly setting. Examples of past events include the fall social, end-of-semester study breaks, and monthly drop-ins. Monthly newsletters keep students informed of future events, important semester dates, announcements of interest, and helpful tips. The First Gen programs are continuously growing, and the USC seeks any feedback from students for future programming ideas.

Contact Us

Email: Stephanie Burke at uscgradi@bu.edu

Phone: (617) 358-1818

Stay Connected

Website: <http://www.bu.edu/usc/outreach/g1/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BU.First.Gen>



Are you among the first in your family to go to college?

Enjoy refreshments and meet fellow Firsties who are also among the first in their families to go to college.

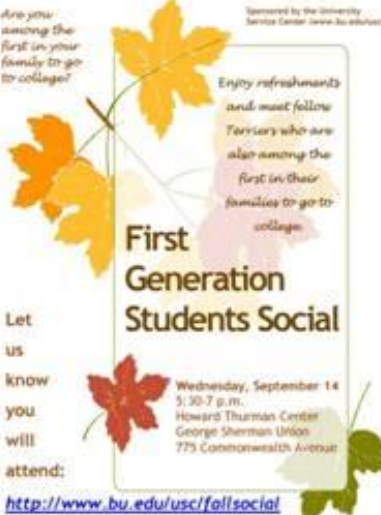
First Generation Students Social

Let us know you will attend:

Wednesday, September 14
5:30-7 p.m.
Howard Thurman Center
George Sherman Union
775 Commonwealth Avenue

<http://www.bu.edu/usc/fall/social>

Sponsored by the University Service Center (www.bu.edu/usc)



Newsletters



**November
2011**

UNIVERSITY SERVICE CENTER

Reminders & Updates

Upcoming Events

- Interviewing for Success: [Nov. 16 from 12-1PM](#) & [Nov. 30 from 5-6PM](#) in the Center for Career Development
- Decisions, Decisions, Decisions! [Nov. 8 at 4PM](#) & [Nov. 16 at 3PM](#) in GSU 320. Learn from the [Educational Resource Center Staff](#) how to make informed decisions in your school, work, and personal life. Register [here!](#)
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we will list it here.

Important Dates

- November 6
Spring registration:
Juniors & Seniors
- November 11
Last day to drop
classes (with a 'W'
grade)
- November 13
Spring registration:
Sophomores
- November 20
Spring registration:
First-years
- November 23-27
Thanksgiving Recess
- November 29
Last day to take a leave
of absence for Fall
2011

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

Visit us! 881 Commonwealth Avenue
Call us! (617) 358-1818
E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

**Happy
Thanksgiving!**

Registration Information

Registration for Spring 2012 is right around the corner! Make sure you double check what classes your program requires and plan out the rest of your time at BU. That way you can make sure you fulfill all of your credits on time and fully enjoy your time here. Work with your academic advisor—they're there to help! Check out the Important Semester Dates bar to the left to see when you can register.

Check out the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Like Us!

Check out the [USC's First-Gen Facebook page!](#) Like us to stay up-to-date on upcoming events, programs, and workshops, both at the USC and around campus.

Study Breaks are Back!

Studying for finals can be a tedious task, so the USC is holding study breaks again in December to help you recharge! Refreshments will be served, and everyone who attends will receive a care package. Stay tuned for more info.

Tips for Choosing Classes

If you're still undecided, take a wide variety of courses to find what you enjoy. As a large university, BU offers hundreds of courses. There is something for everyone!

If you already have a major, don't hesitate to take interesting classes that are in another area. Your college years are for learning as much as you can, and it's a good idea to explore other subject areas while you are able to. In addition, many students change their majors; by taking an unrelated course, you may realize that your interests are broader than you think.

Sometimes classes fill up before you are able to register for them. To prevent stress, have a backup plan—decide on "plan B" courses in case your first choices are not open. Remember that sometimes spots open up later, so check Student Link frequently.

When choosing class times, consider when your periods of peak productivity occur. If you are not much of a morning person, try to schedule your most difficult classes for the afternoon or evening.



**December
2011**

UNIVERSITY SERVICE CENTER

Reminders & Updates

Upcoming Events

- Effective Resume and Cover Letter Writing: [Dec. 6 at 1:30PM](#) in the Center for Career Development
- Innovative Job Search Strategies: [Dec. 8 at 3PM](#) in the Center for Career Development
- USC First-Gen Fall 2011 Study Breaks: [Dec. 13 from 3-5PM & Dec. 15 from 1-3PM](#) in the USC
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we'll list it here.

Important Dates

- [December 12](#)
Last day of classes
- [December 13-15](#)
Study period
- [December 16-21](#)
Final exams
- [December 22](#)
On-campus residences close at noon
- [December 24](#)
University closes for Intersession
- [January 3](#)
University reopens
- [January 13](#)
On-campus residences reopen
- [January 17](#)
Classes begin

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

Visit us! 881 Commonwealth Avenue
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E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

**Happy
Holidays!**

Study Breaks

Need a break from studying for finals? Join your fellow first-gen students and the USC staff for a chance to unwind! Enjoy some refreshments and pick up a goody bag too. See the Upcoming Events section on the left for dates and times. Just let us know if you plan on coming by clicking [here](#) so that we have a goody bag ready for you. Not able to make it but still want a goody bag? Let us know on the RSVP form and you can pick one up later. We look forward to seeing you!

Congratulations!

We want to give a heartfelt congratulations to all of our winter graduates! You've worked hard for your degree and have earned it. We wish you the best of luck with your future and know that you will all do great things.

Check out the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Like Us!

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Finals Survival Guide

Write down the date and time of each final and each essay due dates on a calendar. Then plan out blocks of time for studying and writing each day. This will help prevent procrastination and the need to cram the night before.

It can be difficult to figure out what and how to study when the information is scattered between your notes, textbook, assignments, and old quizzes. Make a study guide compiling all of the information you will need for the exam. You'll have a concise collection of information that will be easier to study from.

While studying, take breaks to refresh your mind. Take a walk, a short nap, or do anything that you find fun. This will give your brain a rest, and you'll be able to focus better.

The night before the exam, it's important to get a good night's rest. Cramming the entire night and getting little to no sleep isn't a good idea. Your brain needs sleep in order to be alert and recall information most efficiently.

Right before the exam, review the most important information that you need to know. That way it will be fresh when you go in to take the exam.



**January
2012**

UNIVERSITY SERVICE CENTER

Reminders & Updates

Upcoming Events

- First Generation drop-in: Jan. 26 from 5-6 p.m. at the USC.
- Alternative Spring Break Registration begins January 29.
- Check out the CCD's [calendar](#) for a schedule of their workshops.
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we'll list it here.

Important Dates

- January 13
Campus residences reopen
- January 17
Classes begin
- January 23
Registration deadline for standard courses
- January 30
Last day to add a course
- February 20
Holiday, classes suspended
- February 21
Substitute Monday schedule of classes
Last day to drop a course (without a 'W' grade)
- March 10-18
Spring Recess

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

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E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

**Happy
New Year!**

USC Spring Drop-ins

This spring, the USC is hosting monthly drop-ins for our first generation students. We'll have refreshments, of course, and one lucky attendee will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. Our first drop-in will be held on Thursday, January 26, from 5 to 6 p.m.

Alternative Spring Break

Not sure what to do over spring break this semester? Consider volunteering through BU's Alternative Spring Breaks (ASB) program! At least 36 different trips are being planned from building houses with Habitat for Humanity in Seattle, WA, to working with children at the Target House in Memphis, TN. Participating in this program is a great way to develop your leadership skills, help out those in need, and have a memorable spring break with other BU students. Registration is on January 29 at 8 a.m., and available spots fill up quickly. There is a transportation fee to participate, but scholarships are available. Visit the ASB's [blog](#) for more information.

Check out the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Check out the [USC's First Gen Facebook page!](#) Like us to stay up-to-date on USC news, information, and events.

Application deadline for resident assistant and summer leadership positions

- 1/17 at 7 p.m.: [Resident Assistant](#) (RA) information reception in the Student Atrium at 10 Buick Street
- 1/19 at 2 p.m.: RA applications are due
- 1/24 at 6 p.m.: [Orientation Leadership and Community Service Center](#) (CSC) summer positions information session in the Howard Thurman Center
- 1/25 at 4 p.m.: Orientation and CSC summer leadership applications are due



First Generation Student Newsletter

February 2012

Upcoming Events

- Test Prep/Test Anxiety workshop: Feb. 15 from 4-5 p.m. in CAS 201
- Writing Papers/Writing Assistance workshop: Feb. 22 from 4-5 p.m. in CAS 213
- February First Gen Drop-In: Feb. 23 from 5-6 p.m. at the USC
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we'll list it here.

Important Dates

- **February 20**
Holiday, classes suspended
- **February 21**
 - Substitute Monday schedule of classes
 - Last day to drop a course (without a 'W' grade)
 - Last day to change a course from credit to audit status
- **March 1**
Application deadline for most summer study abroad programs
- **March 10-18**
 - Spring recess
 - Residences close on 3/10 at noon
 - Residences open on 3/18 at 10 a.m.
- **March 15**
Application deadline for most fall study abroad programs
- **March 30**
Last day to drop a course (with a 'W' grade)

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

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Call us! (617) 358-1818
E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

**Happy
Valentine's
Day!**

February Drop-In

This spring, the USC is hosting monthly drop-ins for our first gen students. We'll have refreshments, of course, and one lucky attendee will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. Our February drop-in will be held on the 23rd from 5 to 6 p.m. Thanks to our January attendees and congrats to our \$10 Dunkin' Donuts gift card winner!

Study Abroad

Consider studying abroad this summer or during the fall semester! It's a great way to enhance your BU education and gain a new perspective on the world. Develop your language skills and learn about another culture all while taking classes toward your degree and participating in an internship. There are more than 75 programs to choose from, so it's not hard to find one that interests you, and financial aid is available. Check out the bar on the left for application deadlines for most programs. Some have different deadlines, so be sure to look at the [BU Study Abroad website](#) for more information. Attend an [information session](#) to learn more.

Check out the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Check out the [USC's First Gen Facebook page!](#) Like us to stay up-to-date on USC news, information, and events.

Need Help with Financial Planning?

- BU Financial Assistance: Speak with [Financial Assistance](#) to explore the possibility of receiving more need-based aid from BU.
- BU Fellowships and Scholarships: Check out this [site](#) for a listing of nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships for which you may be eligible.
- The Higher Education Resources Institute (TERI) at Boston Public Library: This [institute](#) offers free assistance with paying for college. Review the resources online or use their computers to search for scholarships and other sources of financial aid.
- At Home: Visit your high school guidance counselor or hometown public library to find out about locally-based scholarships.
- USC: You can always make an appointment to meet with one of the associate directors here at the USC to discuss financial matters.



First Generation Student Newsletter

March 2012

Upcoming Events

- [Sources from the Library and Online workshop](#): March 20 from 4-5:30 p.m.
- [Avoiding Plagiarism and Citing Correctly workshop](#): March 27 from 4-5:30 p.m. in GSU 315
- March First Gen Drop-In: March 22 from 5-6 p.m. at the USC
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we'll list it here.

Important Dates

- March 10-18
 - Spring recess
 - Residences close on 3/10 at noon
 - Residences open on 3/18 at 10 a.m.
- March 15
Application deadline for most fall study abroad programs
- March 30
Last day to drop a course (with a 'W' grade)
- April 16
Holiday, classes suspended
- April 18
Substitute Monday schedule of classes
- May 2
Last day of classes

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

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E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!**

March Drop-In

This spring, the USC is hosting monthly drop-ins for our first gen students. We'll have refreshments, of course, and one lucky attendee will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. Our March drop-in will be held on the 22nd from 5 to 6 p.m. Thanks to our February attendees and congrats to Moly, our gift card winner!

Things to Do Around Boston

Are you planning on staying in Boston for spring break or want a weekend activity?

- [Museum of Fine Arts](#): See famous art for free with your Terrier Card. Open Wed.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., and Sat.-Tues., 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
- [Prudential Building Skywalk](#): Take in an incredible 360 degree view of the city from above. \$11 with student ID. Open 7 days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- [New England Aquarium](#): Explore the underwater world for \$20.95 with student ID. Open Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- [Paul Revere House](#): Tour one of Boston's most historic sites, located in the North End. \$3 with student ID. Open Tues.-Sun., 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Afterward, go out for dinner at one of the many surrounding Italian restaurants.
- [Boston Restaurant Week](#): Enjoy fine dining at Boston's best restaurants. March 18-23 & 25-30; 2-course lunch: \$15.12; 3-course lunch: \$20.12; 3-course dinner: \$33.12.

Check out the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Check out the [USC's First Gen Facebook page!](#) Like us to stay up-to-date on USC news, information, and events.

Find the Perfect Summer Internship

- BU's Center for Career Development has a wealth of resources to help you find an internship. They offer counseling appointments, resume/cover letter assistance, and lots of helpful information on their [website](#).
- Who you know can be as important as what you know. Students often find internships through one of their contacts. Begin by asking your family and friends if they know of any opportunities.
- Visit [CareerLink](#) and a few of the many internship database [websites](#). You can tailor your search to find internships that would work well for you.
- Once you have a list of internships in which you are interested, send the organizations your resume and cover letter, in addition to anything else they ask for. Follow up a week later with a phone call; this will help you stand out.
- Know the organization inside and out and research the position itself before going into an interview. Your effort will show how interested you are in the opportunity.

April 2012

First Generation Student Newsletter



Upcoming Events

- [April First Gen Drop-In](#): April 10 from 5-6 p.m. at the USC
- [iChase the Cure 5k](#): April 14 from 12-2 p.m. at the Charles River Esplanade
- [Just-in-Time Career Fair](#): April 23 from 11-4 at Metcalf Hall in the GSU
- Do you have an event you want to share? Let us know and we'll list it here.

Important Dates

- [April 16](#)
Holiday, classes suspended
- [April 18](#)
Substitute Monday schedule of classes
- [May 2](#)
Last day of classes
- [May 3-6](#)
Study period
- [May 7-11](#)
Final exams
- [May 12 at noon](#)
Residences close (except for degree candidates)
- [May 18-20](#)
Commencement weekend
- [May 21 at 10 a.m.](#)
Residences close for degree candidates

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

Visit us!

University Service Center
881 Commonwealth Avenue

Call us!

(617) 358-1818

E-mail us!

usc@bu.edu

Happy Spring!

April Drop-In

Don't miss our last drop-in of the year! We'll have refreshments, of course, and one lucky attendee will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card. April's drop-in will be held on the 10th from 5 to 6 p.m. at the USC. Please [RSVP](#)! Thanks to our March attendees and congrats to Lyndon, our gift card winner!

End-of-Semester Survey

The USC is interested in gathering your feedback on our first gen offerings. We'll use your input to make our programs and publications more relevant and helpful. Please [respond](#) so we can become an even better resource for you and all first gen students!

Summer Welcome Receptions

Join the USC staff at Orientation this summer as we welcome first gen members of the Class of 2016 to our University community. Contact Stephanie if you would like more information (uscgradi@bu.edu).

Visit the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Like the [USC's First Gen Facebook page](#) to stay up-to-date on USC news, information, and events.

Fall Semester Registration

It's time to plan out your schedule for the fall 2012 semester! Registration will be on Sunday, April 15, for juniors and seniors, and on Sunday, April 22, for freshmen and sophomores. If your school requires advising, don't forget to obtain an Academic Advising Code (AAC) from your advisor. You must be in compliance with University requirements in order to register. Check the [Student Link](#) to ensure that these requirements are met. Select your classes from the [University Class Schedule](#) and add them to your WebReg Planner, found in the Student Link. To find the specific time you'll be able to register, click [here](#).

Applying for Financial Assistance for 2012-2013

It's that time of year again! Need-based scholarships and many other forms of financial aid must be applied for annually. If you aren't currently receiving financial assistance, but wish to be considered, you're encouraged to apply. Visit [BU Financial Aid](#)'s website for more information.

First Generation Student Newsletter

May 2012

Important Dates

- May 2
Last day of classes
- May 3-6
Study period
- May 7-11
Final exams
- May 12 at noon
Residences close
(except for degree candidates)
- May 18-20
Commencement weekend
- May 21 at 10 a.m.
Residences close for degree candidates

Have a question or problem you need help resolving?

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Call us! (617) 358-1818

E-mail us! usc@bu.edu

Website: <http://www.bu.edu/usc/outreach/g1>



Spring Study Break

Need a break from studying for finals? Join your fellow first gen students and the USC staff for a chance to unwind! [Let us know](#) if you can join us to enjoy some refreshments and games, and pick up a goody bag at the USC on May 3rd from 2-3:30 p.m. Not able to make it but still want a goody bag? Let us know on the RSVP form and you can pick one up later. We look forward to seeing you!

Summer Welcome Receptions

We need your help! Each summer during Orientation, the USC hosts casual welcome sessions for incoming students who are among the first in their family to go to college. First Generation Welcome Receptions are held on all Wednesday evenings in June, as well as July 11 and 18 and August 29. Receptions feature refreshments and friendly conversation. If you are in Boston this summer and would like to help welcome our newest first generation students and their families to our University community, contact Stephanie at uscgradi@bu.edu.

Visit the USC's [website](#) for events and workshops happening this month around campus!

Like the [USC's First Gen Facebook page](#) to stay up-to-date on USC news, information, and events.

Congratulations to our Seniors!

CONGRATULATIONS to our graduating seniors! You've worked hard in your undergraduate years, and it's paid off. Let us know what you'll be up to after graduation by emailing Stephanie at uscgradi@bu.edu, and we'll announce this information in our next newsletter. We wish you much success in all your future endeavors!

End-of-Semester Survey

The USC is interested in gathering your feedback on our first gen offerings. We'll use your input to make our programs and publications more relevant and helpful. Please [respond](#) so we can become an even better resource for you and all first gen students!

Summer at BU

BU's Summer Term offers more than 700 courses in 70 subjects, so there's bound to be a class that interests you or will count toward your degree. Summer Term I meets May 22-June 29, while Summer Term II meets July 2-August 10. Register now for a course! For more information, click [here](#). For information on (limited) summer financial aid options, visit the Financial Assistance [website](#).

Programming

*Are you
among the
first in your
family to go
to college?*

Sponsored by the University
Service Center (www.bu.edu/usc)

*Enjoy refreshments
and meet fellow
Terriers who are
also among the
first in their
families to go to
college.*

First Generation Students Social

Let
us
know
you
will
attend:

Wednesday, September 14
5:30-7 p.m.

Howard Thurman Center
George Sherman Union
775 Commonwealth Avenue

<http://www.bu.edu/usc/fallsocial>

Fall 2011 Study Breaks

Need a break from studying for finals? Join your fellow first-gen students and the USC staff for a chance to unwind! Enjoy some refreshments with us and pick up a goody bag too.

When: Tuesday, December 13, from 3-5PM
Thursday, December 15, from 1-3PM

Where: The University Service Center
881 Comm. Ave., Lower Level

Please click [here](#) to RSVP!

*Not able to make it but still want a goody bag? Let us know on the RSVP form and you can pick one up later.





**Are you among the first in your
family to attend college?**

The University Service Center is hosting monthly drop-ins for first generation college students. Join the USC staff and your fellow first gen students for food, refreshments, games, and good conversation. One lucky attendee at each drop-in will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

**All drop-ins will be held at the USC (881
Commonwealth Avenue, lower level)**

**For dates/times and more information, please visit
www.bu.edu/usc/outreach/g1/events or email
Stephanie Burke at uscgradi@bu.edu.**



We hope you can join us!

Spring 2012 Study Break

Need a break from studying for finals? Join your fellow first gen students and the USC staff for a chance to unwind! Enjoy some refreshments and games with us and pick up a goody bag.



When: Thursday, May 3, from 2-3:30 p.m.

Where: The University Service Center
881 Comm. Ave., Lower Level

Please click [here](#) to RSVP!



*Not able to make it but still want a goody bag? Let us know on the RSVP form and you can pick one up later.