Advice for new incoming international students to ESLi at UWS

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Nowadays a lot of students decide to study abroad, but the luggage that they can bring with themselves is limited. I have seen so many new students bring a lot of unnecessary things with them, such as wilderness survival gear. What students should bring abroad is a very important topic. I have already been to America and studied at the University of Wisconsin – Superior ESLi for almost half a year. Here are some suggestions for new incoming international students about what you should and should not bring to campus.

What should you bring

1. Important documents
   What are important documents? For example, passport, I-20, transcripts and ID. You need those documents to prove you are here to study, and not to find a job or get married. Those documents should be put in a safe place. If you lose these files, you must talk to your advisor or Mrs. Elizabeth immediately.

2. Funds
   First, carry a small amount of cash with you just in case you want to buy something at the airport or a store. I don’t recommend that you bring too much cash, as it is not safe. Also, if customs finds out you brought a large amount of cash, you may get into trouble.

   Second, bring a credit card before you have a local debit card. You don’t have to worry about where you should put your money, because ESLi will help new incoming international students to create a new bank account.
3. Glasses

If you have a poor eyesight, you’re better bring a set of spare glasses with you. Because if you want to have a pair of glasses in USA, you have to see a doctor and get a medical note. It is a very complex process, waste of your time, and can cost you a lot of money.

4. Warm clothes

I did some research online before I came here in January. Most people said it was really cold in Wisconsin. But before are you really here, you will never know what “really cold” means. However, that doesn’t mean that you need to carry a big, heavy suitcase full of coats to the airport. Instead, after you settle down, you can go to the mall to buy some coats or sweaters.

Image by UWS via Google

5. Daily supplies

When you first arrive on campus, you may not have the time to buy towels, a toothbrush, or lotion. So, you can bring some daily supplies with you. Don’t worry about bedding, you can rent from the dorm’s front desk. If you decide to keep it rather than go to Walmart to buy a new bedding, then you can just pay for the bedding you already have from the dorm.

What you should not bring

1. Cooking tools

If you come here in the summer, you might have to buy some cooking tools because our school cafeteria doesn’t serve meals in the summer. If you can’t adapt to American food, you may want to cook for yourself. Some students carry a heavy suitcase with cooking utensils inside, for which the shipping fee is very expensive.

Superior has a Walmart store at 3705 Tower Ave, and the ESLi OWLs will take all new incoming international students there by bus for the first time during orientation week. You can buy any necessary kitchen supplies there.

Image by smartkitchen via Google
2. Electrical appliances

For example, a laptop. It’s not a very easy to bring with you, and during such a long flight it can easily get broken. Fortunately, you can go to Best Buy to buy any electrical appliances you want. It’s cheap and high quality. You can take the bus go to Duluth, Minnesota, where there a Best Buy at 5105 Buming Tree Road.

This advice is based on my personal experience. I hope it will help you get ready to start a new life at UW-Superior, adapt well, and avoid culture shock. I wish everyone a wonderful time here.