

Villanova Indian Students Association

New Student's Information Packet

General Info

Location: Villanova is a suburb of Philadelphia (City of brotherly love), located approximately 20 miles Northwest of the city. Philly is well connected to all major cities in the United States. Some of the cities within driving range of Philly are Washington DC (110 miles), New York city (100 miles) and Pittsburgh (300 miles).

Weather

Philadelphia weather is prone to fluctuation. In summer, it is hot and humid with maximum temperatures reaching 40oC. Winter here is quite harsh with subzero temperatures occurring quite often. Click [here](#) to check today's weather !

Living

Most students share apartments off-campus. Finding accommodation is not a problem but you must arrive here at least a week in advance so that you can get settled well before classes begin. Regarding food, there are Indian grocery stores in the area where all essential food items are available. If you decide to bring any food with you (e.g. pickles, spices etc.), make sure that it is securely packed. US Custom officials will not allow any improperly sealed items.

If you are not a great fan of cooking, it is not a bad idea to learn a bit more about cooking. From a practical standpoint, it may not be possible for you to go out and eat everyday. So you will be surprised to find yourself cooking more often! Its time to appreciate cooks in your house in India, folks!!

Clothing

Clothes are relatively expensive here, so make provision to bring sufficient clothing. You need a heavy jacket and sweater for winter. The jacket could be bought here since most Indian jackets are not sufficient for the harsh winter. Students dress casually when they go to school(jeans and Ts). However, there are a few occasions when formal dressing (suit, formal shoes etc.) are necessary. Do not bring too much of formal wear since you won't be using them too often here. You may want to bring a bed spread / sheet or two. Usually, you will fall into this convenient cycle of washing clothes in two weeks, on an average. So bring sufficient undergarments (very costly out here).

Expenses

The University Bulletin has an estimate of yearly expenses for a typical student. Please come prepared for the same. Do not depend on getting a campus job or an assistantship as soon as you get here. Students with full assistantship must note that they must have money to cover at least one month's expenses. It usually takes around 2 months to get the first payment. GET ENOUGH MONEY TO SUFFICE YOUR NEEDS FOR AT LEAST 2 MONTHS.

General expenses at Villanova: (these are the typical expenses)

Room Rent	\$200
Train Pass	\$60
Groceries	\$100
Misc.(electricity, phone etc.)	\$90
Total	\$450

Miscellaneous

It is important to learn driving cars before you get here. An International Driver's License (IDL) is valid in Pennsylvania for one year from the date of arrival. If you don't already have an IDL, try to obtain one. It is very useful.

Medical

Medical expenses are very high here. Try and get a complete medical checkup done and bring your medical records along. This is especially important if you are currently being treated for any medical condition. If you are currently under medication, bring the prescription and a sufficient quantity of the medicine along. If you wear glasses, bring an extra pair with you. Also, get the prescription for your eyeglasses. Have any dental work completed before you arrive. Eye care and dental care are very expensive here.

Travel Tips:

You should make plans to arrive at **Philadelphia International Airport**. This will ensure that you are received at the airport. Some airlines which have direct flights to Philly are British Airways, Delta, Air France and Swiss Air. Several other airlines fly into New York City or Washington DC. In that case you may have to take a domestic flight to Philadelphia. Be sure to make reservations for this leg of your journey from India itself. Clearly mark baggage with your name and the address of Villanova University or any of the [Office bearer's residence addresses](#). This would ensure safety of baggage even if a delay occurs in arrival. Please keep a copy of the names and telephone numbers of the listed office bearers so that you can contact them if necessary.

Travel Tips: Some Do's and Don'ts

Here is a list of some do's and don'ts, which will be useful during your journey. Please pay careful attention to any points pertinent to you.

Things to do

1. Make travel plans early. Give us complete details of your flight (airline, number, date and time of arrival in Philadelphia). As soon as you confirm the reservations, please mail the details to one of the executive committee members or fill the [new student flight details form](#).
2. You'll need the following documents WITH YOU when you enter the US:
 - I-20
 - passport
 - Any sealed documents that the US Consulate gave you
 - Letter of admission/financial aid (if applicable).

You must keep them with you at all times during the flight. Also, make copies of the relevant documents and keep one set at home. Carry one set and the originals with you along with essentials including a pair of clothes in your carry-bag in case the luggage is delayed at the airport.

3. Arrange for your destination to be Philadelphia International Airport. It is not possible for us to pick you up from any other airport.
 - Keep some money with you during the flight. You need Quarters (25 cents) to make phone calls and \$1 bills for trolleys (for carrying your luggage during transit at JFK or other Airports, if need be). Do not carry large amounts of cash with you. Instead, use traveler's cheques.
 - If you have any questions or problems, approach any airport officials/policemen. They are very helpful. Speak slowly and clearly when you address them. Another important thing: if you do not understand them the first time, request them to repeat.

Do NOT

Do not leave the airport on your own. In the event that you are not received by somebody, please feel free to call one of the numbers listed above and someone will come to pick you up. Note that such a situation will arise

if you don't inform us about the time of arrival well in advance. It is also possible that the people who volunteered to pick you up may be delayed for some reason. Do not panic!!!

Suggested Things to Bring

- 3-4 pairs of jeans/trousers, some shirts/T-shirts(8 min), 3 shorts or pajamas (costly out here).
- A dozen or more pairs of undergarments.
- Bed sheets, Blankets, Pillow cover and 2 Towels.
- At least one sweater and thermal wear.
- Books from the list (most important).
- A pair of good leather shoes.
- An umbrella and a backpack/School Bag.
- A few general purpose medicines.
- A pressure cooker(4-5 L capacity) and its spare parts.
- According to your interests:
- Cassettes, Walkman, Radio, Camera. (Power supply rating is 110V here, so keep it in mind)
- Spices and Pickles. (Another reminder: Pack them very securely, be ready to open them if you are asked to).
- 'n lots of sweets (for seniors).. ;)

Don't Forget

It is very important that you let us know about your travel arrangements well in advance. We will appreciate it if you could mail to us a photocopy of your plane ticket. This will save us a whole lot of trouble and expense. Try and make it here at least a week before the school starts. That should give you time to get acclimatized and to finish some formalities. Wish you good luck and have a safe trip to Philadelphia.

Accommodation In Charge

JayaKrishna Naggarapu
Treasurer
484-535-0986
jayakrishna.naggarapu@villanova.edu

Pickup In Charge

Sairam Babu Gatti
President
610-698-3970
sairambabu.gatti@villanova.edu

Baggage Labels

In case you don't have any friends/relatives at Villanova, these are the addresses you can use on your baggage.

Harinadh Potluri
291 Avon Road, G230
Devon, PA-19333
Phone: 484-319-5903

Departmental Contacts

Computer Science
Computer Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

Chemical Engineering
Psychology

Books

Chemical Engineering		
No.	Title	Author
1.	Thermodynamics & its applications	JEFFERSON W. TESTER & MICHAEL MODELL
2.	Transport Phenomena	BIRD, STEWART & LIGHTFOOT
3.	Process Dynamics and Control	SEBORG, EDGAR & MELLICHAMP
4.	Mass Transfer Operations	TREYBAL
5.	Heat Transfer	J.P.HOLMAN
6.	An Introduction to Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics	SMITH & VAN NESS
7.	Equilibrium Staged Separations	WANKAT PHILIP C.
8.	Bioprocess Engineering	MICHAEL L. SHULER & FIKRET KARGI
9.	Unit Operations of Chemical Engineering	McCABE, SMITH & HARRIOTT
10.	Numerical Computation in Science and Engineering	C. POZRIKIDIS
11.	Elements Of Chemical Reaction Engineering	J. H. FOGLER

For a more up-to-date information please contact any of our chemical engineering students [here](#)

Civil Engineering		
No.	Title	Author
1.	Highway Capacity Manual , Special Report 209 TRANSPORTATION RCH. BOARD'94	
2.	An Introduction to Statistical Methods & Data Analysis	R. LYMAN OTT(4TH EDITION)
3.	Site Planning(3rd Edition)	KEVIN LYNCH & GARY HACK
4.	Traffic Engineering Handbook(4th Edition)	
5.	Construction Project Management	RICHARD H CLOUGH & G A SEARS
6.	Mathematical Models & Applications	MAKI & THOMPSON
7.	Structural Dynamics-Theory and Computations	MARIO PAZ(3RD EDITION)
8.	Mechanical Behavior of Materials	NORMAN E DOWLING
9.	Soil Mechanics	LAMBE & WHITMAN
10.	Concepts & Applications of Finite Element Analysis	R D COOK, D S MALKUS & M E PLESHA

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Computer Science			
No.	Title	Course No.	Author
1.	Introduction to the Theory of Computation	CSC 8510	MICHAEL SIPSER
2.	Modern Operating Systems	CSC 8410	TANENBAUM
3.	Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach	CSC 8400	HENNESSEY PATTERSON
4.	Programming Languages Principles and Paradigms	CSC 8310	TUCKER & NOONAN
5.	Introduction to Design and Analysis of Algorithms	CSC 8301	ANANY LEVITIN
6.	Unix Programming Environment		KERNIGHAN & PIKE
7.	The C Programming Language		KERNIGHAN & RITCHIE
8.	Fundamentals of Database Systems	CSC 8490	ELMARS I & NAVATHE
9.	Computer Networks: A systems Approach	CSC 8560	PETERSON & DAVIE

Please note that these are the prescribed books for FALL '03. The first 5 books are for core courses and mostly they remain the same over the next two semesters, but other books may vary depending on the professor handling the course. For more Information Please [click here](#)

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Electrical and Computer Engineering

Select the books depending on your area of interest from one or more of the following sections. Students especially those admitted to Computer Engineering may also take a few courses in Computer Science.

A. Antennas and Microwave Theory

No.	Title	Author
1.	Antenna Theory, Analysis and Design	John Wiley C.BALANIS
2.	Electromagnetic Theory	JORDAN & BALMAIN
3.	Multirate systems and Filter banks	P.P.VAIDYANATHAN
4.	Intro to Wavelets & Wavelet Transforms A Primer	GOPINATH, HAITAO GUO
5.	Time Harmonic EMF	R.F.HARRINGTON

B. Computer Engineering

No.	Title	Author
1.	C++ Programming	ANDERSON & HEINZE
2.	The C Programming language	KERNIGHAN & RITCHIE
3.	Unix Programming Environment	KERNIGHAN & PIKE
4.	Computer Organization and Design: The Hardware/Software Interface	HENNESSEY & PATTERSON
5.	Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach	HENNESSEY & PATTERSON
6.	Principles of CMOS VLSI Design	ESHRAGHIAN & WESTE
7.	Object Oriented Analysis and Design	GRADY BOOCH
8.	Digital Systems Design & Prototyping (Second Edition)	ZORAN SALCIC & ASIM SMAILAGIC
9.	Advanced Programming in Unix Environment	RICHARD STEVENS
10.	Switching and Automata Theory	ZVI KOHAVI
11.	Fuzzy Systems with Engineering Applications	TIMOTHY J. ROSS
12.	Designing with FPGA's and CPLD's	JESSE JENKINS
13.	The designer's Guide to VHDL	PETER J ASHENDEN
14.	A Practical Guide to Unix System,3rd ed.	MARK G.SOBELL KOHAVI

C. Signal Processing and Communication

No.	Title	Author
1.	Discrete Time Signal Processing ,Prentice Hall	OPPENHEIM & SCHAFER
2.	Digital Image Processing	GONZALEZ & WOODS
3.	Digital Communications (4th Edition)	JOHN PROAKIS
4.	Principles of Communication Systems	SIMON HAYKINS
5.	Linear Algebra & Applications	GILBERT STRANG
6.	Wireless Communications - Theory & Principles	THEODORE.S.RAPPAPORT

D. Solid State Electronics

No.	Title	Author
1.	Power Electronics	NED MOHAN
2.	Communication Electronics	JACK R. SMITH
3.	Physics of Semiconductor Devices	S.M.SZE
4.	Bipolar MOS analog IC Design	ALAN B.GREBENE
5.	Analysis and Design of Analog IC's	PAUL R.GRAY/ROBER
6.	Devices for Integrated Circuits	H. CRAIG CASEY, Jr
7.	Integrated Electronics	MILLMAN & HALKIAS
8.	Pulse and Digital Circuits	MILLMAN & TAUB
9.	Digital Electronics	R. VENKATARAMAN

For a more up-to-date information please contact any of our Electrical engineering students [here](#)

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Mechanical Engineering			
No.	Title	Author	Publisher
1.	Fundamentals of Classical Thermodynamics	GORDON VAN WYLEN & RICHARD E. SONNTAG	John Wiley & Sons
2.	Compressible Fluid Dynamics	B K Hodge & Keith Koenig	Prentice hall
3.	Intro To Nuclear Engg	John R Lamarsh	Addison Wesley
4.	Advanced Engg Mathematics	C Ray Wylie & Louis Barret	Mcgraw Hill
5.	Automation Prod Sys and CIM	Mikell P Groover	Prentice Hall of Ind
6.	Structural Analysis of Thermo plastic Components	Gerry Trantina & Ron Nimmer	Mcgraw Hill
7.	Mechanics of Composite Matls	Robert M Jones	Taylor & Francis Pub Co.
8.	Finite Element Analysis from concepts to applications	David S burnett	Addison Wesley Pub. Co
9.	Principles Of Dynamics	Donald T Greenwood	Prentice Hall
10.	Numerical Analysis	Burden	
11.	A Primer on Taguchi Method	Ranjit Roy	Society of Manufacturing Engr
12.	The Statistical Analysis of John Mandel		Dover Publications
13.	Primer on Composite Materials	HALPIN	
14.	The Behavior of Structures Composed of Composite Materials	VINSON & SIERAKOWSKI	
15.	Computer Aided Analysis of Mechanical Systems	PARVIZ E. NIKRAVESH	
16.	Introduction to Optimum Design (Prescribed Text for Introduction to Optimal Design)	J.S.ARORA	Mc.GRAW HILL SERIES
17.	Theory of Structures	TIMOSHENKO & YOUNG	Mc.GRAW HILL SERIES
18.	Computer Aided Kinematics and Dynamics of Mechanical Systems -Vol1	EDWARD J. HAUG	
19.	Manufacturing Science	AMITAVA GHOSH & ASOK KUMAR MALLIK	East West Press Pvt. Ltd.
20.	Engineering Mechanics	TIMOSHENKO & YOUNG	International Student Edition

For a more up-to-date information please contact any of our Mechanical engineering students [here](#)

Best Wishes
Villanova Indian Student Association.

