

00:00 - Okay, thank you for joining us today.
00:04 We've given everyone some time to join here,
00:07 so we will start.
00:09 My name is Tom Biedermann and I'm an Associate Director
00:12 of Admission for Suffolk University.
00:14 Our main campuses in Boston, but I'm actually
00:16 based at the branch campus in Madrid, Spain.
00:20 First of all, let me congratulate you
00:22 on your admission to Suffolk University.
00:24 We are delighted that you applied to Suffolk
00:26 and we're hoping that we can give you
00:28 all the best information possible
00:30 to help you in your decision
00:32 and enroll at Suffolk this fall.
00:34 I'm joined by two colleagues today.
00:37 You'll meet one of our trustee ambassadors,
00:39 Akbota Yerseit, she will be handling the student panel,
00:43 answer your questions about what it's like
00:44 to study at Suffolk and in Boston.
00:47 So you'll hear from her in just a few minutes.
00:49 And then my colleague Viviana Leyva
00:51 who runs our International Student Services Office.
00:54 She'll be able to give you information
00:56 about the various services that are available
00:58 to our students who are coming to Suffolk
01:00 from around the world.
01:01 I wanna thank them both for joining me.
01:04 The first part of this presentation
01:05 is about 20, 30 minutes to do a quick overview
01:08 of the university to make sure
01:10 you've received some of the most important points.
01:13 If you have questions throughout the presentation,
01:15 you can drop those into the Q&A function on your screen.
01:19 But let me begin by sharing a quick video.
01:22 So you can see where we're at in Boston
01:24 and get a feel for what the Suffolk Community is like.
01:42 (upbeat music)
01:43 - [Narrator] There's never been a better time
01:44 to get some good news.
01:47 And here's the best Suffolk said, yes.
01:51 (upbeat music)
01:53 - [Announcer] Suddenly, your future is taking shape.
01:55 In a changing world, there's a whole new you waiting
02:03 to be creative.
02:05 You might look downtown for inspiration,
02:07 right outside your residence halls' doors,
02:10 helping local businesses
02:11 and international firms adapt to a changing world.
02:14 (upbeat music)
02:16 Perhaps we'll head out to our Madrid campus
02:18 to dive into your education
02:20 on the global stage and explore the world.

02:23 (upbeat music)
02:25 Maybe your drive will take you up
02:26 to an internship with a view and hands-on experience
02:30 working on high-profile cases
02:33 and all around you'll find your purpose,
02:36 perhaps by applying cutting edge science
02:39 to solve pressing environmental issues
02:41 whichever way your curiosity takes you
02:44 you'll always have support.
02:46 Your faculty mentors will guide you on your journey
02:49 because at Suffolk, we're more than a university.
02:52 We're a community of critical thinkers,
02:54 action takers and leaders with purpose.
02:58 The skills you'll gain
02:59 while crafting your college experience
03:01 will be the ones that help you stand out
03:03 in the workforce of tomorrow.
03:06 No matter which direction you choose,
03:08 you'll become who you're meant to be.
03:11 Welcome to Suffolk.
03:16 - All right, so that gives you a quick overview
03:22 of the university in a video format and congratulating you
03:25 on your admission to Suffolk.
03:30 And let me just give you a quick overview of Suffolk.
03:34 Here we are a mid-sized university
03:37 with about 5,000 undergraduate students.
03:40 If you include our master's degree and law students
03:43 that brings it up to about 7,000 students.
03:45 And we love being a mid-sized school
03:47 not too big, not too small.
03:49 And because we feel like we have the best of both worlds.
03:53 Many times universities are either really big
03:55 or really small, but we're right in the middle.
03:57 And that really makes us unique
04:00 and feels like a larger school with 60 plus majors,
04:04 Division Three sports teams,
04:06 over a 100 clubs and organizations
04:08 but your average class is gonna be around 22 students.
04:12 So you still get that smaller class size
04:16 and that individualized attention
04:18 in your day-to-day routine.
04:21 Another thing that defines Suffolk is our diversity factor.
04:25 Suffolk is diverse.
04:26 We have students from around the country
04:29 and from almost every state in the United States
04:31 and around the world.
04:33 20% of our students are from outside the United States
04:36 from almost a hundred countries.
04:38 And for those international students, like you
04:41 we have a number of cultural and affinity groups
04:43 that you can get involved in.
04:45 And these groups foster pride
04:47 and a sense of belonging to our community.
04:49 There's a Vietnamese Students Club,

04:51 Russian Speakers, LatinX Association,
04:54 Muslim Students Association.
04:56 And all of these perspectives
04:57 from around the world will broaden your view
05:00 and add to some dynamic class discussions as well.
05:05 Academically speaking, Suffolk is divided
05:07 into three main areas, the College of Arts and Sciences,
05:11 the Sawyer Business School and the Law School.
05:14 So you can major in one area and minor in another
05:18 or double-major into different areas.
05:21 You could participate
05:22 in one of our interdisciplinary programs,
05:24 like our Bachelor's of Law major,
05:27 which is actually taught by our law school professors.
05:30 You can major in psychology,
05:32 which is in the College of Arts and Sciences
05:34 and minor in marketing, which is in the Business School
05:36 or you can major in big data and business analytics
05:40 and minor in social media.
05:42 And you can take your undergraduate
05:44 and master's combination.
05:45 So you can earn both degrees in less time.
05:48 There's a lot of connection
05:49 between these academic units of the university,
05:52 so you've got lots of options to choose from.
05:56 Our educational approach can be divided
05:57 into three main pillars.
06:00 The first is experiential learning.
06:02 We take the theory that you're learning in class
06:05 and apply it to the real world.
06:07 If you're going into political science
06:09 or international relations,
06:11 you can get an internship at Massachusetts State House
06:14 or in Washington DC, or if you're going into business
06:17 see what office culture is like at a Fortune 500 company,
06:21 which is right down the street from where we're at.
06:24 Soft skills are especially important
06:26 these days as artificial intelligence and machines
06:30 take over a lot of jobs,
06:32 but there are skills that are difficult
06:33 for a robot to learn, like creativity,
06:37 collaboration, adaptability, and emotional intelligence.
06:42 All of these skills will help you become successful
06:45 in your future career
06:47 and you'll be improving them
06:49 while you're studying at Suffolk.
06:51 And lastly, our global perspective.
06:54 Our international perspective
06:55 with students from around the world
06:57 as well as opportunities to study abroad, right?
07:00 Viviana is gonna talk about that a little bit later.
07:03 Plus we have our own branch here in Madrid, Spain.
07:05 Classes are in English and everything is equivalent
07:07 to what you'd be studying in Boston at the main campus

07:11 but you get the linguistic and cultural immersion
07:13 of living and learning in Spain.
07:17 So let's talk a little more
07:18 about that experiential learning.
07:19 You can see some of our broadcast journalism students here.
07:22 They are in the television studio.
07:24 They produce live segments for Suffolk in the City
07:27 on New England Cable News,
07:29 right in our own television studio.
07:31 Accounting majors participated in one of the largest
07:34 tax clinics for international students
07:36 that is hosted at Suffolk.
07:39 Our marketing majors who do act full market research
07:42 and strategy consulting for downtown businesses.
07:46 With Suffolk and Boston, you're really laying the groundwork
07:49 for your career before you even graduate.
07:53 And that's why we have such a high success rate
07:56 for our graduates job placement.
07:58 You can see the 2018 rate here,
08:01 the 2019 graduating class
08:03 actually had a 99% placement rate.
08:07 We have career development center
08:09 and a career plan that starts
08:11 the moment you arrive on campus
08:13 and continues through graduation, through your OPT
08:16 if you wanna do that and beyond.
08:18 Maybe as an alum, you wanna change careers later on
08:21 and you wanna come back and get the help
08:24 of a professional career advisor
08:26 that is always available to you.
08:29 So I've given you an overview of the university
08:31 but I think it's more important for you
08:33 to actually hear from one of our students.
08:37 Let me introduce you to Akbota.
08:39 She's joining us for the Q&A later, but first Akbota,
08:43 how about if you introduce yourself
08:45 and talk to everyone about the city of Boston.
08:49 - Thank you so much, Tom.
08:51 Hi, everyone.
08:53 Welcome, and as Tom mentioned,
08:55 I am a student here currently in Boston.
08:58 My name is Akbota.
08:59 I am originally from Kazakhstan.
09:01 However, I grew up in UAE in Dubai
09:04 and then I moved to New Hampshire for high school.
09:06 So kind of all over the place.
09:08 And my major is business finance with a minor in psychology
09:14 and I'm actually graduating this year.
09:17 So I officially graduated in like September, July timeframe.
09:22 And yeah.
09:23 So besides being just a trustee ambassador
09:26 and working for admissions office,
09:28 I am also a peer tutor mentor
09:30 at our Center for Learning Academic Success,

09:33 which basically offers tutoring for all students
09:36 whether you're an international student
09:37 or whether you're a domestic student.
09:39 It's a resource that is available for all students.
09:42 I'm also a part of the Honors Program on campus.
09:45 And I also try to volunteer as much as I can.
09:49 I volunteered, I went to build a house to Georgia
09:54 and that was my first time
09:55 in the South of the United States,
09:57 for Habitat for Humanities.
09:59 That was a really cool experience.
10:02 And yeah, so basically this is how I spend my time here
10:06 and I'd be happy to answer any questions you have
10:09 as we go along.
10:11 You can always drop them in the chat function
10:13 or even I believe...
10:14 Yeah, just drop them in our Q&A or chat function.
10:18 I'd be happy to answer them and give you kind of the inside
10:22 from a perspective from a student's point of view.
10:25 But here in front of you, as you can see is a map of Boston.
10:30 And just to point out a few important highlights.
10:33 On the left side, we have like kind of Newbury Street,
10:38 Newbury section and it's very popular among tourists.
10:42 A lot of tourists go there.
10:43 It has like a lot of cool,
10:45 really amazing historical monuments.
10:48 It has like some really,
10:50 just kind of shows a highlights, architecture and history
10:53 of Boston and New England, which is awesome.
10:55 Every time I go there, even just like taking the straw
10:58 with my friends, with a cup of coffee,
11:01 we always run into like some really cool monument
11:03 or some really cool historical landmark
11:08 or something like that.
11:08 So always great to learn.
11:10 And in the center where you see this body of grass
11:14 of literally like green space, it's called Boston Common.
11:18 It's like kind of like Central Park in New York.
11:23 That's the way that I kind of compared for
11:26 my international friends.
11:28 And basically it's like a huge park
11:32 located in downtown Boston
11:33 and that's where we are actually located as well.
11:36 So we're literally like
11:37 across the street from Boston Common.
11:39 It's just this lovely, massive park.
11:42 People have like jogs in the morning
11:44 and yeah, it's just a really nice place to get together
11:48 with your friends.
11:49 On the right side, a little bit there as you can see,
11:53 there is a lot of water and everything.
11:55 That's like newly more modern area,
12:00 which is called Seaboard.
12:02 And it's a very popular spot among

12:04 college students right now.
12:06 It has some really cool budget friendly places.
12:08 Some really cool museum options.
12:11 There's a Museum of Contemporary Art.
12:14 So that's that.
12:16 And then towards the center,
12:17 we can see the John Hancock Tower.
12:19 Actually, my friend Tyler did an internship there.
12:22 So just a really cool back Bay Area
12:27 where there's also a lot of like office buildings.
12:31 There are a lot of shopping spaces.
12:34 There's the Boston Historical Library.
12:36 So a lot of really cool things to explore
12:39 and to see around the city.
12:41 On the next slide, we can see kind of more of a zoomed in
12:46 version of our campus, where we are located.
12:50 So basically, the building where Tom is pointing right now
12:54 it's called 73 Tremonti
12:56 and this building is completely Suffolk all and affiliated.
13:00 We have a lot of numerous resources
13:03 such as presence, office, academic classes basis,
13:07 Viviana's office, which supports international students
13:12 Health and Counseling Wellness Center.
13:14 We have one of our main cafeteria,
13:17 73 Trammel Cafe located all in this building.
13:20 And it's kind of like our a one-stop shop
13:23 where a lot of students go,
13:24 whether they need academic support,
13:26 whether they'll go into their classroom,
13:28 whether they are going to visit faculty during office hours
13:31 or they're just meeting their friends for like a workshop
13:35 or just a call up or involvement activity.
13:39 This is where a lot of action is happening,
13:42 in this building right there.
13:44 And a little bit on the right, so just across the street
13:48 is actually our David Sergeant Hall.
13:52 I just call it Sergeant Hall.
13:53 And this is our home of our law school,
13:56 has a beautiful, gorgeous graduate library
14:00 where actually undergraduate student
14:01 have access to and I highly recommend you visit.
14:04 It's just beautiful.
14:07 And it's really nice to grab a cup of coffee
14:09 and like just turn off your phone for a few hours
14:11 and have a study session there.
14:13 It's really amazing.
14:15 And yeah, and a little bit on the left,
14:18 that glass building I believe is Sawyer.
14:23 And yeah, Sawyer on the left.
14:26 So you'll get to see actually more of that
14:27 a little bit on the map, but as you can see here,
14:29 we are located right downtown Boston
14:31 which gives us a very good competitive advantage,
14:36 just a great benefit of being connected to a lot of

14:39 locations around Boston.
14:41 So, there are a lot of financial firms
14:44 that we have access to.
14:46 There are a lot of law firms that we partner with,
14:48 research institutions around Boston
14:50 where students get to partner and conduct their research
14:53 for STEM science based courses.
14:56 So just, I think being in downtown Boston
14:58 gives you such a great added benefit
15:01 of really maximizing the location and maximizing networking.
15:06 And yeah, as we move on to the next slide,
15:09 we can see kind of more of like a detailed version
15:12 of where we are in the perspective towards the city.
15:16 All the buildings that have numbers on them,
15:18 those little pins, they are either Suffolk owned
15:22 or Suffolk affiliated buildings.
15:25 So even though to give you a perspective on the map,
15:27 even though it looks a little bit scattered,
15:29 in real life it's actually all like within 30 seconds
15:32 to like maximum, I would say five to seven minutes
15:35 depending on which building you're walking to
15:37 from each other.
15:39 So there's not a lot of distance at all.
15:42 It's like literally across the street
15:44 and the most walking...
15:46 Again, 'cause it would do is like literally three minutes.
15:49 So that's that.
15:52 For example, the number seven
15:54 is our newly acquired luxury hotel/converted
16:00 to first-year residence hall.
16:03 Yeah, thank you so much, Tom,
16:04 for the detailed like for pinpointing the building
16:07 and it's beautiful.
16:08 I highly recommend if you have time, whenever you have time
16:10 if you're interested in first year housing
16:12 to check this building out.
16:13 It has like marble interior bathrooms, just very fancy.
16:19 And as you can see,
16:20 we are like really close to Boston Common
16:23 to Massachusetts State House,
16:24 which a lot of our students conduct internships
16:27 and Beacon Hill Area,
16:30 which is this beautiful historic area within Boston as well.
16:33 So as you can see, being downtown and just like...
16:38 It has its advantages from not only having like
16:42 the best access to a lot of cool places
16:45 and a lot of cool restaurant options, siding options
16:49 but also just some really like,
16:52 how do I say this,
16:53 really great in terms of connecting with other people,
16:57 whether you just wanna see a friend for lunch
17:00 you don't have to go very far.
17:01 'Cause everyone just kind of knows where downtown Boston is.
17:04 You can walk to Seaport, you can go to Cambridge

17:08 on your day off.
17:10 And yeah, so it's awesome to be right at the center
17:14 of it all and that's that far location and where we up.
17:19 Please let me know if you have any questions,
17:21 you can always write them in the chat
17:22 and I'll be here and I'll be happy to share more.
17:29 - Thank you, Akbota.
17:33 Very good.
17:34 Very helpful information.
17:35 Next up, I wanna introduce you to Viviana Leyva
17:38 who leads Center for International Student Services.
17:41 She'll give you a quick overview
17:43 of the different resources that are available
17:45 for international students.
17:47 Viviana, the floor is yours.
17:50 - Thank you so much, Tom.
17:52 Thank you, Akbota, as well for introducing Suffolk.
17:58 Welcome everybody.
17:59 My name is Viviana Leyva.
18:01 I'm the Assistant Director
18:02 for the Center for International Programs and Services
18:04 here at Suffolk University.
18:07 Just to give you a quick introduction,
18:09 a brief introduction about me,
18:13 I'm actually from Columbia in South America.
18:17 and I've been here in the United States,
18:20 I would say probably 23 years.
18:23 I came directly to Suffolk.
18:25 So I am a Suffolk alum.
18:29 I studied psychology and graduated a long time ago
18:33 but I'm still working in doing my masters.
18:36 So I'm almost finishing, but we're still doing that.
18:41 And I've been, I don't know,
18:45 I've been here for a long time.
18:47 So I used to work at the Admissions Office as well
18:50 along with Tom and with Raphael.
18:53 But after that, I moved into the international side
18:57 and I have been working in the International Office
19:01 for at least I wanna say probably seven to eight years.
19:06 So, I wanted to talk to you more about what the office does
19:11 and the services that we offer for you.
19:14 So the Center for International Programs and Services
19:17 is one of the main resources for you
19:20 with the immigration matters
19:22 as well as any of the personal, social
19:25 and cultural adjustments while you're here
19:28 at Suffolk University or here in the United States.
19:32 Our office, which we call it CIPS, for short
19:38 consists of two main offices.
19:40 So one is the International Student Services Office
19:44 and the Study Abroad Office.
19:46 Through the International Student Services Office,
19:49 we are three full-time counselors or advisors
19:55 and we give you assistance with anything

19:57 in regards to your immigration matters,
20:00 such as your I-20, your visa, your passport, any questions
20:05 that you might have about regulations
20:08 and work authorizations while you're here
20:10 in the United States.
20:12 We also have programming events throughout the whole year
20:17 that you can attend and learn about
20:19 these different processes.
20:22 And one of the tips that we always give to students
20:26 if you're really interested and you wanna come,
20:29 even though nowadays that COVID still coming in
20:32 and still happening, we recommend that you submit
20:36 your documents as soon as possible
20:38 that way we can issue the I-20 sooner
20:41 and you can start applying for your visa.
20:45 I know that the embassies are open with restrictions.
20:51 So that's why we suggest to send the documents
20:56 as soon as possible so we can help you out.
21:01 So, as I was mentioning, in the office
21:04 we have different programmings and events
21:07 throughout the whole year.
21:09 So we have something that is for employment,
21:12 which is called CPT or Curricular Practical Training.
21:16 So this is most easily done while you're taking classes,
21:21 so if you decide to do an internship here
21:23 while you're in the United States and doing your courses
21:27 we prepare you to work in the U.S.
21:30 So there are certain regulations and that you have to meet
21:34 before you are approved to do any CPT.
21:38 So we have the seminars and webinars or workshops
21:42 that you can come and attend
21:44 so you can learn more about our processes.
21:48 The other workshop that we have is called OPT,
21:52 which a lot of students are also thinking about
21:55 when they come and this is the Optional Practical Training.
21:59 So basically this is the one year of employment that you get
22:04 as a benefit of your visa after you graduate.
22:08 So it is a benefit and you can apply for it,
22:12 usually that is done in the last semester
22:15 before you graduate.
22:16 And we do have, as I mentioned,
22:19 we have different workshops throughout the whole semester
22:22 so you can attend and we'll help you
22:25 to do all the paperwork and how to submit the documents.
22:30 We also have resources about taxes.
22:33 Sorry, you wanna go back, Tom, sorry.
22:38 So we have a workshop about taxes,
22:41 so everyone here in the United States has to do taxes
22:45 even international students, even if you work or not.
22:48 So we have the workshops to process all the taxes
22:53 and the forms that you will need to fill out.
22:55 So you can attend those and learn more about it.
22:59 We also have social and cultural events work
23:01 throughout the whole semester.

23:03 So for example, we have one of the biggest events
23:06 that we have for international students
23:08 is called International Night.
23:11 So this is a really fun event that we always do
23:15 where we celebrate International Education Week.
23:19 Usually, that's around November
23:21 and students can come and showcase their cultures.
23:26 So sometimes they bring food
23:28 or music or they wear the typical dresses,
23:32 and stuff like that.
23:33 So it's really fun to see all the cultures
23:38 that we have on-campus.
23:41 And another event or another club that we have
23:45 is called Home away from Home.
23:47 So this program is run by our office
23:49 and basically this Home away from Home program
23:54 helps partnership relationships
23:56 between domestic students and international students.
24:00 So we do have out a lot of fun events
24:04 throughout the whole semester.
24:06 For example, yesterday we went to the Red Sox game
24:10 We also have like events such as sapele peaking
24:16 or Red Sox games or going to the zoo or picnics.
24:21 So you can join us and attend this programs or this events.
24:28 They're free of charge.
24:29 So you don't have to pay for anything
24:32 you just join us at any given time.
24:36 The other side of the office is the Study Abroad Office.
24:39 So there's five full-time counselors or advisors
24:43 and we help you to process everything about studying abroad.
24:48 So sometimes students think that
24:50 because you're an international student
24:52 this is your study abroad option,
24:56 but we also have options for you.
24:58 So let's say, we also have our campus on Madrid
25:02 that you can attend,
25:03 you can attend this campus anytime
25:07 during your four years here at Suffolk.
25:11 And then we also have other partner universities
25:14 around the world.
25:16 So we advise about 53 partner universities
25:20 and we'll give you the assistance
25:21 to prepare for all the paperwork.
25:28 So we have the third largest percentage
25:31 of international students.
25:33 So as Tom was mentioning,
25:36 21% of our population is international.
25:41 So you will see a lot of cultures,
25:44 a lot of diversity here in Suffolk.
25:46 We have 50 plus so programs,
25:50 study abroad programs that we offer around the world
25:54 and we have two campuses.
25:55 So one is the one in Madrid and the one here at Suffolk.
26:01 As we mentioned, we are all over the world.

26:04 So you can go anywhere in the five continents
26:09 that we have partners with.
26:15 So the good thing about studying abroad
26:17 is that you can do the study abroad options
26:21 for up to one year.
26:23 So you can definitely do one semester in one country
26:27 and another semester in another country.
26:30 But if you think that one year is too long
26:33 or maybe one semester is too long,
26:35 we also have different summer abroad options
26:38 and travel seminars, short term travels.
26:42 So if you wanna do that
26:44 sometimes they are related to a course
26:47 that you will need to take depending on the travel seminar
26:50 that you do.
26:51 But we do have the travel seminars that go to China,
26:55 Israel and Italy.
26:57 And we also have small special programs that go to Barbados,
27:01 Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam.
27:04 But we also have summer, as I mentioned.
27:07 So we have different programs that you can attend
27:11 throughout the whole semester.
27:13 One of the regulations is that,
27:15 if you decide to do the study abroad
27:17 usually you do it either on your junior or sophomore year
27:21 because depending on the school that you wanna go to
27:24 you need to have a GPA.
27:27 So that's why we leave it for those semesters.
27:31 But as always, we are here to talk about this
27:34 and help you out with any of the processes.
27:36 So if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us.
27:41 Thank you.
27:44 - Fantastic.
27:45 Thank you, Viviana, very useful and informative
27:50 and you'll be around for the Q&A
27:52 at the end of the presentation as well.
27:54 We'll be starting that shortly.
27:55 If you have some questions,
27:56 you can drop those into the Q&A button on your screen.
28:00 I also wanna talk about the next steps for you.
28:03 Now that you've been admitted
28:05 and you're making your decision,
28:07 the next step is to make enrollment deposit
28:10 to hold your spot for this fall.
28:12 Universities in the U.S use May, 1st as the deposit day.
28:16 So you need to let us know by then.
28:18 You have two options,
28:20 depending on whether you want
28:21 university-sponsored housing or not.
28:24 If you want to reserve a housing spot, the deposit is \$800.
28:28 And the tuition only deposit is \$500.
28:32 We don't require students to live
28:34 in university-sponsored housing
28:36 but we do strongly encourage it,

28:38 especially for first year students
28:40 and especially for international students.
28:42 It helps with your transition time
28:44 and to get to know the city and to really take advantage
28:47 of the everything that's Suffolk has
28:49 in the heart of the city.
28:50 We guarantee housing for two years.
28:52 So if you submit your deposit by May 1st
28:55 we will guarantee your housing for those two years.
28:57 And even next year
28:59 if you decide to live on your own, find your own place
29:01 for your second year, that's fine.
29:03 But you do have that housing guarantee with Suffolk
29:05 if you want it.
29:07 We live in an interconnected world
29:10 and a social media is a part of our lives.
29:13 So I just wanna make sure that
29:14 you're aware of all our social media options.
29:17 Lots of videos on YouTube, photos on Instagram
29:20 and follow the #SuffolkSaidYes,
29:23 which is for admitted students only.
29:25 And you can connect with some other students
29:28 who are thinking about enrolling at Suffolk this fall.
29:32 And if you haven't done so already
29:33 take advantage of the virtual tour options.
29:37 Now that everything is virtual,
29:38 it's actually a good thing for the international students
29:41 who might not be able to make a trip to Boston.
29:44 So you can take a virtual tour
29:46 and sign up with an ambassador-led tour.
29:49 There's different options,
29:50 you can do it on your own or with an ambassador.
29:52 And the ambassador will walk you through the map
29:54 and tell you more about their life at Suffolk.
29:57 And in addition to that,
29:59 there's lots of admitted student events still going on.
30:02 There are mock classes,
30:03 there's student panels, sessions on student life.
30:07 So, please take advantage of those
30:09 as those are really good ways
30:11 for you to plug in and get a feel
30:13 for what to studying at Suffolk would be like this fall.
30:16 So I'll stop sharing my screen
30:20 and see if I can get back to some...
30:26 There we are.
30:27 And we're gonna see
30:28 if we have any questions in the Q&A.
30:34 Let's see.
30:35 Akbota, why didn't you tell us about your choice to
30:38 start out at Suffolk and your transition to Boston.
30:44 - Thank you so much, Tom.
30:44 And thank you, Viviana, for sharing more
30:47 about the opportunities Suffolk provides for students.
30:51 In regards to your question, Tom,

30:53 I think it was one of the best decisions I've ever made
30:56 actually in my wife.
30:57 I remember that day vividly when I first visited Suffolk,
31:00 it was April 9th, 2017.
31:03 So four years ago, I think, almost four years ago.
31:07 And yeah, I just felt like it would be
31:11 instantly a great match
31:13 because Suffolk is just such a diverse place.
31:17 And as the years go on, I realized how faculty,
31:21 how nurturing and how kind they are.
31:24 All the professors and your advisors
31:28 they just very invested in your future.
31:31 They're really there to help you
31:34 to learn beyond your classroom
31:37 to perhaps give you a referral
31:40 or give you a good recommendation or guide you
31:43 in the career path, or even recommend you for an internship
31:48 or recommend you for a job experience.
31:50 And they just are very, very kind.
31:52 They go way more beyond than teaching
31:55 just academic material.
31:57 They are actually, if you show them that you have this
32:00 very open-minded attitude and you really want to
32:03 learn from them.
32:04 They are just one of the best,
32:06 I think on aspects of the community as well.
32:11 And yeah, so the faculty, the community,
32:16 people are just very caring
32:18 and I have a lot of fun kind of observing my domestic peers,
32:23 my international friends
32:25 and just learning from both of them,
32:28 every day I learn something new.
32:29 So it's just a great experience
32:32 being an international student
32:34 and just kind of having the best of both worlds
32:39 and really learning.
32:42 Yeah, Boston is just this type of environment
32:44 where you really, if you come in with an attitude
32:47 that you want to learn as much as you can
32:49 and be like a sponge and absorb all the knowledge
32:52 and take it with you
32:53 and transform it into something unique,
32:56 something that you can carry with you,
32:58 you can do so much here, really.
33:02 - Thank you.
33:03 A really good insight, Akbota.
33:04 I appreciate that.
33:06 And Viviana, there's a question about working.
33:08 Let me just see here, it's working while they're enrolled.
33:12 Can you share some information about
33:15 what is possible with a student visa
33:18 and working while they're studying or after they graduate?
33:23 I think that would be the OPT, CPT thing, right?
33:27 - Yes.

33:27 Thank you, Tom.
33:28 Yes, so definitely.
33:30 So as I was mentioning, while you're here
33:33 if you decide to work, you can definitely work on campus.
33:38 Basically, you just have to apply for the positions
33:41 here at Suffolk.
33:42 For those working on campus, you don't need authorization
33:46 you just need to get the approvals.
33:48 You'll probably need to get a social security
33:50 but we'll help you with all the documents
33:52 and all the information for that.
33:55 If you decide to do an internship
33:58 while you're here at Suffolk
34:00 and taking your classes, that's called CPT.
34:04 So usually for that,
34:05 you have to wait at least one academic year
34:10 under the F1 status,
34:12 with an active F1 status
34:14 before you are allowed to do any work.
34:18 So this are usually done...
34:23 Again, sorry.
34:24 After that one year, and they are related to your major,
34:28 so you have to have a declared major
34:30 in order to do an internship.
34:32 And you can definitely do that either full-time
34:35 or part-time depending on the semester.
34:36 So if you do it in the spring or the fall,
34:39 you can do it part-time.
34:41 But if you do it during the summer,
34:43 that can be done as a full time.
34:45 And the other option is the OPT, which is usually done
34:50 after you graduate.
34:52 And that's the one year of employment.
34:54 You can do it anywhere in the United States,
34:58 but it has to be related to your major
35:01 and we'll help you to prepare all the documents
35:04 the last semester before you graduate.
35:06 So that way you will have your document
35:09 after you graduate and you can work.
35:12 - Very good, helpful information.
35:14 And you mentioned to getting an internship.
35:16 So Akbota, do you have you been doing an internship?
35:19 Can you talk to us about the possibility of internships
35:23 and if students are doing that?
35:26 - Yeah, of course.
35:26 Thank you so much, Tom.
35:28 And thank you, Viviana.
35:30 For internships, we have a specific Korean development,
35:33 a specific resource on campus
35:34 called Career Development Center.
35:36 And they really help you
35:38 and guide you through the entire process
35:41 from making a perfect resume,
35:45 like a great resume that really stands out

35:47 but it's very organized and it's very coherent
35:50 to helping you write cover letters
35:53 when you have this company that you really like
35:56 that hires international student
35:58 and you're just very passionate about
36:00 learning a lot and reaching out to it.
36:03 They can help you to basically cater
36:05 your letter towards them,
36:08 towards the position that your applying
36:10 or what the job description is.
36:13 So they really are like very professional.
36:15 They can help you to practice your interview skills.
36:17 They can help you learn how to ask the right questions
36:21 during interviews, during different networking sessions.
36:28 I think it's called like Career Fairs,
36:32 where a lot of firms actually are gathered together.
36:36 And it's kind of basically they are looking into student
36:40 that they are interested into hiring,
36:42 we're looking into them.
36:43 So it's kind of like a very cool process
36:45 and yeah, so I hope one of the things
36:49 that we'll be back next year.
36:50 Actually Career Fairs because it's just such a good exposure
36:54 for you to be able to just kind of,
36:57 again, learn from people and just kind of
37:01 enjoy knowing learning more about companies
37:05 that are hiring at what they do perhaps.
37:08 Yeah, so just really cool options.
37:10 In terms of my internship,
37:11 I actually also did it through networking.
37:14 Networking is a very big component here in U.S.
37:17 So, it really helps to learn as many people as you can
37:22 and just kind of to connect with them.
37:24 So I did mine online and it was really fun
37:27 because I got to do a lot of research.
37:29 I got to really learn how to use proper
37:33 like Excel and Office tools.
37:35 So that was what I did.
37:37 In fact, my major is business finance
37:41 and I'm required to do 160 hours altogether.
37:47 And some majors are required, some majors are not required.
37:50 However, even if you're international students,
37:55 I highly recommend doing internship
37:56 because I think it will just kind of
37:58 enhance your resume even further.
38:00 And it will just give you this great insight
38:04 into the U.S workplace culture,
38:08 and again a great opportunity to learn
38:11 and something to take with you.
38:13 And yeah, so basically that's that,
38:16 but really pay attention to your classes
38:19 that you will have in your...
38:20 As part of your classes,
38:22 you will have classes that will build within your major,

38:27 despite what major you declare.
38:29 And these classes will help you
38:32 to kind of guide you through communication skills,
38:36 through networking skills, resume skills.
38:38 And it's usually called like SBS 101 or just CIS 101
38:44 where you actually get to learn these bits and pieces
38:48 of how to get started on your resume,
38:50 how to get started on your LinkedIn,
38:52 how to perhaps explore a career path, if you like.
38:56 So there'll be classes that definitely will help you
38:59 and with relation to career center.
39:04 - Very good.
39:04 Thanks for that, Akbota.
39:06 And there's a question in the Q&A about going to the doctor.
39:12 I think this is gonna be for you, Viviana.
39:15 It's about health insurance.
39:16 If a student needs to go to the doctor,
39:18 can you explain how that works, Viviana?
39:23 - That's a good question.
39:24 (Viviana laughs)
39:28 So Suffolk offers the health insurance.
39:30 I strongly recommend you to take Suffolk Health Insurance
39:35 because you wanna make sure that the insurance
39:39 that you will be in while you're here in the United States
39:42 covers for everything.
39:44 So even if you have toothache or anything that's not
39:50 too comprehensive or whatever,
39:53 not all insurances cover for this.
39:56 So you wanna make sure that
39:58 your insurance covers for everything.
40:00 And that's why we always recommend Suffolk.
40:04 You're not required to have it
40:05 but if you want to, you know you should take it.
40:08 But if you wanna waive it out,
40:10 you can bring your own insurance.
40:12 It has to be U.S insurance.
40:14 You cannot bring something that's outside of the U.S.
40:17 And if you wanna go to the doctor, there is a number
40:23 on the back of the card that you can call
40:25 and schedule an appointment with a doctor near you.
40:29 So you just double-check which doctors are open
40:33 and are free of receiving attendees and just let them know
40:40 and schedule the appointment before you go.
40:44 - Okay, great.
40:46 And Akbota, there's a question about adapting
40:48 to life in Boston.
40:50 Can you talk to us a little bit about,
40:53 thinking back four years ago,
40:55 when you started at Suffolk
40:56 or what it was like to get used to living
41:00 in the heart of the city in Boston, how was that for you?
41:05 - Thank you so much, Tom.
41:06 I think I definitely learned a lot and even growing up,
41:11 well, going to school for a few years that is nearby Boston.

41:16 I still had to surprisingly learn a lot of things
41:19 about the city.
41:20 For me, a very important aspect,
41:23 very important moment was learning how to navigate the city,
41:26 how to properly use like Uber's and Lyft's
41:29 and like which one is cheaper.
41:30 I became like a little master of knowing
41:36 how to kind of get around the city in a very safe
41:40 and kind of most efficient cost-effective way.
41:44 So that was kind of when I was like,
41:47 "Oh, wow, I'm actually good at calculating
41:50 "all the routes and everything."
41:54 There are sharing services.
41:57 Obviously, you can walk around the city of Boston,
41:59 it's pretty walkable actually.
42:01 There's this even perception that I got,
42:03 like everything is like within 15 minutes from each other.
42:06 I can walk to Seaport in 15 minutes,
42:09 you can walk to a bank Bay in 15 minutes,
42:12 you can walk to Cambridge to 15 minutes from our location.
42:14 So everything is kind of seems to be like that.
42:17 But of course, sometimes you have to go with the T
42:20 and the T is actually, I learned very easy.
42:23 For me, it took, I guess like two up to two months
42:25 to learn how to use it.
42:26 And Suffolk also gives student's discounted T-pass tickets
42:31 once you book them in advance.
42:33 So that's a really cool thing.
42:35 And other things that took me to adjust for a bit
42:38 is actually like learning how to budget.
42:43 I think just learning how much
42:45 I want to spend for groceries each month,
42:47 how much I have for my...
42:48 How do I say, for my friends.
42:51 My friends kind of like my outgoing,
42:55 what's my spending money here?
42:56 What's my spending money for XYZ?
43:00 And it really helped me to set boundaries
43:03 and to kind of manage my budget properly.
43:06 What are the things that I took me to...
43:08 The weatherwise, New England weather
43:11 is just very unpredictable.
43:13 One moment it was like all sunshine and rainbows.
43:15 And then next thing you know,
43:16 it's like raining non-stop everywhere
43:20 and you literally need to have an umbrella, rain boots,
43:25 a really good coat, invest in a really good coat
43:28 that will be there.
43:29 I got one, I think even way back in high school.
43:32 So the coat that I had with me was like six years
43:35 and it's just working perfectly fine
43:37 and just really take time to research the weather
43:42 because that can help you during tremendously.
43:48 I want to kind of leave this note

43:50 that you can make friends anywhere.
43:52 What often happens is that
43:54 I'm with my friends in a coffee shop
43:56 and then we meet their friends
43:57 and next thing you know, we can all hang out together.
44:00 So there's this culture that like,
44:01 "Oh, you're from another country and me too,
44:04 "you speak another language besides English and me too."
44:08 And people here are so open-minded
44:09 and you'd be so surprised.
44:10 There are people that study Russian literature.
44:13 There are people who (indistinct) over Brazil,
44:16 who like go to Australia for fun
44:18 and like just kind of, I dunno,
44:21 study like physical artifacts in Greece or whatever.
44:23 And they all are kind of combined together
44:25 and they have the most interesting conversations.
44:28 And yeah, so don't be surprised how easy it is in reality
44:32 to actually make friends and connect with people.
44:36 As long as you have a friendly attitude,
44:38 you do so great here, you can do so great here.
44:42 - That's great, Akbota.
44:44 A really good insight
44:45 and it's wonderful to hear about your personal experience.
44:49 I actually don't see any more questions.
44:51 So I think we're gonna conclude the Q&A portion
44:54 and start wrapping up.
44:56 I wanna thank you for attending and express my appreciation
45:00 to Akbota and to Viviana for their help today.
45:03 If you have any other questions that come up,
45:05 feel free to get in touch with us.
45:07 We'll be happy to address them
45:09 and connect with you and help you out any way we can.
45:12 And I'm gonna give you one more reminder
45:14 to check out the virtual visit opportunities
45:16 and the admitted student events that are coming up.
45:19 Those are helpful for you
45:22 as you come closer to that May 1st deposit deadline.
45:26 Thank you for attending.
45:27 And this ends our webinar.
45:29 We hope to see you in Suffolk, Boston this fall.
45:33 Goodbye.
45:34 - Thank you.
45:37 - Thank you everyone.