Mission Statement: The Muslim Students Association serves the needs of the Princeton Muslim community. The MSA shall strive to establish and maintain the Friday (Juma’a) prayers throughout the year, prayers and celebrations for both Eids, and iftaar (fast-break) meals during Ramadan, and space for daily prayers. The MSA strives to increase the unity within the Muslim community on campus through social events like study breaks, discussions, and dinners. The MSA enriches the diversity of campus life by educating our peers about the religion of Islam through lectures, events, dialogues, and similar events. Additionally, the MSA shall strive to create and participate in interfaith events that promote understanding and tolerance of the diverse religious traditions on campus.

- For more information please visit www.princeton.edu/~msa or to join the mailing list email gmsa@princeton.edu.

MEET YOUR CHAPLAIN

- The Muslim Life Program focuses on six core areas: Ministry: Offering spiritual guidance in Friday sermons, leading congregational prayers, and fulfilling other religious rituals, such as marriage ceremonies. Counseling: Assisting students with life’s simple and difficult challenges, from theological concerns to family relations to time management, and everything in between. Advocacy: Working closely with university administration in ensuring that essential Muslim needs are accommodated on campus, including prayer space, halal dining options, and so on. Teaching: Organizing engaging educational seminars, lectures, forums, and discussions throughout the year on a variety of topics relating to Islamic beliefs, ethics, and spirituality, which are open to the entire campus community. Building interfaith relations: Developing opportunities and programs for healthy conversations and activities between religious communities on campus. Institutional Building: Working with students and administration to create and implement a long-term strategic vision for the Muslim community on campus.
You can contact Chaplain Sohaib Sultan via e-mail at ssultan@princeton.edu or by phone at 609.258.3042. His office is located in Murray-Dodge on the 2nd floor, Room 27. Usual office hours are from 10am-5pm.

PRAYER LOCATIONS:

ON CAMPUS:

- Murray Dodge Hall West Room. Adhan (Call to prayer) at 1:15 pm, year-round.
- Murray Dodge Muslim Faith Prayer room is open until midnight every day.
- Wudu stations available in MD restrooms.

OFF CAMPUS:

- Islamic Society of Central Jersey, 4145 Route 1 South and Stouts Lane, Monmouth Junction: http://www.iscj.org/

BIG BROTHER/SISTER PROGRAM

Interested in connecting with a more seasoned Princetonian? Contact ttong@princeton.edu to participate in the MSA’s Big Brother/Sister Program.

GETTING AROUND

TRANSPORTATION

TIGER TRANSIT

The TigerTransit transportation system offers stops at academic and administrative buildings; faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate student housing; Nassau Street; the Forrestal Campus/ Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, and shopping centers. See http://www.princeton.edu/transportation/tigertransit.html for route details.
NJ TRANSIT

- Buses: Services for the 605 and 606 bus are provided by New Jersey Transit and will transport you to local shopping malls. The 605 bus stops both in front of the Dinky, on Witherspoon near the Public Library, and across from Palmer Square.
- Trains: Connect with to NJ Transit’s North East Corridor line through the Dinky. Visit njtransit.com to plan your commute

SHUTTLES, AIRPORTS

- The easiest airport to travel from is Newark International airport which has a stop directly on NJ Transit Northeast Corridor Line.
- You may also want to compare prices with Philadelphia International airport which you can reach by taking NJ transit to Trenton then switching to the SEPTA lines R7 and R1.
- Coach Suburban transport is also available at Palmer Square and can transport you to NYC. http://www.coachusa.com/suburban/

CARS

No cars for freshmen or sophomores while juniors and seniors can park in lot 23. Graduate students can park in the lots near their apartments (no on campus parking without special needs or commuting). Parking cards can be purchased from Princeton borough to feed the parking meters. Note: Overnight street parking is not permitted in Princeton Borough, and other parking is extremely limited. Princeton police ticket heavily so make sure to park legally.

CAMPUS CULTURE

Eating Clubs: The eating clubs at Princeton University are private institutions resembling both dining halls and social houses, where the majority of Princeton upperclassmen take their meals. Selective clubs choose members through process called bickering. Non-selective clubs are applied through sign ups.

ENTERTAINMENT

ATHLETICS

- “Murray Dodgers”: Join the MSA intramural soccer team. The MSA participates in intramural leagues and welcomes all participants.
- Women’s swim hour located at Dillon gym pool from 11:45-12:45 on Sundays.
- If you really want to do the New Jersey thing, go bowling. Colonial Lanes (Business Route 1 South, 882-7700) has 64 lanes of pure bowling excitement, and sometimes they even get a band. You've got to see it to believe it.
- Kendall Park Roller Rink (732-297-3003) on Route 27 (a couple miles east on Nassau Street) is worth noting for the roller skaters. There's also the Mercer County Skating Center (371-1766) in West Windsor, which is open from mid-November to mid-March for ice-skating.

LIFE OUTSIDE THE PRINCETON BUBBLE

Make sure to visit New York City and Philadelphia only train rides away.
**FOOD**

“Forbidden to you (for food) are dead meat, blood, the flesh of swine, and that on which has been invoked the name of other than Allah, that which has been killed by strangling or by a violent blow or by a headlong fall or by being gored to death, that which has been partly eaten by a wild animal…”

(Quran 5:3).

**WORD TO THE WISE**

- **HALAL:**
  - Halal* is an Arabic word meaning lawful or permitted. The opposite of halal is haram, which means unlawful or prohibited. Halal and haram are universal terms that apply to all facets of life. However, we will use these terms only in relation to food products. All foods are considered halal except the following, which are haram:
    - Swine/pork and its by-products
    - Animals improperly slaughtered or dead before slaughtering
    - Animals killed in the name of anyone other than ALLAH (God)
    - Alcohol and intoxicants
    - Carnivorous animals, birds of prey and land animals without external ears
    - Blood and blood by-products
    - Foods contaminated with any of the above products
  - Some Muslims consider meat permissible as long as it is not pork, nor is there alcohol in its preparation nor is it slaughtered in the name of another person or being. They believe meat from a mainstream grocery store is permissible for consumption because it has been slaughtered in a Jeudo-Christian society and refer to 5:5 in the Quran which states, “the food of the People of the Book is lawful unto you and yours is lawful unto them.”

- **ZABIHA:**
  - Zabiha describes when an animal that is halal, slaughtered is in the prescribed Islamic manner, in the name of God. Muslims who consider such meat permissible believe that since slaughterhouses in the West do not slaughter an animal as a Most Muslims believe that meat is halal only when it is Zabiha (which in Arabic means “slaughtered”). Furthermore, Zabiha implies that the animal was cut using a very sharp knife that severs both arteries and the trachea causing minimal pain to the animal, and allowing all the blood to drain from the body. Those who insist on Zabiha argue that while the Quran allows Muslims to eat permissible food from their Jewish and Christian cousins, there is no guarantee that the meat in mainstream stores is slaughtered by those prescribing to either Judaism or Christianity. “Eat not of (meats) on which God’s name hath not been pronounced. That would be impiety.” (Quran 6:121).

- **KOSHER:**
  - Kosher* rules prohibit consuming pork or animal blood of any kind. To be kosher, a land animal or bird must be slaughtered by cutting the throat with a single stroke without cutting the spinal cord. All of the animal's blood must also be drained completely. Jews do not pronounce the name of God on each animal while slaughtering. To be kosher, a land animal must have cloven hooves and chew cud. Note, all distilled liquor and most beer is kosher.
ZABIH Options

• On Campus:
  o All food served at MSA events are classified as Zabiha halal.
  o The dining staff has Halal meat items available at the grill stations in all of the new
    marketplace residential college dining operations. In each of these locations, there are
    separate small grills and other equipment to cook the Halal meats. Dining Services continues
    to have the Halal option at the Frist Food Gallery on Friday afternoons after Friday prayer,
    from 2 to 4pm.

• Off Campus:
  o Brunswick Halal Meat & Grocery: 1000 Aaron Rd, North Brunswick, (732) 940-1200
  o Supreme Halal Meats & Grocery: 3076 State Route 27, Kendall Park (732) 297-1900
  o House of Meat: 2624 Quakerbridge Road 5 Points Mercerville Hamilton Twp 609.689.3030
  o Cairo Cakes: 831 Parkway Avenue, B-13 Ewing http://www.cairocakes.com/ 609.882.2058
  o Camilles Café: ask for Halal menu
  o Chester Halal Fried Chicken: 497 Lalor St Trenton (609) 392-1836
  o Khanbaba Halal Meat 3201 State Route 27 Franklin Park (732) 940-2550

Other Food Options


Grocery Shopping

• In Town:
  o Farmer's Market  Every Tuesday 11am-3pm til end of October
  o Whole Earth Center: Further down Nassau Street (past Harrison), also on the pricey side.
  o La Mexicana 150 Witherspoon Street | Phone: 609.279.9404
  o Lupita Grocery 50 Leigh Ave | Phone: 609.279.1905
  o McCaffrey's: More of your typical grocery store, reachable by bike or bus. McCaffrey's also has
    a free delivery service for orders of $50 or more. Also, check out McCaffrey's special delivery
    option for Princeton students 301 N Harrison St | Phone: 609.683.1600
  o Whole Foods Market: Natural grocery store with excellent (although expensive) prepared
    foods. There is also a free shuttle that goes here on Saturdays. Check out Whole Food's
    delivery option through scan-n-shop.com.3495 US Highway 1 | Phone: 609.799.2919

• On Route 1 and beyond:
  o Wegman's: 240 Nassau Park Blvd | Phone: 609.919.9300
  o Shoprite: Probably the least expensive grocery store around Princeton.
  o Quick Check Food Stores
    #31, 129 State Rd | Phone: 609.730.9822
  o Trader Joe's Princeton (607) - Open September 25th
    3528 US 1 | Phone: 609-897-0581

Health Services

University Health Services (UHS) is a fully accredited health care facility that provides comprehensive health
services to Princeton University undergraduate and graduate students and their dependents, and Princeton
University faculty and staff. UHS clinicians are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the academic year. UHS is located in McCosh hall behind Frist, call (609) 258-3129.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SO MY FRIENDS ARE VISITING PRINCETON, WHAT SHOULD I SHOW THEM?

Albert Einstein's house is just a short walk from the seminary, at 112 Mercer St. Einstein spent the last 22 years of his life in Princeton dedicated to the teaching and exploration of physics as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study. The house is privately owned, so please don't disturb the residents if you go to look.

Drumthwacket (683-0057), 354 Stockton St., is the official residence of the governor of New Jersey. Limited tours. Call to schedule.

The Historical Society of Princeton (921-6748), 158 Nassau St., is based in the Bainbridge House. Built in 1766, it's is a nice stop when you have a bit of time to kill and want to wander back through Princeton's history. Not quite an excursion, but it can feel quite like one.

The Institute for Advanced Study -- accompanied by a 500-acre nature preserve known as the Institute Woods -- was founded in 1930 with the goal of "the pursuit of learning and exploration in fields of pure science and high scholarship." It's the place where intellectuals from various fields convene for a peaceful respite amidst Princeton's green glory. The likes of Albert Einstein, Robert Oppenheimer and John von Neumann have been associated with the institute.

To get there, pick up a shuttle to the institute from Palmer Square (call 734-8000 for information) or walk south on Nassau Street and make a sharp left on Mercer Street. At the first stoplight, make a left onto Olden Lane. Then walk way down, and you'll find it. Trail maps for the woods and brochures about the institute are available in Fuld Hall, its main building.

McCarter Theatre (258-2787) has the double advantage of being right next to Forbes (91 University Place) and offering huge discounts to students. It's one of the best off-Broadway theaters in the country, and does a great job of having something for everybody, with everything from traditional plays, ballet and chamber music to modern musicals, juggling, comedy and jazz.

Morven Museum and Garden (924-8144), 55 Stockton St., was the original residence for New Jersey governors (before Drumthwacket) and is now open to the public; bring your Princeton ID for a discounted ticket.

Princeton Battlefield (921-0074), located at 500 Mercer Road (Princeton Pike), is an 85-acre state park marking the site of one of the fiercest fights during the Revolutionary War.

Princeton Cemetery (924-1369, 29 Greenview Ave.), sounds like a morbid destination, but there's a lot to see. Owned by the Nassau Presbyterian Church (the big white building with columns next to Maclean House), this cemetery was founded in 1757. The oldest structure is the Aaron Burr Sr. monument located in the President's Plot.

Princeton Theological Seminary, bordered by Mercer, Alexander and Stockton streets, is a professional and graduate school of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Founded in 1812, it has an enrollment of 800 divinity students. For a change of pace, dine in the spacious and airy Mackay Campus Center (64 Mercer St.). Bring
cash, though -- our PUDS contract doesn't cover meal exchanges with the seminary (it will get you a library card, though, if you're interested in their ample Christian text archives).

**CAN THE MSA HELP ME FIND A ROOMMATE?**

Every year when people are looking for roommates, we post requests on our listserv to help people find matches. If you are interested in participating, email msa@princeton.edu

References

*Guide compiled by Hagar ElBishlawi helbishl[at]princeton.edu
* Based on the book, *Islamic Dietary Concepts And Practices* by M.M. Hussaini
*These restaurants all have served halal meat at some point and were serving halal meat at the time this list was compiled. Due to variations in supply and the type of meat being served at any given time, we cannot guarantee the authenticity of the meat. Always try to confirm at the restaurant. You should always ask the manager if the meat that is being served that day is halal. And always begin and finish your meals with the appropriate dua.*