ISPY Programs

Please note that all ISPY groups are meeting virtually or off-campus this fall. See the group details below and get in touch with their leaders via email or through their Facebook group to get involved!

OISS encourages international spouses and partners to get involved and make your stay at Yale a positive and enriching experience. See the many ISPY events listed below and feel free to contact the group organizers for more details. If you would like to start a group of your own, please contact Molly Hampton, Assistant Director of Programs. [1]

Babies @ Yale

Occasional in-person meetings (see Facebook group for details)

This playgroup is an ideal opportunity for little ones to begin socializing and learning about group play. This is also a great meeting place for parents and caregivers looking for opportunities to practice speaking English, and for everyone to share experiences, tips and ideas. As the International Center does not offer a child-proof setting, Babies @ Yale is recommended for babies and toddlers that will be content playing together behind the glass partition (up to approximately one year). The OISS has a limited number of toys and books available to the group. Families are invited to bring their own activities to share with the group. If you are interested in joining the group, and for details regarding summer meeting locations, please join the Babies @ Yale Facebook group [2].

Let's Craft Together

Wednesdays, 3-4pm - postponed until further notice

This group is for all makers! This semester we will be meeting virtually and you can bring whatever project you're working on to the group so we can all craft together and make time for it in our days. If you're not working on a project, just bring your coffee and get inspired by other members. Open to all knitters, sewers, painters, crafters, builders, makers, and more! This is a great place to make new friends and learn a new hobby. Please join the ISPY Let's Craft Together Facebook group [3] for details.

Japanese Conversation Group

Sundays, 2-3pm - meeting in-person in local coffee shops (see Facebook group for details)

You can improve your Japanese and also learn about Japanese culture! Let's enjoy Japanese traditional games, seasonal events, and so on! For questions, please send an email to japaneseoiss@gmail.com [4], or find us on the Japanese Conversation Group Facebook page [5]!
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ISPY Book Club

Thursdays, 6:30pm - meeting virtually (see Facebook group for details)

Welcome to the ISPY BOOK CLUB! We have started the book club because we love to read and being a part of the international community at Yale, we also wanted an alternative way to improve our English skills together.

We will read just one book a month and then come together for a weekly discussion. The book of the month will always be the cover photo on our Facebook page. Do you want to join the book club group but you don’t have a book yet? It’s not a problem! Just stop by and join us for the book discussions. You can start anytime! Join the Book Club Facebook group for updates and to contact us. [6]

PS: What Is a Book Club?

A book club is a reading group, usually consisting of a number of people who read and talk about books based on a topic or an agreed-upon reading list. It's common for book clubs to choose a specific book to read and discuss at the same time.

Job Hunters

Occasionally meeting virtually (see Facebook group for details)

Are you looking for a job? (Or will you be looking for one in the future?) Join our group and learn from others about creating effective resumes in the American way and writing superb cover letters, networking like a pro, nailing job interviews, and in general just to get support through the (sometimes stressful) process of job hunting. You don't have to go through it alone! For more information please find us on the Job Hunters Facebook page [7]!

Spanish Conversation Groups

Spanish Conversation Group - Fridays, 3-4pm (see Facebook group for details)

Whether you're learning Spanish and looking to practice and get fluent in your conversation skills or you're a native speaker, this is the group for you. This group will engage in lively discussion and allows you to meet fellow speakers from around the world! The Spanish Conversation Group is not a language class, but rather a weekly opportunity to practice your language skills in a pleasant, low-key setting. For more information, please find them on the Spanish Conversation Group Facebook page [8]!

Chinese Conversation Group

Fridays, 4:30-5:30 PM - meeting virtually, see Facebook Group for details

The Chinese Conversation Group provides a relaxing environment that offers opportunities for conversing in Mandarin Chinese. People of all skill levels are welcome, including beginners, experts, native speakers, and everyone in-between. Please join us! You can improve your Chinese and learn more about China and Chinese culture by discussing a variety of topics. Please contact oiss.chinese@gmail.com [9], find us on the Chinese Conversation Group Facebook [10], or on Wechat with ID: Yale OISS Chinese Conversation!

Toddlers at Yale

Wednesdays, 10:00am - 12:00pm - East Rock Park playground (see Facebook group for details)

Meet fellow parents, bring your toddlers, and bond over shared experiences as international families in New Haven! This is best for toddlers ages 1-4. Please join the Toddlers at Yale Facebook group [11] to get updated information.