

Dear UCSB EAP Reciprocity Students,

Greetings from the EAP Campus Office at UCSB! You are probably excited about your pending departure for the United States and the upcoming academic year. In order to alleviate any worries that you might have, we have compiled some information that we hope is useful to you.

Also, as a reminder, when you arrive please stop by our office in 2431 South Hall to let us know you are here. As soon as you have a place to live, please give us your Santa Barbara address so that we may keep you informed about EAP events and put you in touch with students who are interested in studying in your home country. We will be happy to answer any other questions you may have regarding your upcoming stay in California. We look forward to meeting you!

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***** IMPORTANT DATES *****

- ✦ 30 days prior to program start date on DS-2019: Earliest possible date of arrival in the U.S.
- ✦ December 31-January 1: Holiday (UCSB, Banks, and most businesses will be CLOSED)
- ✦ January 6: Suggested arrival date and earliest possible date to move in to university housing
- ✦ January 7: CLASSES BEGIN
- ✦ January 11: MANDATORY International Student Orientation
- ✦ January 11: EAP Reception -- meet American students!

***** REFERENCES *****

Please bookmark these web pages on your computer for your reference:

2012-13 Student Guide: http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/ReciprocalExchanges/1213/Student_Guide.pdf

UCSB Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS): <http://www.oiss.ucsb.edu>

MyUCSB Start Page: <http://my.sa.ucsb.edu>

KIOSK Student Handbook: <http://kiosk.ucsb.edu>

***** PLANNING YOUR ARRIVAL *****

Winter quarter classes begin on Monday, January 7 and the mandatory International Student Orientation for EAP students will be on Friday, January 11. You will need to register for the orientation online: <http://oiss.sa.ucsb.edu/Students/Orientation.aspx>.

If you will have already arranged your housing prior to your arrival in Santa Barbara, we suggest you arrive a day or two prior to the first day of classes. For those of you living in university housing, you will be able to move in beginning Sunday, January 6. If, however, you plan on looking for housing after you arrive, you should arrive several weeks earlier (please see "Temporary Accommodation" below). When arranging your travel plans, please remember that the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) is located near the city of Goleta, and is actually about 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of the city of Santa Barbara. Carefully read the sections below as they include answers to many of the questions you may have regarding your first several days in Santa Barbara.

Transportation

There are two relatively easy means of traveling from the Los Angeles Airport (LAX) to UCSB: (1) Many airlines offer flights from LAX to the Santa Barbara Airport for about \$150-200 (one-way) – depending on when you make your reservations; (2) The Santa Barbara Airbus runs from LAX to Goleta. The Airbus is scheduled to run from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. at approximately two to three hour intervals. For more information and reservations, please see <http://www.sbairbus.com/>. To get to UCSB from the Santa Barbara Airbus stop in Goleta, you can take a taxi for approximately \$20.00. The number for Santa Barbara Yellow Cab is (805) 965-5111 or 800-549-8294 and the Airbus driver can call a cab for you and have it wait for your arrival.

If you arrive by plane at the Santa Barbara Airport, transportation to campus is quick and relatively inexpensive, as the campus is only two miles from the airport. There are several ways to get to campus from the airport: (1) A public transportation bus (MTD #11) runs roughly every thirty minutes between the hours of 6:37 a.m. – 11:55 p.m. on weekdays; 6:37 a.m. – 10:45 p.m. on Saturdays; and 7:07 a.m. – 10:05 p.m. on Sundays. The bus trip costs \$1.75 and stops at UCSB. For more information, please see <http://www.sbmttd.gov/maps-and-schedules/11.html>. (2) A taxi ride from the Santa Barbara airport to UCSB is about \$15.00. You can easily find a taxi waiting outside the airport terminal at all times.

If you arrive in Goleta during business hours (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday) and you need our help, call us at (805) 893-3763.

Temporary Accommodation (upon your arrival)

Santa Barbara has a tourist hostel downtown: <http://www.sbhostel.com/> as well as a number of hotels. For hotel information in Santa Barbara and Goleta, go to: <http://www.santabarbara.com/>.

FINDING THE EAP OFFICE:

Please stop by to visit us when you arrive on campus! We are located in 2431 South Hall. From the bus loop walk toward Storke Tower and away from the mountains, and you'll see South Hall. Here is a campus map for your reference: <http://www.aw.id.ucsb.edu/maps/ucsbmap.html>.

******* STUDENT ID NUMBER & EMAIL *******

PERM NUMBER (STUDENT ID NUMBER):

A student's permanent (perm) number is the student's identification number which will be emailed to each student individually from the UCSB Office of the Registrar. ***These sometimes get filtered into junk/spam mail so please check your folder frequently.*** It is a 7-digit number, but it is not the same as the CPID which also has seven (7) digits. If you do not know or have lost your perm number, please email me to request it. You will use your perm number to set up your Umail account / UCSBnetID. Please visit <https://secureweb.umail.ucsb.edu/identity/> to create an account as soon as you receive your perm number.

UMAIL (UCSB STUDENT EMAIL):

Umail is UCSB's official email service for students studying at UCSB. All official information sent by UCSB departments to students is sent to students' Umail addresses. It is crucial that students set up a Umail address as soon as possible and check their Umail regularly, as academic departments, professors, official university announcements, UCSB Housing, etc. will all contact students via their Umail accounts.

UCSBnetID

Your Umail address username will become your UCSBnetID. It will be used for nearly all things official at UCSB ranging from [paying bills](#), to [course enrollment](#), to setting up a doctor's appointment with the [Student Health Service](#).

******* PAYING FEES *******

Your BARC account will be available here: <https://mybarc.ucsb.edu/SIWeb/login.jsp>. Your BARC account will only be accessible after you receive your perm number and set up your UCSBnetID and password. You will receive statements from the UCSB Billing Office (BARC) saying that your fees for housing, health insurance, etc. are due. As an international student, you are automatically granted an extension to pay these bills, so you will not incur any late fees or penalties as long as you pay by January 25, 2013. If you cannot make a payment by January 25, please contact me so that we can arrange for an extension of the

payment deadline.

Although international students are protected from late payment penalties until January 25, you may be denied free access to the Recreation Center (a.k.a. RecCen, or the student gymnasium) and/or bus-riding privileges until all fees are paid.

Due to the high cost and difficulty of trying to pay UCSB bills from abroad, we recommend that you wait until arrival to pay your BARC fees. Bills must be paid by cash, check from a U.S. bank account, or credit card (Master Card, Discover or American Express). Please plan ahead with this in mind.

If you receive a "late registration fee" in your BARC account, please send an email to RegRegistration@sa.ucsb.edu, explain that you are an EAP student, and request to have the fee reversed.

When you check in, you will be provided with information on how to open up a U.S. bank account, including a map of where to find the banks, automated teller machines (ATMs), etc. If you have an ATM (cash) card with a 4-digit PIN you should be able to withdraw money from any ATM in the U.S., but there is often a \$2.00-\$3.00 fee to do so. Please check with your bank to ensure ATM access in the U.S.

***** ENROLLMENT INFORMATION *****

After you've received your perm number and set up your UCSBnetID, you will be able to check your registration pass times, search for courses, and enroll in courses using the GOLD

system: <https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/gold/login.aspx>

All EAP Reciprocity undergraduate students must register for a minimum of 12.0 units each quarter in order to maintain visa status, maintain program requirements, ride buses free, and be eligible for internships. EAP graduate students must enroll in a minimum of 8.0 units each quarter.

You can search for courses with the class

search: <http://my.sa.ucsb.edu/public/curriculum/coursesearch.aspx>

***** ENROLLMENT FAQs *****

Where can I find instructions for enrollment?

Students must have a perm number (UCSB student identification number) in order to enroll in courses. Detailed instructions and reminders will be sent to you by email throughout the months of October - November.

My major shows as "undeclared" on GOLD, what can I do to change this?

No action is required from you. GOLD shows all undergraduate reciprocity students as having an "undeclared" major.

GOLD says I do not meet the prerequisites to take a course, how do I prove that I meet the prerequisites?

If GOLD says that you cannot take a course because you do not meet the prerequisite or because the course is open to majors only, you need to contact the undergraduate advisor for the appropriate department. Email the departmental advisor/instructor the Prerequisite Clearance Request Form (http://eap.ucop.edu/Documents/ReciprocalExchanges/prerequisite_clearance.pdf) to demonstrate that you met the course prerequisites and request permission to enroll. To find the appropriate undergraduate advisor, go to the UCSB website (<http://www.ucsb.edu/academics/depts/index.shtml>) and search for the departmental home page.

How can I enroll in an English for Multilingual Students (EMS) course?

If you are planning to enroll at some time during your EAP studies in an EMS course, you need to take an English Language Placement Exam (ELPE) to determine your enrollment in the appropriate level of EMS class(es). ELPE is only a placement exam and it implies no obligation to enroll in English Language Program classes. For more information about the ELPE, go to <http://www.ems.ucsb.edu/schedules/elpe.htm>. You will be able to take the ELPE in January.

Please note that not all universities will accept EMS courses as credit toward graduation, and your transcript will state "No Baccalaureate Credit." The EMS schedule of classes is available online at <http://www.ems.ucsb.edu/schedules.htm>.

How do I get the registration sticker to ride the busses for free?

Once you have enrolled in 12.0 units on GOLD, updated your local address on GOLD, and paid your fees to the Billing Office (BA/RC), and obtained your Access card (student identity card) you will be able to pick up a registration sticker and attach it to your Access card. Registrations stickers will be available for pick-up one week before instruction begins at the Office of the Registrar or the Associated Students Ticket Office. You will need to present your Access card. Some students may find that they are able to order the sticker without having paid the insurance fees (and University housing fees, if applicable), but the Registrar may block students from ordering the sticker until all fees are paid in full.

Do I need to fill out the Statement of Legal Residence (SLR)?

No, this form is not required of EAP reciprocity students.

All of the courses I want to take are full (or closed) -- what can I do?

It may still be possible for you to take a class that is full (or closed) through a process called "crashing" (that is, to sit in on a class that is full/closed, join a "crash" list, and add the class as soon as an enrolled student drops it). Crashing may seem intimidating, but is very common here. Procedures for crashing classes may vary slightly in each department, and departments in the College of Letters & Science have the procedures posted on their webpages.

To make crashing a class easier, email the professor who is teaching the class (copy the department undergraduate advisor) and ask if you can be placed on a waiting list. Identify yourself as an EAP reciprocity student who may not be familiar with the registration process here at UCSB in your first quarter. Many departments are participating in the new centralized online waiting list for UCSB: <https://waitlist.ucsb.edu/>. You can log in with the same username and password that you use for GOLD and add your name to the waiting list if you see your desired course there.

Starting the first week of school, go to all of the classes that you wish to take. Sign the roster to reserve a spot and to let the professor know that you attended the class. When you successfully get into the class, the professor will provide you with a 4- or 5-digit approval code, which you will then use to add the class on GOLD.

In the meantime, you should also sign up for alternate classes to make sure that you will be enrolled for a full-course load of 12 units during the quarter. This will also enable you to get your registration sticker upon arrival and to use student facilities such as the library, recreational center, and to ride the buses for free. You can drop the alternate classes once you successfully crash your desired courses, but you must drop courses by the drop deadline, otherwise you will receive a "failing" grade.

This process may sound overwhelming, but try not to worry. There are many students, both EAP reciprocity and UC, in this situation and rarely does someone graduate from UCSB without having crashed a few classes. I, or anyone else in the EAP office, can give you more advice on how to crash, so do not hesitate to contact us!

What is the difference between P/NP and a letter grade?

The basic difference is that letter grades are used in calculating the university grade-point average (GPA). Unit credit is awarded for any grade of D- or above (A+ through D-), while no credit is awarded for F grades. Passed/Not Passed (P/NP) grades, on the other hand, are not included in the computation of the university grade-point average and a grade of P will be assigned for coursework equivalent to a C or higher on the letter-grade basis. A grade of NP will be assigned for coursework equivalent to a C- or below, and no unit or degree credit will be awarded. Some universities will not accept courses taken on the P/NP grading option, so please check with your home university before making your selection. For more information on the difference between the two grading options, go to: <http://my.sa.ucsb.edu/Catalog/Current/AcademicPoliciesProcedures/PassedNotPassedGrades.aspx>.

What does "R" in the schedule of classes stand for?

The "R" stands for Thursday ("T" is for Tuesday, "W" for Wednesday, etc.). Thus, a class that meets TR meets Tuesdays and Thursdays.

***** HEALTH INFORMATION *****

As an international UCSB student you are required to purchase the University of California Student Health Insurance Policy (UC SHIP) offered by UCSB. Enrollment in UC SHIP is automatic and the cost is automatically added to your UCSB billing statement.

If your current health insurance will cover you while you are studying at UCSB, you may be eligible for a waiver and not required to purchase additional coverage. You may have already received a waiver form along with further information regarding your insurance from our Student Health Services (SHS). You may also find the waiver form

online: <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/Undergraduate/waiverrequirements.aspx>.

However, please note that in order to be considered for a waiver, the medical plan for waiver must be provided by a recognized company or government agency that is owned, headquartered and operated in the United States. Foreign insurance plans with U.S. affiliates or representatives, travel insurance plans and reimbursement programs of any kind do not qualify, including reimbursement arrangements or vouchers from home governments or their U.S.-based consulates.

Please DO NOT request a waiver if you are enrolled in an international or a travel insurance plan. If you have questions not answered above, please email UCSB Student Health at insurance@sa.ucsb.edu. You will receive a response within three days.

Be aware of any gaps in insurance coverage you may encounter. For example, the UCSB health insurance (UC SHIP) for winter quarter begins January 7, 2013. If you plan to arrive earlier, make sure you are covered by travel insurance or other insurance until January 7.

In addition, it is your responsibility to read the terms and conditions for UCSB Health

Insurance: <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/Undergraduate/insurance.aspx>. Many students, for example, do not realize that they need to get a referral from SHS to use UC SHIP for non-emergency services at another health care facility.

***** HEALTH FAQs *****

Do I need additional health coverage?

Many students find UC SHIP to be sufficient for their needs. However, it is important that each student read the terms and conditions of UC SHIP to determine whether or not additional coverage is necessary.

Will UCSB health insurance (SHIP) cover me when I travel outside CA and the U.S.?

Yes, SHIP will provide limited coverage outside of CA and the United States. For more information about what SHIP will cover, go to: <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/Undergraduate/shipbenefits.aspx>.

***** HOUSING INFORMATION *****

UNIVERSITY-OWNED APARTMENTS AND RESIDENCE HALLS (UC Housing)

University housing is a good option because it's much easier to arrange from abroad than finding your own accommodation. There are two types of university-owned accommodations to choose from: residence halls or apartments.

Residence halls have meal plans, social and educational activities, and more interaction with the staff. Many students with similar living situations at home often like the more structured feel of the residence halls here (i.e. prepared meals, planned activities, etc.). University apartments are ideal for students who want a more independent lifestyle.

University Apartments: <http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/ugrad-general-info.htm>

Accommodation in university apartments is not guaranteed, but EAP students are eligible to apply. Apartment contracts will be awarded by a lottery system.

The contract is for winter and spring quarters, but if you will be at UCSB for winter quarter, you can end the contract early with a \$250 cancellation fee. Apartments do not come with a meal plan, and they remain open during the breaks between quarters.

Residence Halls: <http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/reshalls-general-information.htm>

Residence hall contracts are for 9 months. If you will be at UCSB for less than 9 months, you can end the contract early with a cancellation fee (your request to cancel the contract early will be approved in this circumstance, but you will need to pay a \$250 cancellation fee). Please review the information provided by the UCSB Housing Office regarding early cancellation of your residence hall contract:

<http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/reshalls-assignservices.htm#cancel>.

EAP students are placed in San Rafael and Manzanita Village. Meal plans are included, and you can select a meal plan with 10, 14, or 19 meals per week. You can also choose to live in a room with single, double, or triple occupancy.

Residence halls traditionally close during Spring break, during which time students do not have access to their room and are not charged for room and board. However, Residential Life provides extended housing for those who cannot go home during the breaks. Students requesting housing during the breaks will be assigned to the Global Living House in Manzanita Village. Since the university is officially closed, only minimal services are provided during these times (i.e. no meal service, only emergency staffing). Please indicate your request for the special housing on the personal preference form.

How to Apply

You will need to create your UCSBnetID and password and activate your umail account before applying for University Housing. The application for University Apartments and Residence Halls is available at <http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/application/apps-winter-spring-info.htm>. If you have any questions about the on-line application process, please e-mail your questions to aptcontracts@housing.ucsb.edu (Apartments) or contracts@housing.ucsb.edu (Residence Halls).

PRIVATE HOUSING (Non-UC Housing)

If you choose to find your own housing, there are many resources available to you. The UCSB Community Housing Office (CHO) has a website with rental listing (<http://www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/cho-general-info.htm>), and they also provide neighborhood profiles, rental advice, and much more information. Most students at UC who are beyond their first year of study prefer an apartment or shared living situation off-campus.

If you decide to do a private rental, you should be very careful to discuss your exact financial obligations with the landlord before signing a contract. Most require – in advance – the first and last month's rent plus a "security/cleaning deposit." The deposit is refundable unless money is needed for the repair of any damages made to the apartment. Be sure to examine the apartment carefully with the landlord before renting and note any existing damage (holes in walls, stains on carpets, broken fixtures, etc.). Some will require that you have your carpets professionally steam-cleaned before you leave.

Isla Vista is a very populated student area less than 1 mile from campus; most students ride bike or walk. There are many shops and restaurants nearby, as well as the beach. Many houses and apartments are available to rent with EAP and UCSB students. Most students share bedrooms with roommates and the average price of a shared bedroom is between \$600 and \$700 per month. You can often find furnished rooms for one or two quarters through the EAP Housing Board: <http://californiahousingboard.yuku.com/forums/6/t/UC-Santa-Barbara.html>. You can post to the housing board to let other students know that you are looking for a room, and you can also browse for available rooms.

Accommodations in the **Goleta / Santa Barbara** area are 3 miles to 6 miles from campus. There are many accessible bike paths to use, as well as a bus system which is free for students. Rent tends to be less expensive than Isla Vista and there are fewer students over a wider area.

Private rooms in non-student households (families and/or professionals) are usually furnished with a shared bathroom as well as use of kitchen and common areas. The average price is \$650-\$750/month (utilities are usually included in the price).

Goleta/Santa Barbara on your own

- ✧ Studio apartments can cost between \$900-\$1100/month; one-bedrooms can cost between \$1100-\$1400/month

- ✧ Some apartments have month-to-month contracts and some have 12 month leases.
- ✧ No furniture – you would need to buy or rent
- ✧ Utilities are not included and would need to be hooked up

Goleta/Santa Barbara with roommates

- ✧ Live with American students or other EAP students
- ✧ Likely to find a private room; sublets from UCSB students with furnishings are tougher to find
- ✧ Roommates may have some furniture for common areas (couch, table) but no bed, desk or dresser for your room
- ✧ Average price of a shared bedroom is between \$600 and \$700
- ✧ Share utility costs with roommates

UC-Affiliated Residence Halls:

There are a few UC affiliated residence halls immediately adjacent to campus, all under the same management. Most UCSB students will live in Tropicana Del Norte or the Villas at Tropicana. They offer a full range of amenities including internet, residential dining, lounges, swimming pools, exercise facilities, laundry and more. UC-Affiliated Residence Halls will offer partial-year contracts for students who are attending UCSB for one or two quarters, and accommodation is easy to arrange in comparison to private apartments.

Tropicana Del Norte Residence Hall: <http://www.tropicanadelnorte.com>

Villas at Tropicana: <http://www.villasattropicana.com>

***** MISCELLANEOUS FAQs *****

- * **On the UCSB Admissions website, I saw a deadline to submit my Statement of Legal Residence (SLR) and I am confused as to how to complete this form online. What should I do?**

Please do NOT complete the SLR as it does not apply to EAP students.

- * **Is there any way that I can get in contact with other reciprocity students coming in the winter?**

Yes. You can join the UCSB EAP Reciprocal Exchange Facebook group, where you can meet other EAP students currently at UCSB as well as other students arriving in winter:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/395632413827700/>.

- * **What is the weather like?**

Variable. Although we have over 300 days of sunshine a year, it does get cold, especially at night! Pack some sweaters and a warm jacket.

- * **I want to drive while in CA. What are the requirements for this?**

It is recommended that all students who plan to drive during their term abroad obtain a California driver's license. For more information on how to obtain a CA driver's license, go to:

<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/>.

Drivers must have valid insurance coverage. This can be expensive. Carefully consider and research the cost of driving before making any plans

- * **Where can I find out about things to do in Santa Barbara?**

For information about weekly community events, The Independent, a local paper published every Thursday, can be picked up on campus free of charge or viewed online at

<http://www.independent.com/>.

General information about Santa Barbara is posted on <http://www.santabarbara.com/>.

- * **Where can I find more information about internships?**

The best places to find internships related to your field of study are the Career Services office and your academic department office at UCSB. Paid internships and internships that extend beyond a student's last quarter at UCSB are typically limited to students with J-1 visas only, and require the permission of both the UCSB EAP Office and the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS). If you are interested in an internship, plan to attend an information session presented by the OISS

*** How can I get a Social Security Number if I need one? Why might I need one?**

J-1 visa holders who wish to receive a Social Security Number (SSN) should update their local addresses on GOLD, and must wait until 10 days after arrival in the United States to before visiting the Office of International Students and Scholars in order to start the process for applying for a SSN. A student will need a SSN for a California Driver's License, a California ID (so you do not need to carry your passport), or for employment off-campus.

*** How do I open a U.S. Bank Account?**

At orientation, you will be provided with information on how to open up a U.S. bank account, including a map of where to find the banks, automated teller machines (ATMs), etc. If you have an ATM (cash) card with a 4-digit pin you should be able to withdraw money from any ATM in the U.S., but there is often a \$2.00-\$3.00 fee to do so. Please check with your bank to ensure ATM access in the U.S.

*** I heard that the alcohol policy in the U.S. is very strict and I may be required to show an I.D. card if I try to purchase alcohol - is this true?**

YES! We want to remind you that the alcohol policy in the United States is probably enforced more stringently than in your home country. All students are expected to follow state regulations regarding drinking (meaning no alcohol for students under 21 years of age). Even those students who are 21 and older need to be aware of the policies regarding alcohol (see below). Please discuss these policies with a staff administrator or our office if you feel it will be a restriction for you.

Please be aware that in addition to a general drinking age of 21, alcohol in Santa Barbara has certain other restrictions. For example, in order to purchase any alcoholic beverage (in a bar or supermarket) students must show an identification card (I.D.) with their photo and date of birth on it to prove they are 21 or older. Many nightclubs will not admit people under 21, so you must provide your I.D. to gain admittance, regardless of whether you intend to purchase alcohol or not.

Also, it is illegal to carry an "open container" (an open can, bottle, cup or glass of any alcoholic beverage: beer, wine, spirits, etc.) on the streets, parks, and beaches of Santa Barbara, Goleta, or Isla Vista. Please observe these policies or they may lead to fines and/or imprisonment.

Police are also very strict with students bicycling while intoxicated and the offense is treated as seriously as if someone were driving a car while intoxicated.

UCSB is now requiring all new students to complete an online tutorial related to alcohol and underage drinking. The tutorial can be found at: <http://alcohol.sa.ucsb.edu/NewStudents.aspx>.

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