

DECEMBER 2022

OISS Newsletter



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Dear International Gauchos,

Fall quarter is nearly over and what a quarter it was! Our students and scholars work tirelessly – studying, researching, working, and teaching. OISS is continuously amazed at how much incredible work you do. You are all more than deserving of a rejuvenating winter break.

There is a saying that goes, “You can’t pour from an empty cup; take care of yourself and fill yours first.” Filling your cup is a metaphor for restoring your mental, physical, and emotional energy. We hope that over break you’re able to fill your cup and return for winter quarter overflowing!

In community,

The Office of International Students & Scholars



Alerts & Updates

Holiday and Winter Break Operations

Date(s)	Operation Status	Can I process requests and speak with an advisor?	How?
12/1 - 12/16	Normal	Yes	In-person and Remote
12/19 - 1/6	Remote Only	Yes	Remote Only
1/9 and on	Normal	Yes	In-person and Remote
12/23, 12/26, 12/30, 1/2	Closed	No	Not available

Students - Schedule an appointment with your assigned advisor using [this link](#)

Scholars - Schedule an appointment with an advisor by emailing j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu or longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu

E-forms Only

Some of you may recall OISS previously used paper forms — hard to imagine, now! Although these paper forms have been removed from our website, you can still find them using a search engine, like Google.

Therefore, if you're looking for information about a certain request, you'll get the best results by using our Student Request Guide or the search function within our website. OISS only accepts e-forms submitted through UCSBGlobal.

University of California, Santa Barbara

UCSBGLOBAL GIVE QUICK LINKS

Use this search icon!

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

Home Students Scholars Departments Campus Engagement Events Resources UCSBGlobal Contact

UCSBGlobal
Anytime, Anywhere.

UCSBGlobal is now live! Go to this page for more information.

Avoid Falling Out of Status

Unfortunately, OISS advisors occasionally meet with students or scholars who have fallen out of status due to either not reading emails (sent to their UCSB email address) from OISS or not closely following directions provided to them.

Email is the official way for UCSB departments to communicate with students and scholars; OISS will notify you of crucial information via email, which you can view in your UCSB email inbox or UCSBGlobal.

We cannot emphasize enough the importance of reading emails OISS sends. In addition to always opening our messages, it may be helpful to periodically search for our office name in your email inbox and double-check any message notifications you see in UCSBGlobal.

When we see that students or scholars have opened messages, but failed to take the required action to maintain their status, they sometimes tell us it's because they skimmed the message or thought it was a scam. Please read our message carefully and always ask if you would like any clarification or have follow up questions. Similarly, if you are ever wondering if a certain message is a scam, please contact our office and we would be happy to take a look. You can also check your UCSBGlobal account to verify an email is legitimate - if you receive the same message in both your email and on UCSBGlobal, then it checks out!

Tip #1

Check your UCSB email inbox often

Tip #2

Read emails from OISS thoroughly

Tip #3

Maintaining your visa status is vital to being able to complete your UCSB program. If you're ever unsure, ask OISS.

Download the UCSBGlobal App!

The Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) is excited to announce that UCSBGlobal has gone mobile! You can now submit e-forms from your phone using the UCSBGlobal mobile application.

We invite international students and scholars to download the free app today. Visit our [UCSBGlobal app page](#) for more information, including a detailed [Download Guide](#).



UCSBGlobal Mobile App

Submit e-forms from your phone with the UCSBGlobal mobile app!



Download the "Sunapsis" application and select UCSB to get started.



Scan QR code for more information

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who is the app for?

International students and scholars who use UCSBGlobal to submit requests to OISS.

Is the UCSBGlobal app required?

No, but it is highly recommended. The app allows UCSBGlobal users to fill out e-forms on their phones and receive relevant push notifications.

Why should I enable push notifications?

So that you don't miss an essential immigration update! Push notifications will only be used to alert students and scholars of the most time-sensitive immigration information. The notifications will not be used for event advertising or non-urgent updates. We kindly ask that you enable the notifications, which will be functional in the near future.

Can I continue using the UCSBGlobal website?

Yes. You are welcome to continue using the UCSBGlobal website to submit e-forms. But if you wish to submit e-forms from your phone, then you will need to download the UCSBGlobal app.

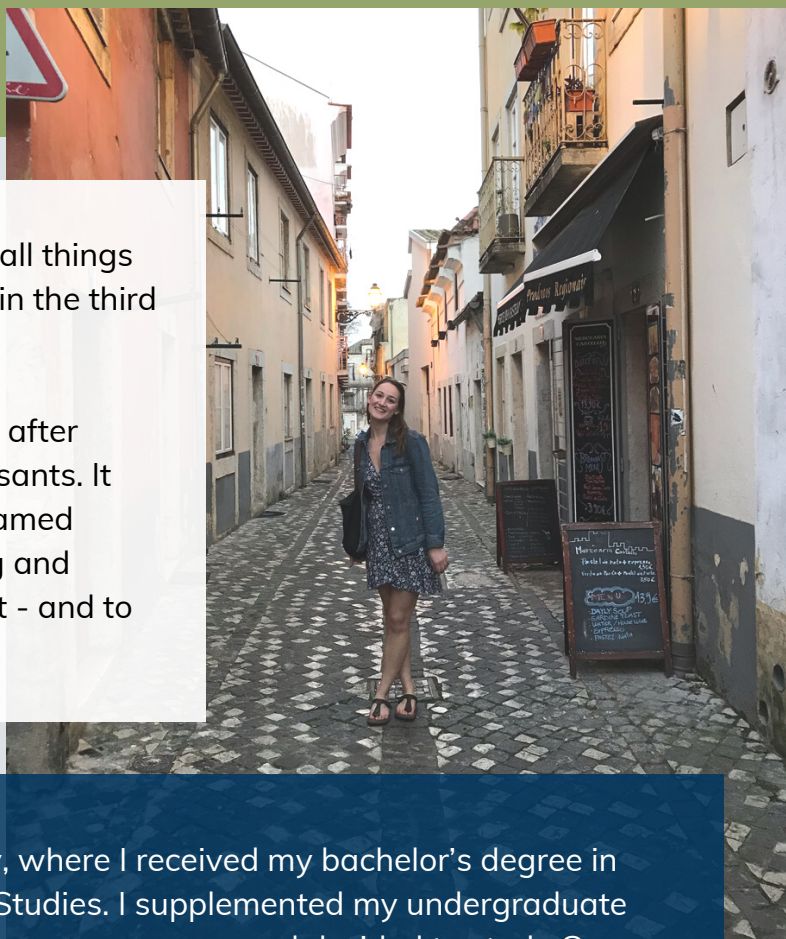
Please direct any questions to oiss@sa.ucsb.edu – we value your feedback!

Meet Our New OISS Staff Member!

Danika Gottbrecht (she.her.hers)
J-1 Scholar Advisor

If I had to pinpoint when my affinity for all things international began, I would say it was in the third grade in Madame Vieille's French Club.

The French Club met every Wednesday after school and mostly involved eating croissants. It was led by a fabulous Frenchwoman named Madame Vieille whose love for teaching and general joie de vivre inspired me to start - and to keep learning - French.



Fast forward to university, where I received my bachelor's degree in French and International Studies. I supplemented my undergraduate studies with even more language courses and decided to study German, too. Like many Europeans throughout the 20th century, my grandparents immigrated from Germany to the United States. I wanted to experience some of the cultural adjustment they had experienced while living and working in a new country.



When it came time to decide where I wanted to study abroad, I found my happy place in Strasbourg, France. There, you can speak French and German (or even Alsatian)! My studies continued in 2018 when I received a Fulbright grant to Germany, where I spent a year working with a diverse group of teachers, researchers, and students. I am so thankful to have the opportunity to work in the Office of International Students and Scholars at UCSB where I am able to read documents in multiple different languages every day!

OISS Events



Get an Immediate Travel Signature

Friday Dec 2

2 - 4 pm

OISS Conference Room (SRB 3rd Floor)

Traveling abroad for the break? Need a new travel signature? Come to our Travel Signature Party for F-1 and J-1 students! No appointment is needed, just meet us in the OISS Conference room (SRB 3rd floor). Be sure to bring your I-20 or DS-2019 for us to sign. Hot cocoa and tea will be provided.

Who needs a travel signature?

Any student who will be traveling outside the U.S. needs a valid travel signature to re-enter.

How long is a student's travel signature valid?

Travel signatures are valid for up to one year from the date they are signed. Your travel signature must be valid at the time of re-entry to the U.S.



OISS Recommends

Yoga Event with OSC & TSC

Bring your yoga mat or towel and come join the TSC/OSC staff for an afternoon yoga session! Space is limited, so please RSVP. No experience necessary -- come as you are!

Date: Friday, December 2nd

Time: 3:30-4:30pm

Location: ONDAS Student Center, Kerr Hall 1150



OSC UCSB ONDAS Student Center TSC UCSB Transfer Student Center

Study and Self-Care Week

YOGA EVENT

Scan to Register



Waitlist



Bring your yoga mat or towel and come join the TSC/OSC staff for an afternoon yoga session! Space is limited, so please RSVP. No experience necessary -- come as you are!

Date: Friday, December 2nd
Time: 3:30-4:30pm
Location: ONDAS Student Center, Kerr Hall 1150



OSC UCSB ONDAS Student Center TSC UCSB Transfer Student Center

Malaphone

“ In addition to working with the ONDAS Student Center and Transfer Student Center, Malaphone is also a certified yoga instructor! Yoga has been an important part of Malaphone's life since she discovered it in graduate school in 2010. After years of having it as a life goal, she completed a 200-hour yoga teacher training with Breathe for Change in 2021 and loves sharing the practice with others. ”



Thanks for Reading!

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the OISS Newsletter. Past newsletters can be viewed on the OISS [website](#).

Questions?

If you are a current international student with questions regarding immigration, advising and other requests, email oiss@sa.ucsb.edu.

J-1 Scholars should reach out to j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu. For those with questions related to employment-based visas; please contact longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu.

For any inquiries regarding upcoming OISS events, or collaboration opportunities, contact oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu.

If you are a UCSB department or organization and would like to publicize any information or upcoming events to international Gauchos, contact mmotomazie@ucsb.edu.

Let's stay in touch!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with everything happening at OISS.

