

JANUARY 2023

# OISS Newsletter



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## Dear International Gauchos,

Happy New Year! At this time of year, the following quote comes to mind.

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.” — Edith Lovejoy Pierce

The start of a new year is filled with so much hope and inspiration. OISS staff members shared their favorite inspirational quotes, which you'll find at the end of this newsletter.

May 2023 bring whatever you need it to bring! We wish all our students and scholars health and happiness this year and all the years to come.

In community,

The Office of International Students & Scholars

UC **SANTA BARBARA**  
Office of International  
Students & Scholars

# Reminders

## Full Course Load

Are you enrolled full-time yet? Be sure to register in a full course load to maintain your visa status this quarter.

Grad students need at least 8 units and undergraduate students need at least 12 units. If you need assistance registering for classes, please contact an academic advisor in your college.

There are only a few government-approved exceptions to the full-time enrollment rule. Eligibility and application details are available on our [Academic Requirements page](#).

## UCSBGlobal Mobile

Download the free app today. Visit our [UCSBGlobal app page](#) for more information, including a detailed [Download Guide](#).

## OISS Closed on 1/16

OISS will be closed on Monday, January 16, in honor of [Martin Luther King Jr. Day](#).

Operations will resume on Tuesday, January 17.

## J-1 Student Employment

Employment authorization is mandatory for all J-1 students (EAP or grad student) for any type of work.

Before beginning an on campus position or off campus (Academic Training) position, employment authorization is needed.

Working without proper employment authorization is a visa status violation. Our [J-1 Employment page](#) provides more information about getting the right authorization.





## English Conversation Program

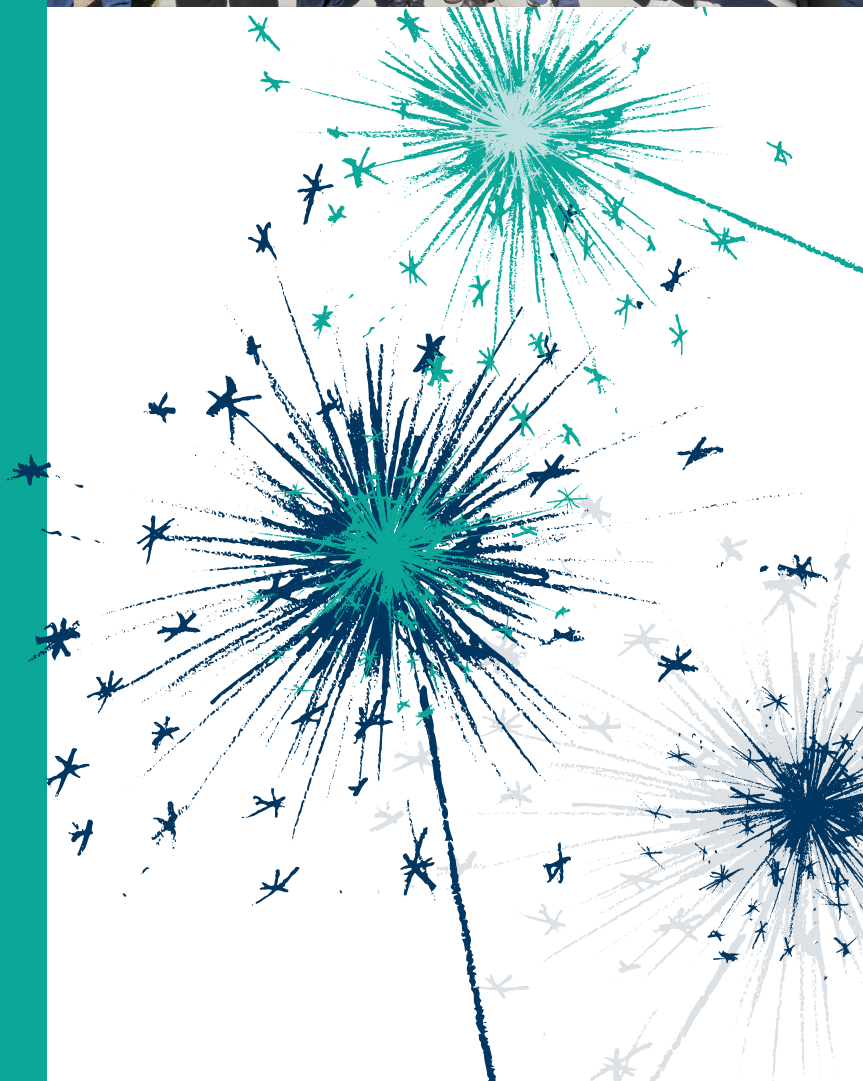
OISS offers an English Conversation Program (ECP) for international graduate students, scholars, and their family members. You do not need to be an enrolled UCSB student to participate. ECP provides an opportunity to practice speaking and refining English language skills in a casual, social, and supportive environment.

Sign up for ECP by filling out [this form](#).

Sign up for individual class times on [Shoreline](#). Please note, you only need to sign up for one class time, but you are welcome to attend any ECP session each week.

Wednesday's weekly class will be with Matthew Williams from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, and Thursday's class will be with Lisa Hammock from 10:30 am to 12 pm. Classes start the week of January 16.

Classes will be held in the Student Resource Building (SRB) room 1103.



# OISS Events

UC SANTA BARBARA  
Office of International  
Students & Scholars

UC SANTA BARBARA  
Education Abroad Program

## YOU'RE INVITED TO: **EAP Welcome Reception**

**WE WANT TO WELCOME YOU TO UCSB**



Thursday, Jan. 12 2023

3-5pm



Student Resource Building (SRB)  
BBQ Area

- Meet other exchange students
- Meet UCSB students who just returned from studying abroad
- Get free snacks!

\*Click to register on shoreline



## EAP Welcome Reception

January 12, 2023

3 - 5 pm

Student Resource Building (SRB) Outdoor BBQ Area - ground level between the SRB and Parking lot 22

[Register on Shoreline](#)

Join us as we celebrate EAP students' return from abroad and welcome incoming EAP reciprocity students!

You will have a chance to chat with other returnees and meet exchange students.

Food will be provided.



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## Language Exchange: German and Dutch

Join us to practice your language skills in a fun, casual environment while enjoying free international snacks!

Converse in German and Dutch. All levels welcome!

Register on [Shoreline](#).

# OISS Recommends

## International Students, Inc.

International Students, Inc. (ISI) is a Christian organization that welcomes students from all religious and ethnic backgrounds, seeking to create a community for you!

They offer the following ways to connect:

- Friday night dinners: Twice a month, they host a FREE dinner at an American home for all international students. First dinner of the winter quarter is on Jan. 13, 2023.
- Events such as hikes, a beach day, movie nights, small group gatherings, etc.
- Friendship Partners/dinners: They pair you with a college student or family for at least one activity such as a dinner, to give you the opportunity to connect with American friends in a smaller setting.

If you are interested, please email Kristal Melton ([kmelton@isionline.org](mailto:kmelton@isionline.org)). From ISI: "We are here to serve the international community, and we love getting to know international students from all over the world. Each of you brings such a unique and exciting perspective, and we look forward to connecting with you!"



# Academic Job Market Pop-In, Winter Quarter

Are you a graduate student working on academic job applications? Come to GSRC's Pop-in Space on Tuesday, 1/24 1-3 pm to share experiences, questions, concerns, and work in progress with other graduate students and to get help from teaching and international peers from Instructional Development and Graduate Division.



Register on [Shoreline](#). Hot drinks, snacks, and goodie bags from the Mental Health Peer Program will be provided.

## Save the Date: 1/27 Cross-cultural Potluck

OISS and the RCSGD are teaming up to host a cross-cultural potluck!

Keep an eye out for more event details to come.

January 27  
MCC Lounge  
5 - 7 pm

## Save the Date: 1/28 Lunar New Year Celebration

The Asian Resource Center is hosting its annual Lunar New Year Celebration! OISS is a proud partner and we can't wait to celebrate together.

Check the [OISS Shoreline page](#) for event details when available.

January 28  
Little Acorn Park, Isla Vista  
4-7 pm



# Staff Suggestions

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## Favorite Quotes

The new year is often a time for inspiration! The OISS staff shares their favorite quotes below.



Madison Motomazie - "At the end of the day people won't remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel." — Maya Angelou

Ashley Rifkin - "You cannot direct the winds but you can adjust your sails."

Felipe Recinos - "If you want to know what someone is like, take a good look at how they treat their inferiors, not their equals."

Matthew Williams - "We are not written for one instrument alone; I am not, neither are you" — From Call Me by Your Name, Andre Aciman

Cristina (CeCe) Carney - "Some of us think holding on makes us strong but sometimes it is letting go." — Herman Hesse

Trevor Brandt - "A society grows great when old people plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit." — Greek Proverb

Sarah Cortes - "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is today."

Kayleen McDonald - "Work hard in silence; let your success make the noise."





# 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](mailto:oiss@sa.ucsb.edu).

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

For any inquiries regarding upcoming OISS events, or collaboration opportunities, contact [oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto: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](mailto:mmotomazie@ucsb.edu).

## Let's stay in touch!

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

