FALL 2020 IMMIGRATION & ACADEMICS DURING COVID

WELCOME! WE WILL BEGIN THIS WEBINAR SHORTLY
Let’s Get Started! Welcome!

• A recording of this webinar and this presentation will be available following the event

• Submit your questions using the Q&A function only

• OISS and academic advisors will answer your questions during the live Q&A session or in typed format

• Please indicate whether you are a new or current student, plus your College if your question is academic in nature

• Only use the chat function to chat with other attendees
A Little Bit About Me, Your Host…

Erik Williams, International Student Programs Coordinator

Fun Fact: “After graduating from UCSB with a degree in Anthropology I lived out my dream of being Indiana Jones and did a month long archaeological field school excavation in Belize......only to figure out that being Indiana Jones is not as glamorous as it seems.”
Agenda

• Today’s Panelists
• Welcome from OISS Director Simran Singh
• Immigration Updates
• Fall 2020 Updates & Tips from the Colleges:
  • Letters & Science
  • Engineering
  • Creative Studies
• Live Q&A Session
OISS Panelists

Simran Singh, OISS Director

Erik Williams, International Student Programs Coordinator
Academic Advising Panelists

Paula Bautista
College of Letters & Science

Haley Orton
College of Engineering

Savannah Parison
College of Creative Studies
Panelist Introduction

Simran Singh, OISS Director

Fun Fact: “I was a DJ at KCSB for a long time. I hosted the India Show for almost 4 years”
We Are Here For You!

We want to remind you that we are here for you if you have any questions, concerns or feedback!

Due to the fact that we are working within parameters of immigration policy, school policy and departmental policy, we may not always have a clear answer for you. But we will always do our best to advocate on your behalf if it is not an issue housed within OISS.

Do not hesitate to reach out to us, we want to support you during these difficult times in anyway we can!
Thank you, Simran!

Up Next...

Fall 2020 Immigration Updates from OISS
How Can OISS Help International Graduate Students?

- F-1/J-1/H-1B immigration related guidance
- Employment based questions
  - Curricular Practical Training - Off-Campus Internships
  - Optional Practical Training - Post-Graduation Employment
  - Academic Training - J-1 Off-Campus Employment
- Programs and events specific to your needs
  - Help us create meaningful programming by giving constructive feedback
- Liaise with other departments
  - How can we better advocate for you
What About Fall 2020?

- Ever changing and a few unknowns
  - This information is based on information and guidance as we know it today, this is all subject to change.

- New Gauchos Who Want to Study at UCSB
  - Must be enrolled in at least 1 course with an in-person component
  - OISS provided a letter- only use when asked for additional information
  - Have your course schedule available if asked
  - Work with your College advisors to enroll in an in-person course

- New Gauchos Who Want to Study at Home
  - You can be enrolled from your home country
  - Your I-20 will be deferred to Winter 2021 quarter start date
  - If you have already received your visa, you can use it for entry in Winter

- New Gauchos Who Want to Defer to Winter 2021
  - You need to contact the Office of Admissions first
  - Then contact OISS to request new I-20 with Winter 2021 start date
What About Fall 2020?

- **SEVIS Transfer Gauchos**
  - If you are inside the United States with no intention of traveling, you are in a good place!
  - If you are outside the United States, you will need to receive your UCSB I-20 before traveling back. You must also have 1 in-person course in your schedule.
  - If your visa is valid you can use it with your new UCSB I-20
What About Fall 2020?

- Continuing Gauchos
  - Flexibility
  - You can study from your home country, in Santa Barbara or elsewhere in the United States
  - Maintain at least 12 units in any form (remote, in-person)
  - Regardless of location SEVIS record will remain active
  - The guidance allows this and **should** not affect future status
What Does OISS Advise Regarding Travel?

- If you are in the United States, stay here!
  - Since travel restrictions, flight availability and consulate appointments are ever changing, we recommend staying in the United States if your goal is to stay at UCSB for the near future
  - You can stay inside the United States with expired visa as long as I-20 is active and you maintain student status
What Does OISS Advise Regarding Travel?

- If you are outside the United States and want to return to Santa Barbara please check travel advisories before purchasing flights.
- OISS cannot advise on specific travel plans or assist with mapping out layovers to avoid quarantine rules or travel restrictions.
- Ultimately travel is a personal decision weighing all known factors.
If you have any remaining questions after the event, first check our COVID FAQ page on oiss.ucsb.edu, and then email oiss@sa.ucsb.edu if you don’t find what you are looking for.

Up Next…

Academic Information from the Colleges
Panelist Introduction

Paula Bautista
Academic Advisor
College of Letters & Science

Fun Fact: “I was born and raised in Santa Barbara!”
College of Letters & Science

About the College of Letters & Science

• Made up of 3 divisions:
  • Biological, Physical & Mathematical Sciences
  • Art and Humanities
  • Social Sciences

• 39 departments within these 3 divisions that offer approx.:
  • 72 majors
  • 51 minors
College of Letters & Science

Tips for Success!

• Use the experts, not your friends!
• Enroll in 12 units in Pass I. Don’t rely on the wait list.
• Explore broadly—use your GE requirements to explore new academic disciplines
• Get help early—be proactive.
• Get to know your professors. Visit them during office hours.
• Find your community and get involved
College of Letters & Science

Your Advising Team:

Paula Bautista, Tanya Higuera, and Vincent Rodriguez

- Email us at: intl_students@ltsc.ucsb.edu
- Find helpful general information at: duels.ucsb.edu/international
Panelist Introduction

Haley Orton
Director of Academic Advising
College of Engineering

Fun Fact: “In college, at UC Davis, I was a Dramatic Art major.”
College of Engineering

About the College of Engineering:

- **5** undergraduate majors:
  - Computer Science
  - Computer Engineering
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Chemical Engineering
- **About 1,550** undergraduates
- **Strict curriculum** - students must follow “grid”
College of Engineering

Tips and Recommendations for fall 2020

• For new students: If you are considering deferring a quarter this must be approved by the Office of Admissions. If approved, please contact us to determine how that changes your grid.

• For continuing students: If you’re considering taking time off please contact us to determine how that changes your grid and the process for returning.

• Review your fall schedule. If the course doesn’t indicate it is asynchronous ("ASYNCH"), it may require you to be online at the time indicated on GOLD. Consider what time that will be where you are living.

• If you are thinking about changing your major into an engineering major:
  • You must have been admitted as a freshman.
  • Check the website for the major you’re interested for specific requirements.
  • Admission to an engineering major is not guaranteed. Have a backup plan.
College of Engineering

Advising Contact Information

How to contact advising: coe-info@engineering.ucsb.edu.

Advising appointments: https://engineering.ucsb.edu/undergraduate/academic-advising.
Panelist Introduction

Savannah Parison
Student Affairs Manager,
College of Creative Studies

Fun Fact: “I love to travel, and I’ve been fortunate to travel to 10 countries outside of the U.S.”
• 8 Majors
  • Art (Painting, Book Arts, Sculpture)
  • Biology
  • Chemistry & Biochemistry
  • Computing
  • Mathematics
  • Music Composition
  • Physics
  • Writing & Literature

• “Create new knowledge” – emphasis on original research and innovation

• Free supplemental application to be admitted, reviewed by faculty

• ccs.ucb.edu for more information
Up Next...

Some FAQ Helpful for ALL Students
How can you tell if a course is online or in person?

This class is online, with no specific login times.

These classes will happen online AT THESE TIMES. (Keep checking for updates.)
What is a hybrid course?

This is very uncommon. Most courses are entirely online/remote instruction.

This class will have an online lecture and meet in person for the discussion section.

This might change.
What courses are offered in person?

Very few courses are offered in person in fall 2020 and they are mostly courses only open to students in a specific major.

New students: If you need an in person course to obtain a visa, speak with an advisor in your college.
And Now...Live Q&A Session!

The advisors will be taking turns answering questions submitted in the Zoom Q&A Feature.

We apologize in advance if not all questions are answered, although we will do our best.
Some Reminders

• Submit your questions using the Q&A function only
• OISS and academic advisors will answer your questions during the live Q&A session or in typed format
• Please indicate whether you are a new or current student, plus your College if your question is academic in nature
• Only use the chat function to chat with other attendees
Thank you for being here, and a big thank you to our Panelists!!

Again, a recording of this webinar, along with the presentation, will be made available shortly.

Please direct immigration questions to OISS, and academic questions to your College advisor.

We look forward to “seeing” you all virtually this Fall!
Thank You

oiss.ucsb.edu
oiss@sa.ucsb.edu