

DECEMBER 2024

OISS Newsletter



Dear Global Gauchos,

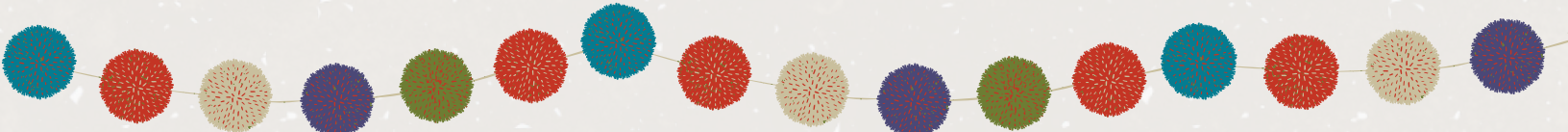
Winter is a season rich with cultural celebrations that highlight the diversity of traditions around the world. **Bodhi Day**, observed on December 8, marks the Buddha's enlightenment and is celebrated with meditation and reflection. **Hanukkah**, the Jewish Festival of Lights, spans eight days in December, commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple. **Las Posadas**, a Latin American tradition beginning on December 16, reenacts Mary and Joseph's search for shelter through nine nights of processions and festivities. **Christmas**, observed on December 25, is a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ with family gatherings, gifts, and festive lights. **Kwanzaa**, celebrated from December 26 to January 1, honors African heritage and community through principles like unity and creativity. **Diwali**, often observed in late autumn or early winter, is a Hindu Festival of Lights symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness. **Lunar New Year**, celebrated in late January or early February, welcomes the new year in East Asian cultures with vibrant festivities and symbolic rituals. These celebrations, though distinct, share themes of light, renewal, and community.

Regardless of how you celebrate the season, OISS wishes you all the best and brightest during this special time of year.

In This Issue:

Introducing Interstride	pg. 2
Travel Reminders	pg. 3
Int'l Education Week	pg. 4
OISS Events	pg. 4
Community Events	pg. 5
Campus Events	pg. 6
Winter Break Resources	pg. 7
Academic Integrity	pg. 8
2024 Photo Round-up	pg. 9





OISS and Career Services



Interstride

OISS, in partnership with Career Services, is thrilled to announce the launch of Interstride, a platform designed to enhance the career development journey of both international and domestic university students. Interstride offers a wealth of resources tailored to meet the unique needs of students navigating the global job market.

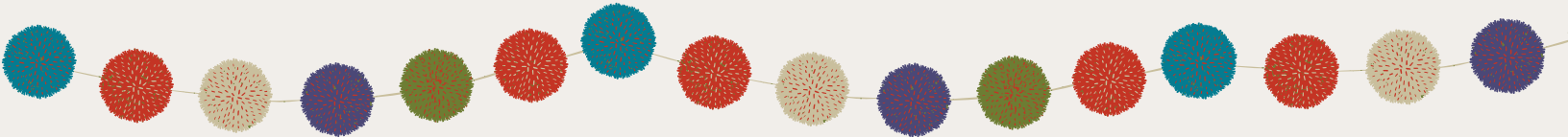
What does Interstride provide to International Students and Scholars?

- **Job Search Optimization:** Access a curated database of employers open to hiring international talent and tools to tailor your job search to specific countries and industries.
- **Cultural Adaptation Resources:** Gain insights into cultural nuances, communication styles, and workplace etiquette to better integrate into new environments.
- **Visa and Immigration Support:** Interstride provides up-to-date information on visa regulations, work authorization, and immigration policies, helping you understand and manage the complexities of working abroad.

What does Interstride provide to Domestic Students?

- **Global Opportunities:** Explore international internships and job postings to broaden your career horizons and gain global experience.
- **Cross-Cultural Competence:** Utilize resources that enhance your understanding of global markets and cultural diversity, skills highly valued by employers.
- **Networking Expansion:** Connect with a diverse community of students and professionals worldwide, expanding your professional network beyond borders.





Immigration, Travel Reminders, Office Hours

If traveling outside of the US during winter break, be sure your I-20 or DS- 2019 has an e-travel signature and your visa and passport are still valid. All signature are electronic and can be requested on [UCSB Global](#).

If you have questions about your documents or travel plans, contact your assigned [OISS immigration advisor](#).



Required Travel Documents



Before returning to the US be sure your required immigration documents are still valid:

- Passport
- Visa
- I-20 or DS-2019 with [travel e-signature](#)

Holiday Hours and Closures

The Student Resource Building will be closed Dec 14- Jan 5.

OISS staff will work remotely during this time and will be available via email and phone

Monday-Friday 10am -12 pm & 1 pm -4 pm

UCSB and OISS will be closed Dec 24, 25, 31 and Jan 1



International Events

Save the Date

International Education Week January 21-24, 2025

Join the Office of International Students and Scholars in celebrating International Education Week (IEW)! This annual event, recognized by universities nationwide in partnership with the U.S. Departments of State and Education, highlights the incredible benefits of global exchange. At OISS, we honor and give thanks to our international students, scholars, staff, and Education Abroad Program participants for their cultural and academic contributions to our community. This year, OISS is collaborating with departments across campus to host a variety of cultural and educational events. We hope you will join us.

[Learn more about how you can get involved in IEW!](#)



UC SANTA BARBARA
Education Abroad Program

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

UCSB All Languages Language Exchange

All Levels and Languages welcome!
Open to students, staff & faculty

Now being held
every first and
third Tuesday of
each month!

Register on Shoreline for Winter 2025
Events will be held in the Third Floor Forum in the
Student Resource Building from 4-5:30pm

Jan 7	Jan 21	Feb 4	Feb 18	Mar 4

Have questions?
Contact: oissprograms@ucsb.edu

English Conversation Club
Winter 2024 Schedule Now on
Shoreline

• Wednesdays, 12-1 pm
SRB Room 3153

• Thursdays, 10:30 am-
12pm, SRB Room 1103

Register on
Shoreline

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars



HOLIDAY EVENTS IN SANTA BARBARA

**HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES
SHOPPING & MARKETPLACES**

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

NEW YEARS EVE





Campus Events

Dec 3rd

APIDA Graphic Novel Club: Messy Roots
Community Dinner

Jan 24th

Teaching English in Japan with AEON:
Job Workshops

Jan 13th &
27th

UCSB Happiness Challenge Team

Jan 29th

Pass the Plate: Lucky Dumplings

Global Mentorship
Program: Winter 2025



Scan The QR Code to Register
for The Events Listed Above





Winter Break Resources

Food Security & Basic Needs Center

- UCEN location only
- Finals week: open 12/9 12/13 9AM-5PM
- Closed 12/16-1/3
- Book an appointment below



Miramar Food Pantry

- Finals Week: open 12/9 -12/11, 5PM - 8PM, 12/12 5PM-7PM
- Signage will be posted at the Pantry and on social media IG @ucsbmiramarfoodpantry

A.S. Foodbank

- Finals week: open 12/9, 12/11-12/13, closed 12/10, hours TBD (most likely reduced hours)
- Winter break (TBD): 12/16-12/20 open, 12/23-1/3 closed
- A.S. Foodbank website



Community Food Distributions

L.E.A.P

- 6875 El Colegio Rd, Goleta, CA 93117
- Hours: 3rd Thursday of each month 11:30AM-5:30PM, appointments only.
- Appointments: Call Ana Maya at 805-869-3303

Sandpiper Apartments

- 375 Ellwood Beach Dr., Goleta, CA 93117
- Hours: 1st Thursday of each month 9AM-11AM

Good Shepherd Pantry

- 380 N Fairview Ave, Goleta, CA 93117
- Hours: 1st Saturday of each month 9AM-10AM

All County Distribution list:



SB County Distribution List:





Academic Integrity Reminder

Academic Dishonesty Includes:

- **Cheating:** Copying or allowing copying during exams, using unauthorized materials, communicating during exams, submitting altered work, having someone take an exam for you, or signing in for an absent student.
- **Plagiarism:** Taking credit for someone else's work (e.g., articles, programs, AI-generated content) without proper citation, or falsifying citations.
- **Furnishing False Information:** Providing false details to gain exceptions or advantages, forging signatures, or making false attendance claims.
- **Unauthorized Collaboration:** Working together on assignments without instructor approval or exceeding collaboration limits.
- **Misuse of Course Materials:** Sharing or using course materials without permission or copying assignments.



For Additional Information Access the Links Below



[Academic Integrity](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

2024 Round-up!



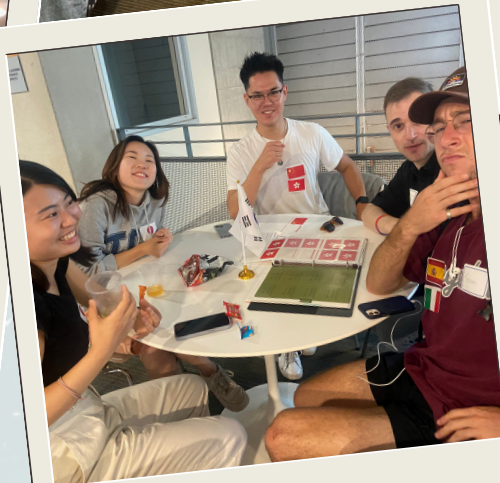
English Conversation Club



W.O.W Week



All Languages Language Exchange



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 ashleyrifkin@ucsb.edu.

Let's stay in touch!

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



UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

