OISS Newsletter



Dear Global Gauchos,

It's almost International Education Week (IEW)! From November 17–21, we're celebrating the global Gauchos who make our campus one of the most internationally vibrant corners of California. UCSB is home to thousands of students and scholars from all around the world who bring languages, research, culture, creativity, food traditions and new ways of thinking to our campus every single day. IEW is our chance to highlight, appreciate, and celebrate our global brilliance together!

With the support of campus partners, OISS has a full line-up of events throughout the week including study jams, food drives, dinner conversations, language exchanges, professional development opportunities and more.

We hope you'll join us for at least one (or more!) events. Whether you're international yourself or a **globally curious** domestic Gaucho, come meet people from all over the world, expand your worldview and have some fun while doing it!

Details + registration can be found on our OISS **Shoreline** page or by using the Shoreline event tag "International Education Week".

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OISS At A Glance

OISS Services

- Immigration & Advising Support for J, F & Campus Internationalization H-1B visa holders
- Maintain UCSB Compliance with Dept of Homeland Security, Dept of Labor, & U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- Departmental Support
- Employment Support

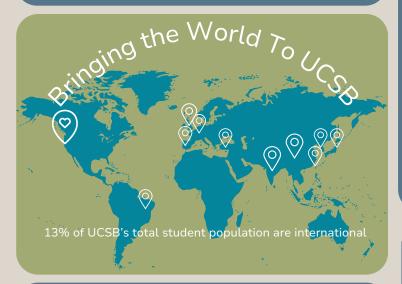
International Students, 2024-25

2324 F-1 Undergraduates

1161 F-1 Graduate

364 J-1 Education Abroad

F-1 OPT/STEM OPT 508



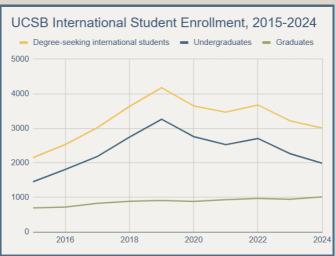
Top 10 Student Majors

- Econometric/ Qualitative **Economics**
- Computer Science
- Electrical and **Electronics Engineering**
- Experimental **Psychology**

- Biology
- Statistics
- Physics (Letters & Sciences)
- Physics (Computer Sciences)
- Mathematics
- Applied **Mathematics**

Top 10 Student Countries

- China
- India
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- United Kingdom
- Japan
- Spain
- Brazil
- Turkey
- Germany



*Data excludes Education Abroad Program (EAP) participants and students on OPT/STEM work authorization, though OISS continues to manage their immigration records.

UC SANTA BARBARA Office of International Students & Scholars

OISS At A Glance, cont.

Intern'l Scholars, 2024-25

365 J-1 Scholars

176 J-2 Dependents

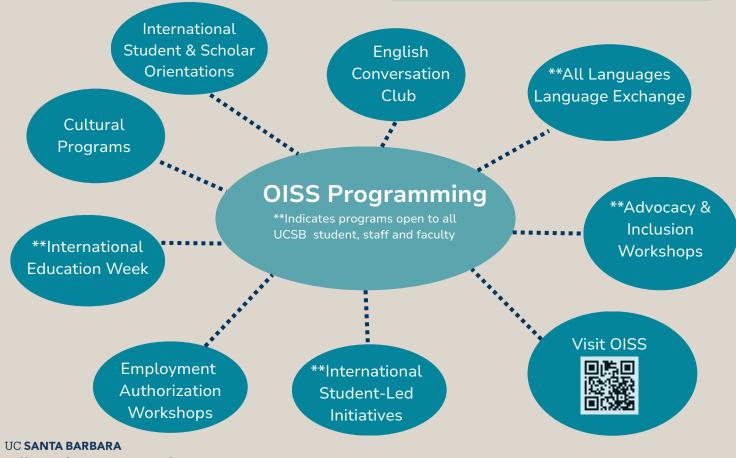
115 H1-B

OISS supports 30 academic units in hosting J-1 Scholars, including Short-Term Scholars, Research Scholars, and Professors.



Top 10 Scholar Countries

- China
- France
- India
- Spain
- South Korea Japan
- Germany
 United Kingdom
- Italy
- Israel



Office of International Students & Scholars

International Education Week



Join OISS in celebrating International Education Week (IE Week) November 17-21, 2025. Each year, universities around the country join in recognizing the incredible benefits of global exchange through people, culture and ideas. UCSB will celebrate IE Week by honoring and giving thanks to our international community of students, scholars, staff, and Education Abroad Program participants for their cultural and academic contributions to our campus community. This year, OISS is teaming up with various UCSB departments to host an array of cultural and educational events throughout the week. We hope you will join us!







Nov 17-21	International Food Drive, Donate at OISS
Nov 17	Gilman Scholarship Meeting for Pell Grant Recipients
Nov 17	Study Jam with Global Gaucho Commission
Nov 18	<u>Diaspora Dialogues - Community Dinner</u>
Nov 20	Conference Survival: A Grad Student's Guide to Conference Confidence
Nov 20	Global Trivia at All Languages Language Exchange
Nov 20	English Conversation Club, Global Holidays
Nov 20	Trips (Chips) Around the World with GGC
Nov 20	UCSB EAP Application Workshop

We extend a special thank you to the following campus partners for all your support and contributions to IE Week:

UC **SANTA BARBARA**Professional Development
Graduate Division

UC SANTA BARBARA
Department of Linguistics

UC SANTA BARBARA Education Abroad Program











Global Gaucho Commission



Name: Associated Students Global Gaucho Commission (A.S. GGC)

Contact: Suyan Wang, Chair, ggcchair@as.ucsb.edu

Instagram: @ucsbggc

Website: globalgauchos.as.ucsb.edu

Mission Statement: The Global Gaucho Commission is a select group of UC Santa Barbara undergraduate students committed to uplifting and supporting our international student community in their academic journeys. We are an entity of the UCSB Associated Students and are funded by the UCSB undergraduate student body. We represent and advocate for the international student community at UCSB, support students through curating and funding cultural and social events and programs and collaborate with other campus organizations and departments to engage international student participation and awareness.

International Student Inc.



A Christian organization that welcomes students of all backgrounds and helps build community at UCSB. We offer:

Weekly Connections: Wednesdays (12–1:30pm) – Join us at the UCEN for lunch and conversation. Every other Tuesday – Local adventures around town.

Friday Night Dinners: Free dinners twice a month in American homes—great food, fun, and friendships. Fall 2025 starts Sept. 26, then every other Friday until Dec. 5.

Special Events: Hikes, beach days, game nights, festivals, art walks, and more!

Friendship Partners: Be paired with an American individual or family for a casual activity like dinner or a hike.

Contact us: www.isi-santabarbara.org



STAY SAFE ONLINE!

Common Scams and How to Avoid Them



- 1. Government or Embassy Scam: If someone claiming to be from a consulate, embassy, or U.S. government agency calls demanding money or threatening legal action—it's a scam. Officials will never ask for payment by phone. If you or your family receive threats from someone claiming to be from your home government who is working with US officials, this is a scam and all contact should cease.
- **2. "Romance" or Blackmail Scam:** Someone you met online convinces you to send private photos, then threatens to share them unless you pay. The best way to avoid this is do not send private pictures.
- **3. Money Exchange or Transfer Scam:** If someone online asks you to transfer money or exchange currency, it's always a scam. Scammers may build trust first before tricking you into sending large amounts. Never exchange or wire money with someone you met online.
- **4. Craigslist & Online Transaction Scams:** Beware of deals that seem "too good to be true." **Common Red Flags:**
- Offers involving cashier's checks, wire transfers, or escrow services
- "Sellers" or "landlords" who can't meet in person and ask you to wire funds
- "Jobs" that involve receiving and forwarding money for foreign companies
- **5. General Best Practices:** DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN INTERNET MONEY EXCHANGE! Government officials will NEVER request money from you over the phone. Individuals should not answer calls claiming to be from 1-800-323-8603

For more information and support regarding scams visit OISS: Avoid Scams page.

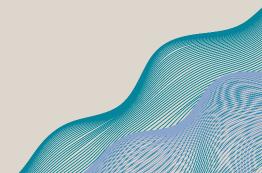
UCSB Police Department is also available to help and are strong allies to our international community.

• Emergency: Call 911

Non-Emergency: 805-893-3446CSO Safety Escort: 805-893-2000

• UCSB Alert Signup: Click Here

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars



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

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





See you next issue!

- Madeline Crafton, Chief Editor

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