ENTERING THE US
WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE PORT OF ENTRY

NAVIGATING CUSTOMS & BORDER PATROL (CBP)
With recent increased screenings at the US border, it is important when entering that you are fully prepared. Here is an overview of what to expect:

ARRIVAL PROCESS
Be prepared with the following documents:
• Passport & valid nonimmigrant visa (Canadians exempt)
• Original form I-20 or DS-2019 with valid travel signature
• Evidence of financial resources
• UC Berkeley admission (new) or enrollment (continuing)
• CBP Declaration Form (be sure to declare appropriate items)
Don’t bring restricted items - see CBP’s website for rules regarding travel with medications, foods or pets: http://tinyurl.com/TravelRules
You may also be fingerprinted and/or photographed

If you are on OPT/STEM OPT, see http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/travel-re-entry

QUESTIONING & TIPS
• Officers may ask you questions about your reason for entering the U.S. or about your academic program. If an officer asks about your academic performance, remain calm, answer honestly and succinctly.
• CBP may also ask you questions about, or inspect your electronic devices. This may include your social media accounts. For tips on how to prepare your devices visit: http://tinyurl.com/DeviceSearch

ADDITIONAL SCREENINGS
An officer may determine you (and/or your luggage) require additional screening. This is not uncommon. You may be asked to go to an interview area called Secondary Inspection where they will verify information and ask you additional questions. You can expect:
• Long wait times (multiple hours)
• Additional, more substantial and specific questioning
• Tip: Make notes of your experience, including officer name and badge number

BE AWARE OF INCREASED SCRUTINY & POLICY UPDATES
Ongoing litigation regarding Executive Order travel bans may complicate travel for travelers from Libya, Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

Everyone can keep up-to-date with travel alerts on BIO’s Immigration Policy Updates and FAQs page: http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/FAQ-trump

Make sure you have Berkeley International Office contact info, and contact us as soon as possible if you encounter any problems: http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/contact-us