

A photograph of the Berkeley Campanile tower at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm orange glow. The tower is silhouetted against the bright sky. In the background, there are trees and distant mountains. In the top right corner, there is a decorative geometric pattern of white lines forming a honeycomb-like structure.

# Berkeley International Office Welcomes You!

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



**BANK OF THE WEST**  
**BNP PARIBAS**

# Welcome

Ivor Emmanuel, Ph.D.  
Director  
Berkeley International Office



# Student Advisers

[Internationaloffice.Berkeley.edu/about-us/studentadvisers](http://Internationaloffice.Berkeley.edu/about-us/studentadvisers)





# Agenda

8:00 a.m. Welcome

8:10 a.m. Who Is BIO & Overview

8:30 a.m. Wellness & Safety

9:00 a.m. Student Q&A

10:00 a.m. Break

10:10 a.m. Immigration Essentials

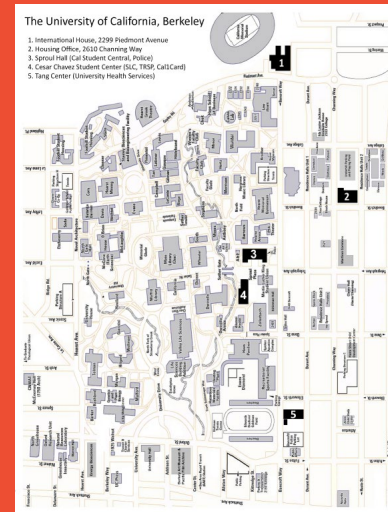
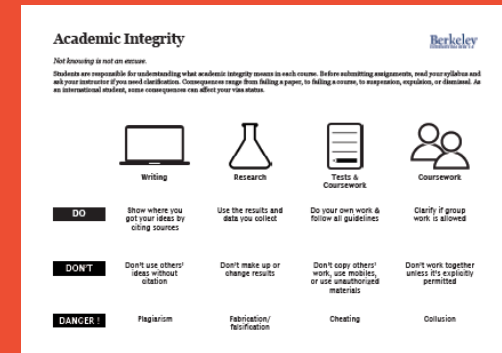
11:10 a.m. Working in the US

11:40 a.m. Overview of Taxes and GLACIER



# Digital Folder Materials

- Orientation program/agenda
- BIO flyer
- BIO Upcoming Events
- Academic Integrity Handout
- Health Insurance Handout
- Campus Map/Neighborhoods
- Bank of the West Flyer
- Deserve Flyer





# Navigating Campus

Information on our office, and the other campus and community resources that will support your success here at UC Berkeley!



# Who is BIO?







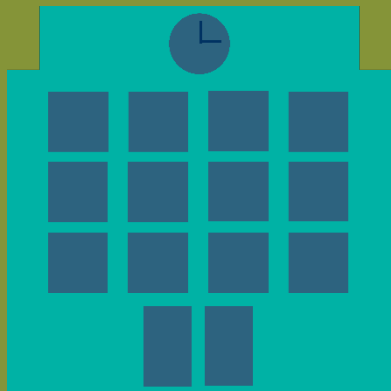
# We have been in your shoes!

BIO staff has lived and studied in  
33 different countries!

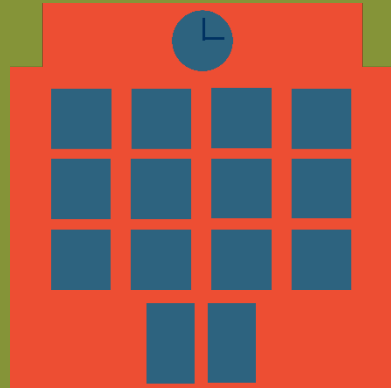
# What can BIO do for you?



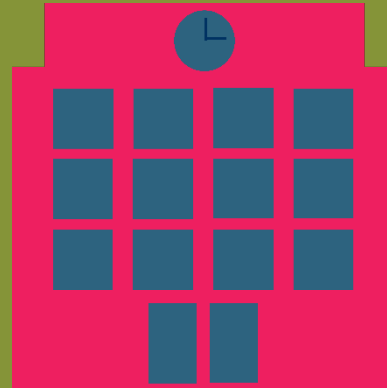
Berkeley  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



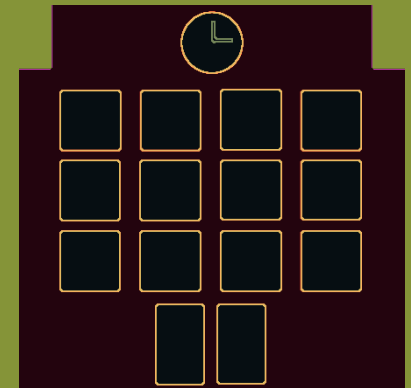
BIO



UCEAP



Study Abroad  
Office



College  
Advisors





# Answer questions about your visa status



# Guide you through adversity



# Endorse campus forms as appropriate





# Advise you on travel & provide travel signatures



# Provide information about employment options



Connect you with on- and  
off-campus resources





# Provide social and leadership opportunities



# Upcoming BIO Events

A variety of virtual events that allow you to connect with other international students and the UC Berkeley community from a distance!

- English Conversation Tables
- BIO Bear Meetups
- Global Pen Pal Program
- Career workshops

...and more! Visit our [event calendar](#) for event details and sign up information.

# Location

2150 Shattuck Ave  
Suite 500  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Conveniently located near  
campus, Downtown  
Berkeley BART, and  
several bus lines!



# In-Person Services

- Document pick-up and drop-off appointments
- In-person advising appointments

Please note that students seeking in-person services must comply with the university's campus access, vaccination, and face covering policies.



# One-on-One Virtual Advising



- Meet with an adviser one-on-one via Zoom or phone to discuss your questions
- Drop in advising available: Monday-Tuesday, 1 – 4 PM and Thursday-Friday, 10 AM – 12 PM
- Advising appointments available: Monday-Tuesday, 10 AM – 12 PM, and Thursday-Friday, 1 – 4 PM
- Visit [our website](#) for instructions on how to access

# Email

For less time-sensitive questions, contact us by email to receive a detailed response from an adviser in 3 business days or less!

Email: [internationaloffice@berkeley.edu](mailto:internationaloffice@berkeley.edu)



# Weekly BIO Newsletter

- Important immigration reminders
- Upcoming events and programs
- Relevant news from around campus

Subscribe by updating your LOCAL address in Cal Central to the email you would like to have the newsletter sent to!

# Connect with us

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Wechat





# Stay up-to-date

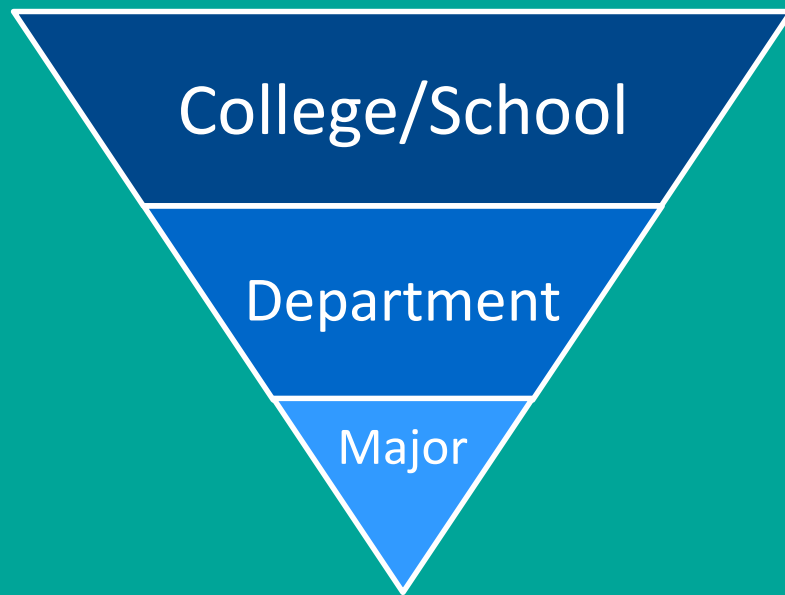
Things can change quickly in the immigration world. Please stay up to date on the latest information and how it could affect your immigration status in the following ways:

- BIO Website, especially:
  - [- COVID 19 FAQ](#)
  - [- Immigration Policy Updates FAQ](#)
- Subscribe to weekly BIO Newsletter
- Read ALL emails from BIO



# University Structure & Culture

# University Structure



- College of Chemistry
- School of Education
- College of Engineering
- College of Environmental Design
- Haas School of Business
- School of Information
- School of Journalism
- School of Law
- College of Letters & Science
- College of Natural Resources
- School of Optometry
- School of Public Health
- School of Public Policy
- School of Social Welfare



# Classroom Culture

- Lecture
- Laboratory / Studio / Workshop / Field Work
- Seminar
- Section

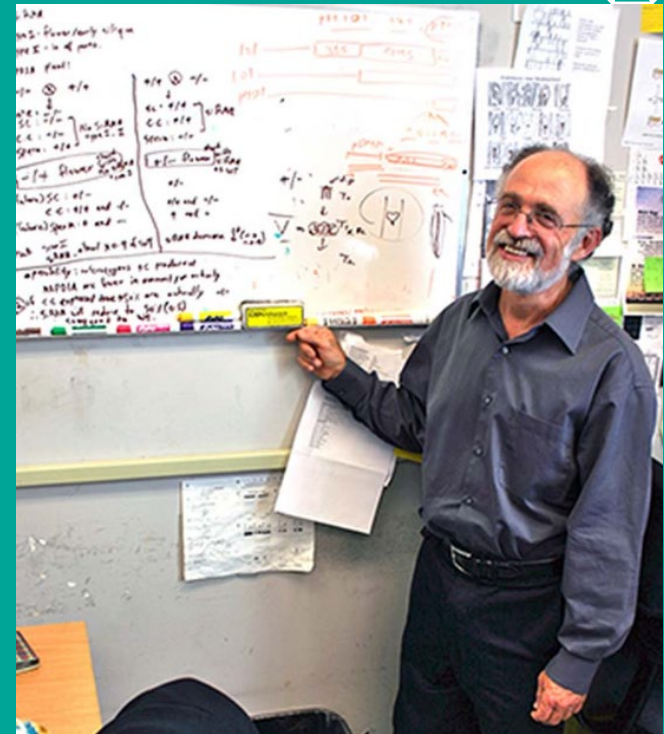
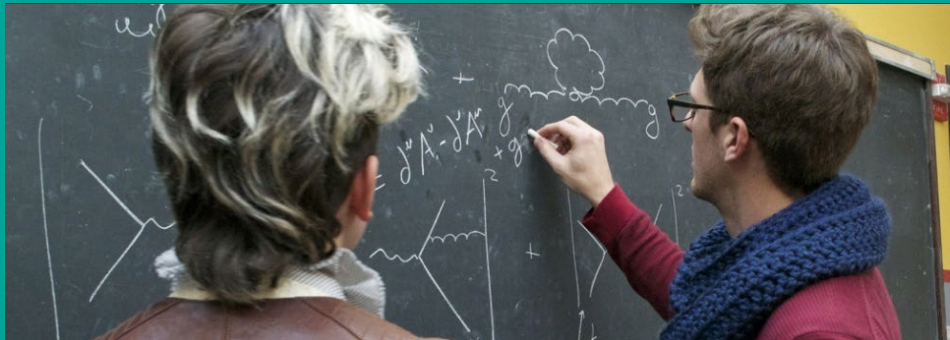




**Learning is  
supported  
holistically**

# Academic Support: Office Hours

- Ask questions
- Clarify a point
- Delve deeper into an idea
- Ask about research opportunities





# Academic Support: Academic Advisers

- Advice on selecting a major
- Help enrolling in courses
- Clarity on degree requirements
- Support with low grades
- Academic Advisers go by many titles:
  - College advisers
  - Department advisers
  - Major advisers
  - Faculty advisers
  - Peer advisers

This is a  
**BIG**  
university

40,000  
*students*

6,000+  
*International Students*

Create small communities



# Building Community

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## Engineering

“Berkeley can be isolating. Join a graduate student association in your area of study and attend events. For example, MEGSCo, Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Council.”



# Our decentralized campus requires

Persistence + Politeness





**Department**

**Graduate Division**

**Berkeley International Office**



# Graduate academic advising

## Department

- Course selection
- Degree requirements
- GSR/GSI positions

## Graduate Division

- Graduate Writing Center
- Financial Support
- Petition Processing
- GSI Teaching & Resource Center



# Cross-Disciplinary Pursuits

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## College of Environmental Design

“You are allowed to take classes outside the department, but scheduling is difficult – especially with studio time. Plan ahead, anticipate deadlines, research scheduling conflicts, explore your interests while using your time wisely.”

# You will be challenged

**Resilience**

**Support**

**Occasional  
Failure**








**Be an active learner**

# Utilizing Advising





Actively engage  
with faculty and  
classmates

Balance academic  
work with  
GSR/GSI  
responsibilities

Offer something  
new to the field  
through critical  
thinking



# Campus Resources

Offices and departments that can provide you support,  
whether you are here in person or abroad!



# Disabled Students' Program (DSP)

- Promotes an inclusive environment for students with disabilities and equips students with appropriate accommodations and services to achieve their individual academic goals.
- Apply for services: <https://dsp.berkeley.edu/students/new-students/application-process>
- Various support services:
  - Cal Trio DSP SSS
  - Autism Spectrum Services
  - Career Services
  - And more!





# Basic Needs Center

Supports students with all the essential resources needed to not only survive, but thrive here at UC Berkeley.

Basic needs support includes areas such as:

- Nutritious food
- Stable housing
- Financial sustainability
- Mental wellness

...and much more! Visit their website to view a variety of resources, tools, and information: <https://basicneeds.berkeley.edu/home>

# Office for Graduate Diversity



- Academic planning and support
  - Tutoring
- Professional development
- Post-graduation planning
- Mentoring

<https://grad.berkeley.edu/graduate-diversity/>



# Other Resources:

<https://grad.berkeley.edu/students/>





# Community Resources

Resources that will help you adjust to life in the US,  
whenever you arrive!

# Housing

- BIO Finding Housing Web Page: <https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/housing>
- Cal Housing Office: On-campus housing <http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/housing/>
- UC Berkeley Cal Rentals: Provides rental listings, roommate search tool, housing tips: <http://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/>
- Housing scams & safety information: <https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/scams-safety-old>
- Graduate Housing: <http://housing2.berkeley.edu/graduate>

# Money & Banking

- BIO Money and Banking web page:  
<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/money>
- BIO Financial Aid Web Page:  
<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/students/aid>
- Bears for Financial Success: a campus group focusing on financial literacy and helping students manage their expenses. <http://financialaid.berkeley.edu/bears-financial-success>

# Deserve – EDU Credit Card



If you're an international student, you've come to the right place! Check out why thousands of students at more than 1,400 universities are starting their credit journey with Deserve. **You don't need an SSN or even a credit history to apply.** Plus, the Deserve EDU card\* comes with awesome rewards like:

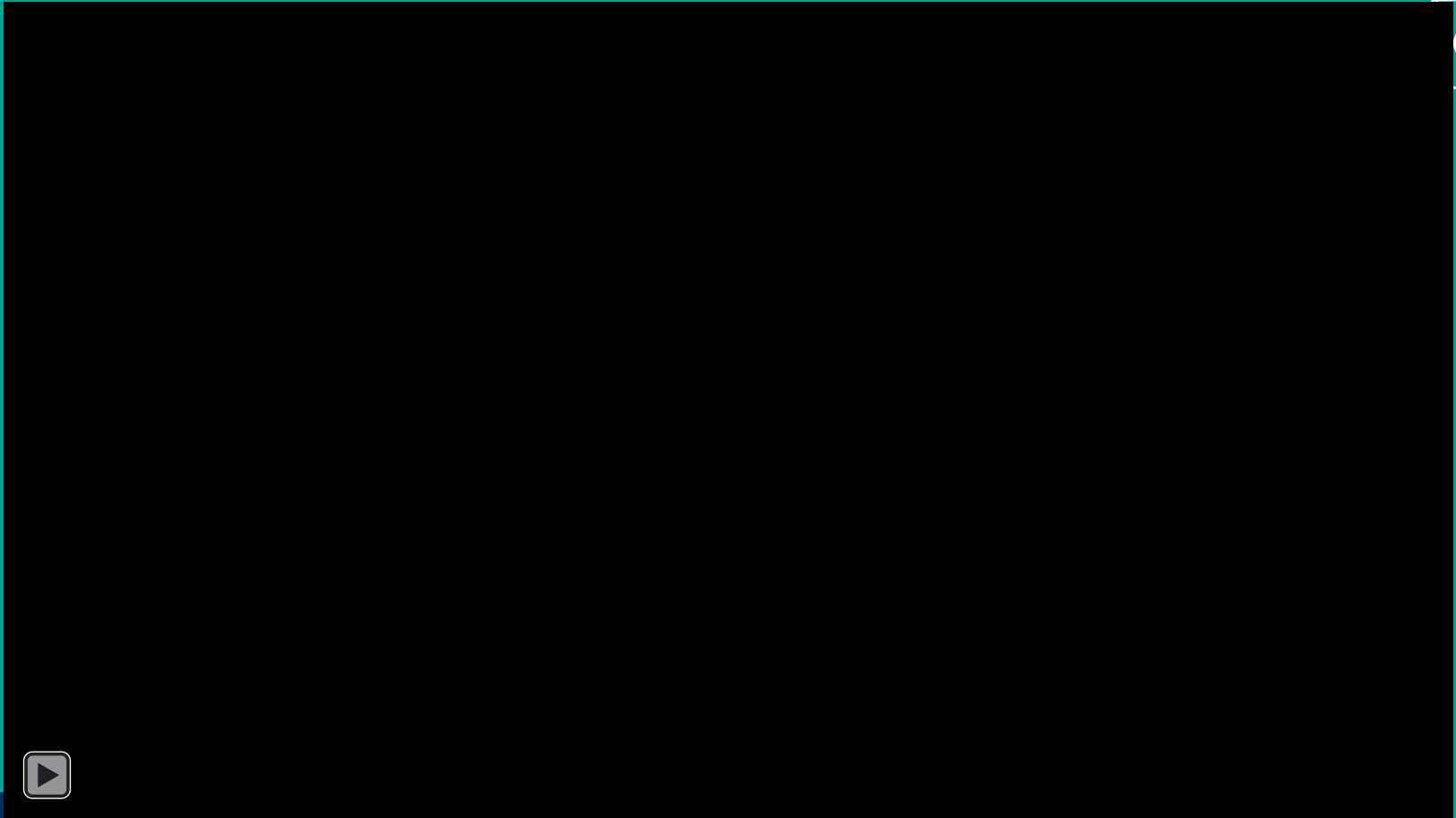
- Amazon Prime Student (that's right, on us)
- Cell phone protection up to \$600
- 1% cash back on all purchases
- \$0 Annual Fee

Deserve has been helping the nationwide student body access credit since 2014. With multiple awards from NerdWallet, Money Magazine, Fast Company, and more, our Student EDU Card is widely regarded as one of the best, most reliable student cards on the market. We know there are many credit card companies out there, so don't just take our word for it--check out our Trustpilot reviews to hear why real students love Deserve.

\*All Deserve Cards are issued by Celtic Bank, a Utah-Chartered Industrial Bank, Member FDIC.

# Deserve

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# Transportation

- BIO Transportation Web Page: General transportation information for international students  
<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/transportation>
- BIO Driving in California Web Page: Information on driving and obtaining a driver's license for international students  
<https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/living/driving>
- UC Berkeley Parking and Transportation office:  
<http://pt.berkeley.edu/>
- Berkeley AC Transit bus system: <http://www.actransit.org/>
- Berkeley Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) subway system:  
<http://www.bart.gov/>



# Go Bears!