December 17, 2020

To Whom It May Concern
U.S. Department of State Consular Services
United States Customs and Border Protection

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: University of California, Berkeley Instructional Model Spring 2021 semester

All F-1 and J-1 students will be required to enroll and pursue a full program of study according to guidance provided by SEVP. In addition, the University of California, Berkeley, expects all new international students who entered the U.S. after March 9, 2020 or will enter to begin studies for Spring 2021 to comply with the requirement that they engage in a combination of in-person and remote instruction for the Spring 2021 semester, subject to restrictions imposed by state and local health authorities in response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Due to prevailing conditions imposed by state and local health authorities, there will be no in-person instruction at the start of the Spring term. This information has been conveyed to SEVP as part of the Temporary Procedural Adaptation permitted to schools as a result of COVID-19.

Please be advised that we recognize that individual students may face difficulty in making an entry to the U.S. prior to the official start of instruction. In acknowledgment of possible travel delays, UC Berkeley will allow new students in initial status to arrive up to 30 days after the start of instruction listed on the student’s form I-20 or DS-2019.

Sincerely,

Ivor Emmanuel
Director
Berkeley International Office
University of California, Berkeley