Transfer Pre-Arrival Webinar
Staff Presenters

Anna McCreedy
BIO
International Student Adviser

Lucy Molina
Transfer Student Center, Academic Counselor

Kassandra Lopez
Transfer Student Center, Academic Counselor
Student Presenters

Shan He
UCB International Transfer Student

Sam Tan
UCB International Transfer Student

Vincent The
UCB International Transfer Student
Agenda

Intro to Berkeley International Office (BIO)
Intro to Transfer Student Center (TSC)
Intro to Career Center
Immigration
Academics & Student Life
Transfer Student Q&A
Berkeley International Office

More than just an immigration office!
What can BIO do for you?

- Advising: in-person, email, or phone
  - Employment
  - Financial matters
  - Personal/cultural adjustment
  - Immigration matters
  - . . . and so much more!
- Workshops & webinars
- Programming: social, cultural, leadership

If you don’t know where to go, come to us!
Advising Services

- No appointment, drop in only
- Location: Zoom!
- Hours: 10 AM - 12 PM, 1 PM - 4 PM, Weekdays except Wed.
- Email: internationaloffice@berkeley.edu

We will be moving to a hybrid model in August, so stay tuned for more information to come!
Physical Location

2150 Shattuck Ave
Suite #500
Berkeley, CA 94704

Close to campus
Easily accessible by BART and bus!
Upcoming Resources

**International Student Orientation**
Aug 18, 1 - 5 PM PDT
- Receive important immigration information
- Introduction to Cal
- Make new friends!

**Social Programming**
- BIO Bear Meetups
- Remote Start Cohort Program
- Global Pen Pal Program
- Affinity Space
Stay Connected

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

**Social Media**
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Wechat

**Website**
- [www.internationaloffice.edu](http://www.internationaloffice.edu)
- First place to look for information before advising
Support tailored to the transfer student experience
What can TSC do for you?

- L&S 198 Transitioning to Cal
  - 1 unit upper - division elective
- Academic Counseling
- Success Workshops
- Transfer Community
- Mentorship Programs
- Leadership opportunities

100 Cesar E. Chavez Student Center
Transitioning to Cal: An Introduction to the Research University for Transfers

Fall 2021 Transition Courses

Letters & Science 198: Transitioning to Cal: An Introduction to the Research University for Transfers
One unit; Pass/Not Pass

Course Description: This class is designed to help facilitate your transition by improving your knowledge of the research university and its resources, assisting you in identifying key academic skills and strategies for academic success, and by fostering a sense of community. The course will focus on academic strategies for upper division course work with particular emphasis on time management skills, critical reading, exam preparation, and writing skills. You will learn about various campus resources and opportunities that are available to you as a Cal student. Participation, group work, and class discussion are an integral part of this course.

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transfers.berkeley.edu/programs - and - services/virtual - appointments
We Are Here to Help!

Summer Virtual Front Desk: Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm
transfers.berkeley.edu/programs - and - services/virtual - community - space

Text us your questions Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm
Text questions to: 510 - 986 - 4300
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The Career Center

Employment Support
The Career Center

We are here for you

- Designated career counselor for int'l students

Engage with us early!

- The job/internship search begins right after the start of the Fall semester. Take actions early, use services

- Meet with a career counselor

What can we do for you:

- One-on-one career appointments
- Job search skill workshops
- Career fairs and networking events with employers and alumni
- On-campus interviews
- Handshake - the online career system for you to apply for job/internship postings

Jing Han
Career Counselor for International Students
The Career Center

TAKE YOUR FIRST STEPS TOWARD CAREER PREPARATION

1. **Make an appointment at** career.berkeley.edu/info/makeappt
   - Career counseling and peer advisor drop-in times are available.

2. **Activate your Handshake account at** handshake.berkeley.edu
   - Log in with your CalNet ID to find jobs and register for events.

3. **Subscribe to CareerMail in Handshake**
   - Sign up for mailing lists by completing the career interests section in Handshake.

Stay connected with us:
- Working Hour: 9AM - 5PM, M-F
- Career.berkeley.edu, 510 - 642 - 1716
- 2440 Bancroft Way
- /CalCareerCenter
- @CalCareerCenter

Jing Han
Career Counselor for International Students
Immigration

The Basics and Important Updates
Up-to-Date Information

- COVID-19 Updates & FAQ: [https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/covid-19-updates-faq](https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/covid-19-updates-faq)
- Immigration Policy Updates: [https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/immigration-policy-updates](https://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/immigration-policy-updates)
Fall 2021

- Default instructional mode will be primarily in person. Students should plan to arrive in the US to begin their studies before the Fall semester begins
- If you are having difficulty entering the US or obtaining a US visa, reach out to our office to discuss your options!
- University COVID - 19 vaccination requirement: https://uhs.berkeley.edu/requirements/covid19
Arrival Process

1. Release Date & NIF
   - Set Transfer release date with previous school's international office
   - Cal Central Last NIF Form

2. Visa and Travel
   - Renew passport/visas if necessary

3. Arrival Confirmation
   - Cal Central: Task upload I-94 and update local address, receive new Continued Attendance F-20
Release Date

Do you qualify?
○ Currently in valid F-1 Status
○ Less than 5 months between programs
○ Contact previous school’s international office to transfer I-20 to UC Berkeley within 60 days of completing program of study or OPT
○ BIO can only produce an I-20 after this date
○ Deadline to transfer is August 21

If your release date is after August 21, please contact nif@berkeley.edu to discuss your case
Complete the NIF

- Login to Cal Central
- Click on the NIF task to input information and upload funding documents
- 10 days processing time from completion
Visa & Travel

- Travel is not recommended! If you want to study in the US, best to remain in the US.
- Must renew passport if it will expire within 6 months, must renew visa if it is expired and you are outside the country.
- Since the SEVIS number will be the same, can use the same visa from previous school if it is still valid.
Arrival Confirmation

Complete U.S. Address/Phone Number task
- Temporary or short-term addresses are accepted
- Also update information in Cal Central account in the Local Address field

Complete Arrival Confirmation task
- Upload your I-94 (does not need to be recent)

Complete as soon as possible after arrival in the US, but no more than 30 days prior to your program start date.
Continued Attendance I - 20
Academics & Student Life

The Student Perspective
Introducing Shan

Name: Shan He
Year: Senior
Major: Media Studies
Home Country: China
Transfer from: Santa Barbara City College
Involvement: BIO's Peer Mentorship Program
First Semester

Challenges
- Virtual Classes
- Language Barrier
- Transaction - Lack of Belonging (from CC to UC)
- Procrastination
- Lack of social connection with others & Campus life
- Lack of self - motivation

Opportunities
- Abundant online resources
- Learn to manage time more efficiently.
- Scheduling Flexibility
- Broaden experience
- Gain experience using web-based tools and technologies
Tips/Advice

○ Meet With Your Advisor/Mentor, don’t hesitate to ask for help.
○ Attend Orientation
○ Get Involved in Campus Activities
○ Plan Ahead
○ Time - management
○ Balance your study and social life.
Introducing Sam

Name: Sam Tan
Year: Senior
Major: Statistics
Home Country: Guangzhou, China
Transfer from: Diablo Valley College
Involvement: Potential Orientation Leader
First Semester

Challenges
○ Prolonged periods staring at a screen, resulting in eye fatigue.

Opportunities
○ Online lectures are recorded - personalized learning speed.
  ○ pause and ponder
  ○ Less note taking
Tips/Advice

- Join the Piazza group for your department (STATS 001, DATA 001, EECS 001)
- Forming study groups
- Summer internship
- SURF
Introducing Vincent

Name: Vincent The
Year: Senior
Major: Economics
Home Country: Indonesia
Transfer from: Diablo Valley College
Involvement: Potential Orientation Leader
First Semester

Challenges
○ Language Barrier
○ Lack of Belonging (Homesick)
○ Cultural Shock
○ Lack of Social Life due to virtual classes
○ Lack of time
○ Stress and depression

Opportunities
○ Orientations
○ Club activities
○ LS-198 (Directed Group Study)
○ Career fairs
○ Libraries
○ Academic advisors and Major advisors
○ Recreational Sport Facility
Tips/Advice

- Take one step at a time
- Don’t be afraid to ask for help
- Advisors will always be there to help you through your obstacles
- Be involved in club and campus activities
- Time management
- Remember why you come to UC Berkeley in the first place
- Health is important so be sure to exercise
Transfer
Student Q&A

What do YOU want to know?
Thank You!

Any questions?
Berkeley International Office
  ◦ internationaloffice@berkeley.edu
  ◦ (510) 642-2818
Transfer Student Center
  ◦ (510) 642-4257