New J-1 International Scholar & Undergraduate Researcher Orientation

Welcome to the University of California, Davis from Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS)

Welcome! This slideshow presentation is also found on our website at http://siss.ucdavis.edu/scholars_depts/j_visa/j_new.html
International Scholar Advising Team

- **Director of SISS:** Dr. Wesley Young  
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- **J-1 Scholar Advisor:**  
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  Scholars with last names A through K

- **Assistant Director, Scholar Services:**  
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- **Senior Immigration Advisor**  
  Kim Haky

- **J-1 Assistants:**  
  Daniel Padron-  
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  Assists advisors working with scholars with last names A through J

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- **Interim Outreach Coordinator/Cultural Programming**  
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Please visit our SISS website for:

- SISS advisor contact information and areas of responsibility
- Information/resources for international students & scholars
- Information on immigration regulations, travel, embassies, government agencies, programs etc.
- SISS listserv sign-up information
SISS is located in University House
http://siss.ucdavis.edu/maps.cfm
Where is University House?

- You are at the Memorial Union (MU) in Room MU II. SISS is in the University House, near the corner of A and 1st Street. The nearest visitor parking is lot VP5 and the nearest restricted parking lot (for permit holders) is lot P10. Link to map:

- [http://siss.ucdavis.edu/maps.cfm](http://siss.ucdavis.edu/maps.cfm)
The U.S. Department of State requires J-program sponsors (UC Davis) to provide J-scholars with information about immigration regulations for exchange visitors. In addition we offer useful information on a variety of topics during your temporary stay. Please don’t hesitate to contact us with questions!
J-1 Exchange Visitor Program

- For educational & cultural exchange
- “…to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchanges…” The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (Fulbright-Hayes Act of 1961)
University of California
America’s #1 Public University

- One of 10 campuses of the University of California -- America’s No. 1 Public University, UC is a “Public Ivy”

- UC Davis’ sister campuses:
  UC Berkeley  UC Santa Cruz
  UC San Diego  UC Los Angeles
  UC Riverside  UC Santa Barbara
  UC Irvine  UC Merced
  UC San Francisco

- Located 1.5 hours east of San Francisco Bay Area, and 20 minutes west of Sacramento, capital of the state of California

- UC Davis hosts about 2,500 J-1 scholars and their families throughout the year.
**UCD Resources**

- **General Resources**
  
  http://mediation.ucdavis.edu/additional/campus.html

- **Academic & Staff Assistance Program (ASAP), (530)752-2727**
  
  http://www.hr.ucdavis.edu/worklife-wellness/ASAP

- **Ombuds Office on Davis & Sacramento campus, (530)219-6750**
  

- **Emergency Services/Campus Safety (UCD website): to report an emergency call 911, from a cell phone call (530) 752-1230**
City of Davis Resources

- www.daviswiki.org: banks, libraries, shops, restaurants, parks etc.
- Off-campus housing issues: Yolo Conflict Resolution Center http://yolocrc.org/
- City of Davis website: schools, events
Davis Highlights

- Davis is the most comprehensive UC: more than 34,000 students in over 102 academic majors and 90 graduate programs. Davis is a leader in interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching and research.

- A Tier One research university.

- UCD ranks top 10 in hosting international scholars nationwide.

- In US News and World Report, UCD ranks top 10 among public universities in the US.

Here, students are in the ARC gymnasium attempting to break the record for attendance at a basketball game.
Life in the City of Davis

- A small city of about 64,000 residents
- “Bicycle Capital of the U.S.A.”
- Wonderful year-round climate (over 300 days of sunshine per year)
- Peaceful, friendly community
- Internationally oriented
- Safe -- extremely low crime level
- Less traffic or pollution
- Sports oriented population
- Great location -- just one hour from San Francisco; 90 minutes from Lake Tahoe and ski resorts; 45 minutes from the famous Napa Valley
Campus Scenes

In front of Mrak Hall

Mondavi Center

Memorial Union

Davis Weather

SUMMER: sunny, hot and dry during the day, mild evenings
FALL: warm days, cool nights, little rain
WINTER: mild, some sun, some rain, some fog
SPRING: warm days, cool nights, little rain

SISS Fall 2015
Recreation

- 10 museums and galleries from insects to design.
- Robert and Magrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts.
- Outdoor Adventures to learn to camp, kayak and climb.
- English classes on campus and around town (see handout in orientation folder).
International House, Davis

Location:
  10 College Park, Davis, CA 95616
Telephone:
  (530)-753-5007
Website:
  http://www.internationalhousedavis.org

Programs:
  English classes
  International film series
  Campus Book Project
  Club International
  Children’s storytelling
  Art exhibits
  International Festival- every October

International Festival:
Every year in October
Free!
Transportation

TAPS (Transportation & Parking Services):
http://taps.ucdavis.edu/
→ on-campus parking permits
→ bike registration sticker

Berkeley Bus:
http://berkbus.ucdavis.edu

Unitrans (Local Transit Bus Service):
http://unitrans.ucdavis.edu/fares

Bikes:
Bike Barn (close to Silo), downtown bike stores
or sign up for our bulletin listserv (see Orientation folder) to check for sale ads
Social Security Number (SSN)

- This is only required if you will be paid by a US source.

- Apply in person at the West Sacramento social security office (refer to our handout for additional information)

- **Wait 10 business days after arrival in the U.S. to apply (although in some cases, it takes longer)**

- Application should include: complete application form, copies of the passport, J-1 visa stamp, I-94 print-out from [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94), DS-2019 and department invitation letter

- **CAUTION:** memorize your social security number and keep the card in a safe place, be careful when you provide your SSN information

- If you are not paid by a US source, the request may be denied.
How to get a California Driver’s License

- You may apply for the license at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
  http://www.dmv.ca.gov
  1-(800)-777-0133

  Davis office: 505 Pole Line Rd.
  Woodland office: 825 East Street, # 306

The international driver’s license is NOT accepted in California.
Tax Information

Glacier:
- is the Nonresident Tax Compliance System at UCD: if you are paid by UCD, you will be asked to complete your Glacier record after arrival here
- for Glacier questions, contact UCD Accounting & Financial Services

Tax returns (forms) have to be filed by April 15 every year for the income during the previous calendar year. No UCD payments: complete only Form 8843.

General tax information is found on our website under “resources.” Every spring, we’ll make tax filing software available. SISS is unable to provide tax advice.
UC Davis AggieCard*

- The Aggie ID card is required for various things, including UCD library privileges and bus ticket discounts.
- If paid by UC Davis, you need your employee ID number from your host department.
- If not paid by UC Davis, you need to complete a non-paid form with your department administrative person.
- Take your employee or non-paid ID number to the AggieCard Office
  1210 Dutton Hall
  M, T, W, F: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
  Thursday: 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Health Insurance

- Required for the J program
  → See signed Memo of Understanding

- Must meet the minimum coverage requirements by Department of State
  → See SISS web site for more information regarding health coverage and the new minimum requirements. *Postdoc insurance meets all requirements.*

- Scholars employed by UC Davis with UC Davis health insurance who are **not postdocs** must buy an insurance supplement to cover Medical Evacuation and Repatriation of remains.

- We recommend Betins International Health and Travel Insurance, Medical Evacuation and Repatriation Supplement:
Health Insurance Tips

- You and your spouse should always carry information with you about your insurance company and their contact information.

- Find out what doctors you can use in the area before you get sick.

- In general, hospitals want to confirm with your insurance company prior to offering medical help; it is not the custom to expect the individual to pay and be reimbursed for the expense, especially if it is an expensive procedure.

- Most insurance companies will not cover a visit to an “Emergency Room” unless the doctors there determine that it was a medical “emergency;” therefore, make an appointment with a doctor whenever possible.

- Most medical insurance does not cover pre-existing conditions or dental needs. Check your insurance carefully for exceptions.

- A list of area hospitals is on the SISS website under: J-1 Visa for Scholars - Health Insurance.
J Immigration Regulations

It is your responsibility to maintain legal immigration status while in the U.S.!

- You must have a valid DS-2019 and passport at all times while in the program.

- During the US entry inspection an electronic I-94 record (arrival & departure record) was created for you, which shows your legal entry and confirms your status information. Another document that shows legal entry as a J-1 is the admission stamp in your passport.
Visa vs. Immigration Status

The term “visa” only refers to the passport visa stamp.

- It is a “ticket” to apply for admission to enter the U.S.
- The J visa may expire while you’re here and you would remain legal.

Immigration status refers to your temporary stay in the U.S. in the J visa classification.
QUESTION: What happens if my visa expires during my stay?

- Answer: NOTHING! The visa is just an entry document.
- If you leave the US and return, you may need to have your visa renewed at a US embassy if it has expired.
J-1 Visa Sample

Visa class

Multiple entries

Visa expiration date
The electronic I-94 and the admission stamp in your passport should show “J-1” and “D/S”. Please confirm this by checking your I-94 record at www.cbp.gov/I94

You have to print your I-94 record, if you need to apply for a social security number or a driver’s license.

Form DS-2019 has to be valid at all times during the J-1 program.
The following slides will show the I-94 access page and images of the I-94, passport admission stamp and DS-2019.
Get I-94 at [https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/l94/request.html](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/l94/request.html) (see handout)
A paper I-94 is issued only when J scholars enter the US at the Canadian or Mexican land border.
Passport Admission Stamp

[Image of a passport and visa stamp]
DS-2019

Dates of Appointment

J-1 Category
30-day grace period

- You have 30 days after your J-1 program completion date (the DS-2019 expiration date) to stay in the US – this is a “grace period”

- During your grace period you:
  - cannot work or travel internationally, except to depart the U.S.
  - may travel in the U.S. or take a holiday (we suggest Lake Tahoe!)
  - You should NOT overstay your grace period
J-1 Categories and their Maximum Durations

Check box 4 of the DS-2019 for your J-1 category:

**Scholar categories**

- **Short-Term Scholar** (no more than six months duration)
- **Specialist** (no more than one year)
- **Research Scholar** (no more than five years) – Note: **12-month and 24-month** bar may apply to future return as J research scholar

**Student category**

- **Non-Degree Student** (no more than 24 months duration)
J Non-Degree Students

- This category provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to do research at UCD.
- No student fees have to be paid and therefore students are not eligible for student services such as student health insurance, free access to the ARC or free transportation on Unitrans buses.
- On campus employment is possible with "J-1 On Campus Employment Application Form" and approval from SISS advisor.
- A social security number is necessary if working.
SEVIS

- SEVIS = Student Exchange Visitor Information System
- Necessary to issue DS-2019 and to report all program changes to SISS (i.e. funding, name changes etc.)
- Contact SISS within 10 days about: changes of residential address, J-1 and J-2 e-mail address or phone number
For your program extensions - please have your department submit the DS-2019 extension request to SISS two months in advance

Transfers to other J sponsors possible if:
- same type of research
- no gaps in employment
- there is still time left in current status and J category
International Travel?

DS-2019 travel signature required!
- Drop off your most recent DS-2019 at SISS, with complete travel signature request form attached (found at siss.ucdavis.edu)
- Is your J visa valid? If not, please check with the US embassy to determine visa extension requirements and processing times: http://www.usembassy.gov/
  Travel to Canada or Mexico: automatic visa revalidation

- Do you have a layover (stop) in another country prior to reaching your destination? You may need a transit visa. Check with the embassy of the country where you stop, or the airline, to get more information.
- If you have applied for a waiver of 212e, travel can be risky. Please consult with an international scholar advisor.
J-1/J-2 DS-2019 Travel Signature Form

- SISS has one business day processing time
- Travel signature is valid for 6 months from date of signature
- Link to form on our website, under “Forms and Handouts” and “International Scholars”:
  http://siss.ucdavis.edu/forms/scholar_forms.html
- Form is included in your orientation materials.
What three documents are required for your international travel?

- Valid J Visa, except Canadian citizen
- Signed DS-2019
- Passport valid for next six months
Home Residency Requirement: “Two Year Rule” or “212 (e)”

- Based on the home country skills list or government funding

- Has to be waived or fulfilled to change status to H-1B, L-1 or apply for permanent residency (green card)

- To obtain a waiver, review information on the Department of State website, under the J-1 category: http://travel.state.gov

- The DS-2019 cannot be extended after waiver recommendation from the Department of State
  - Keep SISS informed of your plans!

- Don’t confuse with the 24-month bar!
Incidental Employment

- Research Scholars/Professors may apply
- For lectures, consultations, etc.
- Incidental means “not essential” or “minor” employment
- Scholar must receive written approval from an advisor at SISS prior to receiving payment from non-UCD source
Departure

- Please complete the departure form (found on our website) before you leave:
  http://siss.ucdavis.edu/forms/scholar_forms.html

- New! J-2 departure form completion: if J-2 leaves before the J-1 ends program at UCD

- **24-month bar** applies to J-1 research scholar/professors (& their J-2 dependents) who want to return as research scholars/professors in the future. If this is a concern, contact your advisor.

- If you are a J-1 short-term scholar, you may return at any time.
Orientation Online and Orientation Survey

- You may review this orientation any time at the SISS website:

- Look for “New J-1 International Scholar Orientation Slideshow” at the bottom of the “J-1 Check in and Orientation” Scholar webpage above.

- To help us improve our orientation, please take our survey. The survey is found at:
  http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CBMM69Y
ISI Volunteers
(International Students, Inc.)

- Non-profit community organization made up of volunteers from churches in the area
- Volunteers can assist international scholars with things like moving and settling in Davis
- ISI hosts dinners at home with Americans each month. Sign up today!
- For more information, contact: Simon Zeigler at simonzeigler@gmail.com
Scholars and their Families at a Friends of Community Dinner
Again, welcome to UC Davis! We wish you a productive and enjoyable stay!

Please give your presenter copies of your J-1 visa stamp, your DS-2019, your I-94 print-out or your passport admission stamp and your completed Scholar Personal Data Sheet. Thanks for coming today!