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FINDING & MAKING A HOME:

Make house hunting easier by utilizing the campus housing office and their great website: www.housing.ucsb.edu . Take advantage of the fact that landlords like to rent to graduate students. Most people say you should be able to find housing within a few days to a week of arriving, depending on what you are looking for. It is best to arrive in late August or early September (before the undergrads return). The basic options are to:

- **Rent a room in a private house.** This is a (relatively) cheap way to live, and you usually have full house privileges, although some folks feel it offers less privacy. (COST: \$750/month and up—depending on the level of privacy you want, i.e. private bath, private entrance, etc., cost extra—most utilities are usually included)
- **Share a house with other students.** This can be a lot of fun and is a great way to meet people. There are rooms for rent in “Student Households” as well as in “Grad Student Households”--*beware of rooming with undergraduates who won't necessarily share your “work ethic”!!* (COST: 4 bedroom houses are ~ \$2500-2900/month + gas, water, electric, phone, trash, and cable). A lot of landlords have gardeners who maintain the outside of the house for you. Leases are generally a year long, but often there are month-to-month options.
- **Rent or lease an apartment.** This gives the option of living alone or with just one other person. (Cost: 2 bedroom/2 bath apartments start at \$1500-1700/mo with some utilities included occasionally)
- **San Clemente Graduate apartments.** These are 2 or 4 bedroom shared apartments adjacent to campus (NW corner). They are very conveniently located and have a fair amount of programming for new graduate students. The costs are generally more than off campus and they have a year-long lease.
- **Where to find housing?** Craigslist and the Grad Housing Listserv are your best options. There is also the Community Housing Office (CHO), located in the University Center (UCen); phone (805) 893-4371; hours M-F 8am-5pm. Online at <http://www.housing.ucsb.edu>. The CHO provides numerous listings of rooms, houses, and apartments throughout the area, as well as guidance and advice on the logistics of finding a place and the legal aspects of renting.

LOCATIONS:

The area surrounding UCSB is divided more or less into four sections: Isla Vista (“IV”), a student community directly west of campus; Ellwood and Winchester Canyon, a suburban section northwest of campus; Goleta, another suburban spread north and east of campus; and the city of Santa Barbara, which is 5 to 15 minutes* (by freeway) or about 12 miles east of campus. The University also owns housing near campus for grad students and students with families. Whatever your priorities in choosing a home, the following highly subjective comparison points highlight the pros and cons of each area.

*Californians, both native and transplanted, tell travel distances in terms of time rather than miles. Particularly near LA, distance has very little relationship to actual travel time...

Isla Vista

Populated primarily by undergraduates, IV can be noisy and crowded. On its main streets, Del Playa and Sabado Tarde, you can usually find a party any night of the week during the school year. Rent can be high for the quality of apartment (or lack thereof). On the flip side, IV is a “happenin’” place, very exciting, and many people who live there enjoy it. Also, IV is your best bet for affordable housing within walking distance to the beach and UCSB. The west side furthest from campus can be more subdued. *Note: anyone living within a two mile radius of UCSB is not allowed to buy a parking permit on campus—which covers all of IV.*

Ellwood / Winchester Canyon

Ellwood offers suburban neighborhood housing and attracts a number of grad students to its relaxed ambience. Anticipate life on the flight path into Santa Barbara Municipal Airport. (No planes between 10pm and 7am, though.) Special precaution for cyclists: expect to bike into the wind every night on the way from UCSB to Ellwood. Bus takes approx 20+ min.

Winchester Canyon is situated just opposite of the 101 from Ellwood, so it is a bit further from campus (4+mi), but is also nestled further into the orchards and hills. Like Ellwood, it has suburban housing, mostly 4 bedroom family homes. Beautiful views of the mountains, quiet neighborhoods with an elementary school, a high school, and a frisbee golf park are just a few of the things Winchester Canyon has to offer. It should be noted, however, that biking to school does require travel over the 101. Bus takes approx 25+ min.

Goleta

Goleta also features typical suburban homes and neighborhoods relatively close to campus. For cyclists, the area east of Highway 217 and south of Highway 101 provides the perfect haven. There is a cycling path along the beach/coast leading directly to the various Biology buildings. And don’t expect scintillating nightlife pretty much anywhere in Goleta except for the Mercury Lounge and several dive bars.

Santa Barbara

If you want easy access to night life and a more “cosmopolitan” feel, Santa Barbara proper may be your ticket. Rent is generally comparable to Ellwood or Goleta, and you are much closer to whatever “action” may be happening in the area. Prepare for a serious commute though: at least 15 minutes by car and (for the gonzo cycling types) 30-45 minutes by bike. There is, however, an express bus

service between downtown SB and the campus. See www.sbmttd.gov

UNIVERSITY-OWNED HOUSING:

The El Dorado and Westgate apartments house upper-division undergrads, transfer students, and incoming grad students. They are located in IV, very close to the west side of campus, and usually place two people per bedroom and either two or four people per apartment. The Santa Ynez complex has a section reserved for currently enrolled grad students, which houses one student per bedroom. There is a waiting list for all three apartments, so you must apply to the Office of Apartment Living to reserve a place on the list. See www.housing.ucsb.edu for more info.

The San Clemente Villages are a 973-bed complex that opened in the 2008- 2009 academic year. San Clemente is sited at the El Colegio Road border of the Storke fields, making it in close proximity to Isla Vista as well as UCSB. The 325 apartments are made up of a combination of one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and four-bedroom units. San Clemente is the first housing facility dedicated to single graduate students. There are also several community buildings that provide laundry, meeting areas, and study space. To be guaranteed a space in San Clemente Villages, apply online and adhere to all application procedures and deadlines. All apartments are furnished and monthly rates include gas, electricity, water, garbage pick-up, cable for television, wired and wireless internet access and parking. See www.housing.ucsb.edu for more info.

FAMILY STUDENT HOUSING:

Students seeking family housing can also apply at the Office of Apartment Living to live in either the West Campus or Storke Campus Complexes. The CHO claims, however, that there is a 12-24 month waiting list for these apartments (though we have known it to be faster in many cases). This housing is open to all couples.

INTERIM HOUSING:

While enduring the search, you can stow your belongings and yourself in a local motel, or if it is available, stay in university-provided temporary housing. For further information, visit www.housing.ucsb.edu. From September 1st to Sept 21st, UCSB will accommodate incoming students who have not yet secured housing in the Santa Cruz Residence Hall for ~\$25.00 per night (double occupancy). You will need a valid UCSB Registration Card or a letter confirming that you have been admitted for Fall Quarter.

BANKING:

There is a plethora of banks within 5 miles of the UCSB campus, although the only ATM machines on campus are for Wells Fargo, Montecito Bank and Trust, Golden

One, and Bank of America. Please check the websites for specific account information and lobby hours. (NOTE: UCSB offers a Direct Deposit salary payment option, which is very convenient. Contact June Varbel, the head of Financials in EEMB)

When you begin work at UCSB, you will not be paid until November 1st. Plan to bring enough money for rent (including deposit, first and last month's rent), utility setup fees, and living expenses for at least one month. Payment frequently varies with your fellowship, teaching or research assistantship. The Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology Department pays monthly and NSF pays in one yearly sum.

BANK	ADDRESS	WEBSITE
Santa Barbara Bank & Trust	7078 Market Place Dr. Goleta, CA 93117	www.sbbt.com
Wells Fargo	195 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta	www.wellsfargo.com
Los Padres Bank	197 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta	www.lospadresbank.com
Chase	52 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta	www.chase.com
Mid State Bank & Trust	5956 Calle Real Goleta	www.midstatebank.com
Golden 1	5676 Calle Real Goleta	www.golden1.com
Bank of America	5892 Calle Real Goleta	www.bankofamerica.com
Community West Bank	445 Pine Ave Goleta	www.communitywestbank.com
Montecito Bank & Trust	6900 Hollister Avenue, Goleta	www.montecito.com
Citibank	5186 Hollister Ave Goleta	www.citibank.com
Bank of the West	3780 State St. Santa Barbara	www.bankofthewest.com
First Bank & Trust	3304 State St. Santa Barbara	www.firstbank.com

SETTING UP HOUSE:

The following resources may be useful in locating furniture and household items:

- Sears (3845 State St. Santa Barbara, CA 93105 (805) 569-6728)

NOTE: they deliver beds.

- At least 6 bed/mattress/futon/furniture stores are located in old town Goleta between 5968 and 5600 along Hollister Ave.
- Just to name a few: Parkway Furniture, Fairview Furniture, SB Mattress Expo (see yahoo yellow pages).

NOTE: some of these stores also deliver beds.

- Bed Bath & Beyond (189 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta, CA 93117)
- Kmart (6865 Hollister Ave. Goleta, CA)

NOTE: NO Target or Walmart within 40 miles

- Thrift stores in Goleta and downtown Santa Barbara
- Garage sales!!
- CRAIGSLIST SANTA BARBARA (<http://santabarbara.craigslist.org>)

Utilities

The following are utility companies in the area.

Utility	Company	Phone / Website	Website / notes
Electricity	Southern CA Edison	1(800)684-8123	www.sce.com
Gas	SoCal Gas Company	1(800)427-2200	www.socalgas.com
Utility	Company	Phone / Website	Website / notes
Telephone	SBC	1(800)310-2355	www.sbc.com
Water	Goleta Water District	805-964-6761	www.goletawater.com
Trash/Recycling	Allied Waste Services	805-965-5248	Billed bi-monthly www.disposal.com
Cable*/Internet	Cox Communications	805-683-6651	www.cox.com

*FYI: without cable, there is not much that is not static

FOOD SHOPPING:

There are some small markets within Isla Vista, but there are several larger grocery stores within a few miles of campus:

- Vons (175 Fairview Ave, Goleta)
- Albertsons (7127 Hollister Ave, Goleta)
- Trader Joe's (5767 Calle Real, Goleta)

Alternatively, there are excellent weekly farmer's markets that take place in Goleta and downtown Santa Barbara on different days. For more information see:

- o <http://www.sbfarmersmarket.org/>
- o <http://www.santabarbaraproperties.com/areainfo/farmersmarkets.html>

For instance, there is a farmers market in the Camino Real Marketplace (approx.

1 mile from campus) every Sunday from 10am-2pm.

In addition to all the regular stores there are many more specialty markets as well as health food/organic/expensive stores, such as Lazy Acres (www.lazyacres.com), Pacific Health Food (5880 Calle Real), Lassen's Health Foods (5154 Hollister Ave.), and Whole Foods Market (www.wholefoodsmarket.com). There is also the Isla Vista Food Co-op located in Isla Vista that has a large variety of organic health foods.

For those who choose to live in the Winchester Canyon area, Ellwood, or IV, the Camino Real Marketplace (<http://www.caminorealmarketplace.com/>) serves as a major resource hub for all our needs. Just to give you an idea, this little strip mall has a Kmart, Home Depot, Costco, Albertsons, Sports Authority, Borders, DMV, Camino Real Cinema, small chain restaurants, and much more.

TRANSPORTATION

BIKES:

There are at least 5 bike stores within approximately 5 miles of UCSB in Isla Vista and Goleta. These include: Bicycle Bob's, Isla Vista Bicycle, Varsity Bike Shop, Velo Pro Cyclery, and JG Bike Shop. Additionally, there are more in downtown Santa Barbara (see yahoo yellow-pages).

Licensing

Under university rules, students are required to license their bike with a State of California State Bicycle License to operate their bike on campus. If you want to play it safe, you can get a license at the Community Service Organization (CSO). This is useful if your bike is stolen because CSO will know who it belongs to if it is recovered.

Riding on Sidewalks

Don't do it! The CSO and UCSB police officers love to warn or ticket people for \$198 who ride on sidewalks. It's not worth it. There are plenty of bicycle paths throughout campus and greater Santa Barbara
<http://www.trafficsolutions.info/biking.htm>

Parking Bicycles

You must park your bike in designated bike parking places on campus. Your bike could be impounded if you lock it to a tree, fence, signpost, etc. If this happens, you have to pay a fine to get it back. You can try parking your bike in your office or on a balcony in your building if it is allowed. Just look around to figure it out, or ask some of the students in your building. It is highly recommended that you use a

U-lock. All other locks are easily broken.

BUSES:

Once your online-BARC/GOLD status as a student is registered and paid, you are eligible to request a registration sticker for your student ID. Present your ACCESS card (student ID) at the AS (Associated Students) ticket office or the Registrar's Office to receive your sticker. No other picture ID can be accepted. With this sticker, riding the bus is free. This will be valid 7 days before classes begin, until the last day of final exams.

Regular bus fare is \$1.75 each way. For routes and schedules, see (www.sbmtd.gov). Be advised—the buses are rather limited in scope and frequency. They are certainly enough to provide daily transportation to and from school, but performing other necessary errands can be a hassle if the bus is your only means of transportation. Additionally, there is an Express bus between downtown and UCSB. The last Express bus from the Downtown Transit Center back to UCSB is at 8:45pm during the week and 11pm on Saturdays.

CAR RENTAL:

Please see the Santa Barbara Airport website for this information: www.flysba.com Check under Travel Information > Ground Transportation.

TRAINS:

There is an Amtrak station about 2 miles from campus. It is the Goleta stop, code: GTA. Unfortunately, there is no ticket office at this stop. You must either purchase a ticket leaving GTA at least 7 days in advance or buy your ticket upon boarding the train. There is also a station in Downtown Santa Barbara, code: SBA. This station does have a ticket office but you must purchase the ticket at least 7 days in advance, either online or at the ticket office during their operating hours. The SBA station does not allow you to buy your ticket upon boarding the train.

The Goleta station is at 25 S. La Patera Lane Goleta, CA 93117. This is off Hollister at the very end of La Patera Lane. There are small signs by the road but they are hidden behind other businesses.

The fares vary with season, but for example, during the school year it costs around \$20-\$25 one-way to/from Los Angeles. The trip takes about 3 hours and is a great option to avoid unpredictable LA traffic. The LA Union Station stop is not close to the LAX airport, but now there is the Flyaway bus that exclusively takes passengers to and from Union Station and LAX in 30 minutes to an hour. As an alternative, Amtrak also has a stop right at Burbank Airport, which is a small airport 30 minutes north of LA. Another popular destination is San Diego. The one-way fare is \$30-\$40 and the trip takes about 6 hours. Be aware that fares go up during holidays and other select times of the year.

For more information see www.amtrak.com or call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

TAXIS & SHUTTLES:

The Santa Barbara Airbus Shuttle makes 7 round-trips a day between LAX and SB/Goleta from 4am to 11pm. Round-trip fares are from \$70-\$80 depending on how and when one buys tickets. For more information check the website:

<http://www.santabarbaraairbus.com/lax/index.php>. The Airbus is a great way to enjoy the sometimes crazy and hectic trip into LA. If you are flying out of LAX, it might be your cheapest option--parking at the airport is exorbitantly expensive. Here is a list of a few of the taxi providers servicing the Goleta and Santa Barbara area (However, they can be very expensive):

- o Gold Cab.....805-685-9797
- o SuperRide Airport Shuttle.....805-683-9636
- o Yellow Cab of Santa Barbara..... 805-965-5111
- o Checker Cab.....805-560-8284

AIRPORTS:

Santa Barbara Airport (SBA) has recently been renovated and has numerous flights (especially to Phoenix and Denver) including some direct flights. LAX is always an option and Burbank (BUR) is on the amtrak line and has Southwest flights available.

AUTOMOTIVE MATTERS:

Getting your car registered

The State of California requires out-of-state cars to be registered within 20 days of being brought into the state. Here are some things you will need:

- 1) Car title
- 2) Current Vehicle Registration
- 3) A smog certificate obtained within the 90 days prior to applying to DMV for new registration
- 4) Old license plates
- 5) Verification of Vehicle ID Form (a DMV employee will complete this form at the time you apply for registration)
- 6) Application for Registration Form (Form 343) filled out by you

You can pick up a package containing some of these forms at any of the DMV offices. The closest DMV office to the campus is in Goleta at 7127 Hollister Ave., Suite #24-26, (800) 777-0133. It is highly recommended to make an appointment online at www.dmv.ca.gov. Under "DMV Public Offices", search for the "Goleta Field Office". There is a link that provides more information and allows you to make an appointment.

The Smog Check

To register your car in California you will have to have a smog check performed. This does not apply to motorcycles. The check comprises of a visual inspection and an emissions check to verify that the hydrocarbon and monoxide output are acceptable for the model/year of your car. Many gas stations in the area offer smog checks between \$30 and \$40, with an additional \$6 for the smog certificate.

Insurance

California law states that a car registered in California MUST be insured in California. Thus, if you have an out-of-state policy and/or you are under your parents' coverage, contact your provider about adjusting your coverage accordingly.

UCSB PARKING

All vehicles parked on the Santa Barbara campus must display a valid UCSB parking permit Monday through Sunday, from 7:30am to 12:00am (midnight), except on designated university holidays. However, the following areas require display of a valid parking permit 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- o All spaces/areas marked "Enforced At All Times"
- o Reserved
- o Specifically marked Faculty/Staff parking spaces or parking lots
- o Restricted Areas
- o Residential B1 Parking
- o West Campus Family Housing

Parking permits are issued solely by Parking Services based on eligibility criteria. Additional details on permits available to graduate students are at <http://www.tps.ucsb.edu/>). Note: permits cannot be issued until you are registered for Fall and are in the payroll system. You can also purchase parking permits daily for \$8/day. If you do not have the appropriate permit, they WILL ticket you (\$45).

NIGHT AND WEEKEND PARKING:

All graduate students are entitled to obtain a Night & Weekend parking permit at no cost, as allowed by the quarterly lock-in fee paid at the time of registration. Currently enrolled students can obtain a yearly permit online from [Parking Services](http://www.tps.ucsb.edu/permStuNightWeekend.aspx) (<http://www.tps.ucsb.edu/permStuNightWeekend.aspx>). These permits are valid from 5:00PM - 7:30AM on weekdays, and all day Saturday and Sunday. Please watch for spaces or areas within these lots that may have additional restrictions. These permits are also valid in time zones for the time designated, and in loading zones for 20 minutes. You may apply online by visiting www.ThePermitStore.com.

A window permit will be mailed to the address listed on your application.

“C” PERMITS:

For \$432 per year, the Student/Commuter Parking Permits are available to all eligible commuters residing outside of a 2 mile radius from campus. A utility bill, lease agreement, or BARC statement is required as verification of off-campus residence. Students living within two miles of campus are not eligible to park on campus during regular business hours. “C” permits are issued on an annual basis (with the exception of summer quarter permits) and are valid in “C” parking areas and time zones for the time designated.

Note: A “C” permit is not valid in areas specifically designated “A”, “S/A”, Restricted, Reserved, B1 or Vendor spaces.

“S” PERMITS:

Also at the price of \$432 per year, “S” permits are available to graduate students with UCSB Teaching/Research Assistant employment status or fellowship status working 45 - 99% time. “S” parking is allowed in:

- o Areas designated “C” and “S” except in Lots 1, 3, 9 West, 11, 15, 20 and 24.
- o “S” parking is allowed in Lots 1, 11, 15 and 20 after 5:00pm and all day/evening on Saturdays and Sundays.

MOTORCYCLE PARKING:

Parking spaces designated for motorcycles, mopeds and scooters are only for motorcycles, mopeds and scooters. Motorcycles, mopeds and scooters parked on the UCSB campus are not required to purchase and/or display a parking permit if they are parked in these spaces.

BEACH PARKING:

Some people choose to risk fines for violation and park at Goleta beach. The ocean front walk from Goleta beach to the Biology buildings is about 5 minutes. Please see the Parking and Transportation Center website at <http://www.tps.ucsb.edu/> for more details on parking restrictions.

BARC

The BARC (Billing and Accounts Receivable) statement details your current financial situation with the. You can keep track of your account online at <https://mybarc.ucsb.edu>. There is also a link to your BARC account on the MyUCSB_ homepage (here you can also find links to GOLD, U-Mail, Housing, and other important resources) at <http://my.sa.ucsb.edu/home/index.aspx>. If you are employed by the department as a Graduate Student Researcher or Teaching Assistant, the Department or your PI will pay your tuition, registration fees, and

health insurance listed on the BARC statement. Any additional fee assessments, such as Student Health service charges, schedule adjustment fees, rent--if you live in university housing, is your responsibility and should be paid by NOON on the date indicated on the statement. If this is not paid by the deadline, you will be assessed a \$50.00 late fee.

If you do not register for classes before graduate student registration deadline, you will be assessed a \$50 late registration fee on your BARC statement. This fee is also your responsibility. The website for online registration is <https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/gold/>. You will be sent instructions on setting up your username, student PIN, and password during the summer.

HEALTH INSURANCE

There is a mandatory Graduate Student Health Insurance Plan (GSHIP). The fee for this plan will automatically appear on your BARC statement. If you are employed as a Graduate Student Researcher or Teaching Assistant, the department pays this fee and you are insured. Details of the coverage are contained in the Graduate Health Insurance Plan online at <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/>. Students who present satisfactory evidence of comparable health insurance coverage to the University will be waived from the coverage. This may include health insurance through your parents, spouse's employer, etc.

THE STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

If you are insured by the GSHIP, you must go to the Student Health Center first for treatment unless it is an emergency. Check the website for details or call (805) 893-3371. Student Health may refer you to an outside doctor if needed, but they have many facilities (sports therapy doctors, X-ray and lab work facilities, and much more) on campus. In addition to basic medical coverage, Student Health offers dental and optical services that are partially covered by your GSHIP. <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/>

THINGS TO DO

UCSB RECREATION CENTER:

Nicknamed the 'Rec-Cen,' the UCSB Recreation Center opened in 1995 and has been one of the most popular spots on campus ever since. The original Rec Center has two swimming pools, two gymnasiums, two weight rooms, two squash courts and five racquetball courts. An expansion, Rec Cen II, was opened in the spring of 2005. It includes an additional weight room, multi-purpose gym, climbing wall, jacuzzi, pottery studio, classroom and additional locker facilities. This facility is free for you to use as a student and you must have your student ID card to enter. You can rent a locker each quarter for \$20-\$30, depending on size and location. All locker rentals come with towel service. Mornings or mid-day are your best bets

for avoiding crowds... usually the hours between 3 and 7 PM are crazy!
<http://www.recreation.ucsb.edu/> see links on the left

ADVENTURE PROGRAM:

The adventure program offers trips, classes, and ropes courses that try to provide you with the type and level of adventure that meets your needs. See the website at <http://www.recreation.ucsb.edu/adventureprograms/default.aspx> for more information.

LEISURE REVIEW:

A number of laid-back, challenging, fun, and/or exciting leisure courses are offered through the recreation department. Pottery, yoga, scuba, fencing, diving, guitar, sailing, ballet, salsa, swing, and wine-tasting are just some of the fun activities you can join for a (typically) small fee. Classes are open to everyone, so join with a spouse or friend from outside the University if you like. More information is available at <http://www.recreation.ucsb.edu/leisurereview/default.aspx>

ARTS & LECTURES:

UCSB has a very strong Arts & Lectures program. They present performances featuring touring artists from all over the world—first-rate dancers, classical and world musicians, performance artists and theater companies. They screen films—international cinema, independent films, documentaries, and the best Hollywood movies and occasionally, restored silent classics with live piano accompaniment. In addition, they offer lectures and special events featuring writers, artists, government officials, mountain climbers/adventurers, scientists and other notable, accomplished people. Please see <http://www.artsandlectures.ucsb.edu/> for more information and their calendar of upcoming events! Student tickets are discounted from regular prices.

RECREATIONAL AND INTRAMURAL SPORTS:

UCSB boasts one of the best recreational and club sports programs in the country. Requirements for joining vary with each sport, including coed alpine racing, coed bowling, coed cycling, coed fencing, women's field hockey, women's lacrosse, men's lacrosse, coed martial arts, men's roller hockey, women's rowing, men's rowing, women's rugby, men's rugby, coed sailing, women's soccer, men's soccer, coed surfing, coed triathlon, women's ultimate, men's ultimate, and coed water ski. See the website <http://www.recreation.ucsb.edu/recreationalsports/default.aspx> or <http://GauchosPlay.com/> for details on each of the teams.

There is also an extensive offering of intramural sports. These programs require no skill level, just interest and commitment. For a list of the intramural sports

offered each quarter and to learn how to sign up, visit <http://GauchosPlay.com/> or <http://www.recreation.ucsb.edu/intramurals/default.aspx>.

One of the greatest things about UCSB is the year-round outdoor sports weather. You will find across the graduate student population tri-athletes, marathon runners, cyclists, skiers, rock-climbers, and surfers who enjoy the temperate climate for training. Just ask around for more information.

Hiking

Santa Barbara's year round great weather makes hiking always an option. Whether you are an experienced hiker or just want to enjoy nature, Santa Barbara has it! See <http://santabarbarahikes.com/> for some local spots!

Music

Velvet Jones on State St. in Santa Barbara is a destination for many bands, both local and "mainstream". It is also privileged to host many "secret" shows that only locals in the Santa Barbara area can attend. See <http://velvet-jones.com/index/cfm> for shows. The Santa Barbara Bowl is also host to much larger shows and concerts in its amazing outdoor arena. See <http://www.sbbowl.com/index.htm> . Only an hour away, Los Angeles provides even more venues, bands, and performances.

Wine Tasting

Santa Barbara and its neighboring counties are home to numerous wineries. Spend the day hopping vineyards up and down the beautiful coast. Prices are extremely reasonable, especially if planned with a decently sized group! See <http://www.santabarbara.com/winecountry/> for local vineyards and tasting rooms.

Restaurants and Breweries

Enjoy eating foods from around the world? So do the locals in Santa Barbara! Take your pick from Japanese, Thai, Indian, Chinese, Italian, Latin American, Scandinavian, and American just to name a few! A majority of these are found on State St. in Downtown Santa Barbara. See <http://www.santabarbara.com/dining> for other options. Local breweries include: Hollister Brewing Company, Telegraph Brewing Company and the Island Brewing Company in Carpenteria.

Secrets of Santa Barbara

The Ellwood Butterfly Preserve is less than 1 mile from campus and during the months of November through February, is home to one of the largest monarch butterfly migrations. The tour consists of a short hike through the forest toward the beach with THOUSANDS of butterflies along the way. See

http://www.lotsafunmaps.com/Santa_Barbara/Ellwood_Butterfly_Preserve_and_Boardswalk.html for specifics and pictures

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

UCSB is home to a wide assortment of clubs and organizations. Some of the categories are career-related, community service, cultural, ethnic, graduate student specific, health, ideological, political, recreational, religious, and social.

One of the most important organizations is the Graduate Student Association (<http://ucsbgsa.org/>). This is the organizing body behind most of the activities and rights for graduate students on campus. They host happy hours, social activities, discounted prices and fund many of the different graduate programming on campus (such as graduate student symposiums and workshops).

Another important organization is the Instruction Development group which promotes Teaching Assistant development through training modules, orientations and workshops. Most of the information regarding TAs is available on their website: <http://oic.id.ucsb.edu/ta-development-program>

TRAVEL

- The Beach is a walk from anywhere.
- Death Valley is 5 hours to petrified wood, stick to winter/spring trips or face extreme heat.
- Joshua Tree is 4 hours for rock climbing and camping.
- LA is 1.5 hours and always a learning experience. Recommend you visit Westwood, Brentwood, Hollywood, Santa Monica, Pasadena, and anything that ends in Beach.
- Las Vegas is 6 hours; where anything is legal.
- Mammoth Mountain is 7 hours away and Big Bear is only 3.5 hours away for some snow activities.
- Mt. Whitney is 4.5 hours to the highest peak in the U.S. less than 100 miles from Death Valley
- San Diego is 4 hours south and is the last stop before Tijuana.
- San Francisco is 5-6 hours away and Alcatraz is not the only thing to see.
- Santa Ynez Valley is 20 minutes to wine country and mountain biking.
- Tahoe is also 7 hours away with water and many mountain sports.
- Yosemite is 6 hours to visit Half Dome.

SANTA BARBARISMS AND OTHER MATTERS

Here are some aspects of UCSB culture that are considered ‘peculiar’ or ‘unique’ to incoming graduate students, particularly those not from the west coast:

THE ‘EARLY MORNING’ MISNOMER

There is a different concept of ‘early morning’ here. Most University offices open at 9:00am, close for an hour over lunch (usually 12:00-1:00pm), and close at 4:00pm, so make sure to plan accordingly for official matters. But don’t worry... you can still work all the time.

SHOPPING SHOCK

Santa Barbara, though relatively “close” to LA, does not have a large variety of shopping opportunities. Please be aware that Santa Barbara is a tourist attraction and home to many very wealthy people. This results in small malls and some boutiques.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS

Ever heard of the UCSB Gaucho football team? No? That’s because it hasn’t existed for about 20 years! Indeed, those from larger universities may be sorely disappointed. However, the men’s soccer team and women’s basketball team have enjoyed much success in recent years. In 2006 the men’s soccer team won the NCAA Division 1 National Championship. The Gaucho Locos go crazy at sporting events, especially at the men’s “futbol” games. See <http://www.gaucholocos.com/getLoco/history.html>. Get ready to throw some tortillas!

IT’S A BIKE FREEWAY

The number of students who commute to school by bicycle is significant. Between classes, take care in passing bike paths (or freeways). Also, don’t be alarmed by the cell-phone chatting, gum-chewing, surfboard-carrying undergrad biking by--we see it all the time!

HALLOWEEN AND IV

Isla Vista can become fairly rowdy on weekends (as we are in the top 10 party schools) but the time to be aware of foot/car/bike traffic and hangovers is Halloween weekend. It is a famous event (<http://www.tryourla.com/5-reasons-why-santa-barbara-kicks-ass-on-halloween/>) which can bring up to tens of thousands into Isla Vista (<http://www.edhat.com/site/tidbit.cfm?nid=42131>).

UCSB-wide website links

Registrar <http://registrar.sa.ucsb.edu/contact.htm>
Counseling & Psychological Services <http://counseling.sa.ucsb.edu/>
OMBUDS (conflict management) <http://www.ombuds.ucsb.edu/>
Instructional Development <http://id.ucsb.edu/>
Student Health <http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/>
University Police <http://police.ucsb.edu/police.html>
Women's Center <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/women/>

Important UCSB Websites

Gauchospace (class management) <https://gauchospace.ucsb.edu>
Egrades (grades for students) <https://egrades.sa.ucsb.edu/>
GOLD (class registration) <https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/gold/login.aspx>
BARC (financial) <https://mybarc.ucsb.edu/SIWeb/login.jsp>
Library <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/>
University VPN (for off-campus access)
http://www.oit.ucsb.edu/network_services/vpn_service/default.asp

Article searching/management

Google Scholar (with UC elinks) <http://scholar.google.com>
Web of Knowledge <http://apps.webofknowledge.com>
Mendeley (free, linked online) <http://www.mendeley.com/>
Endnote (purchase through campus) <http://www.endnote.com/>
Zotero (free) <http://www.zotero.org/>

Poster Printing on Campus

<http://www.itst.ucsb.edu/computing.html>
<http://artworks.production.id.ucsb.edu/>
<http://id.ucsb.edu/>

MSI also has poster printing for around \$40