



## ACADEMIC STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM (ASAP) DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

### I. SCOPE

#### Services:

#### **Overview**

The Academic Study Abroad Program (ASAP) offers qualified international students the opportunity to study on the UCI campus through a unilateral agreement with the students' home university. Each accepted student is provided a program of study customized for his/her particular goals generally consisting of undergraduate coursework. For the ASAP, UCI coordinates with home institution to determine the student's program of study in alignment with home institution's undergraduate degree requirements, thereby maximizing the value to the student and reducing any delay of the student's degree attainment. Program and program requirements are subject to change. Student applications may not be processed, and any aforementioned tuition discounts may not be offered until this Agreement is fully executed.

#### **Students will:**

- Receive academic support and individualized advising assistance.
- Build their networks through meaningful interactions with international and American students, as well as UCI faculty and staff.
- Earn credit that may be transferable to their home university.
- Gain valuable knowledge and tips about adapting to life by attending workshops on various subjects relating to American academic culture.
- Fulfill the requirement to enroll in the 3-month Internship Experience as an add-on or part of the program

#### **Academic Program**

Students enrolling in ASAP will be provided the U.S. equivalent of one, two, or three academic quarters (up to nine months) of full-time study, preceded by intensive English as a Second Language courses if necessary.

#### **Student Enrollment and Performance**

Registration in UCI courses is provided through concurrent enrollment. Academic advisors assist students with the registration process. Students enrolled in these courses receive all UC non-matriculated students' rights and privileges.

A full-time course of study, in compliance with UC and U.S. immigration requirements, is defined as:

1. Minimum 12 units or equivalent (any combination of ESL, DCE, and UCI courses) per quarter. *(Additional approval is required for enrolling in over 12 units of courses.)*
2. No more than one online course (up to 4 units) per quarter will count toward the 12-unit minimum requirement. *(Additional approval is required for enrolling in an online course.)*

Students enroll in UCI courses on a space-available basis after all matriculated students have been enrolled. Permission to enroll in any UCI course must be obtained by the course instructor and/or department during the first two weeks of every quarter. Enrollment in any specific course cannot be guaranteed, so having a list of alternative courses is necessary to maintain full-time status (at least 12 units or equivalent) each quarter. Economics courses and courses within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math fields are highly impacted, so receiving permission to enroll in these courses is not likely. Students are not permitted to enroll in courses

offered by the School of Law, Paul Merage School of Business, Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing, and School of Medicine.

Students must maintain a 2.0 (C) average for all coursework undertaken each quarter while enrolled in ASAP. Students who wish to continue to the next quarter, but who fail to meet the academic requirements, will require additional approval for extension. To remain in ASAP, students placed on academic probation must sign the Academic Probation Agreement and may be disqualified if they fail to meet the academic requirements the following quarter. After successfully completing ASAP, students will receive a certificate of program participation.

### **Program Services**

The student and the student's home institution may expect the following support services:

- Information to the home university about UCI's educational programs, academic standards, and other information to assist students in achieving their short- and long-term educational goals;
- Information to the home university on UCI's housing options, transportation, health insurance, and other support services, as well as program policies and procedures, to ensure that students are fully informed about their options at UCI;
- Immigration services for F-1 visa holders;
- A designated key contact person who can provide information about ASAP to be used by the home university in its promotional published materials regarding the program;
- Advance notice (at least 90 days) to students and the home university regarding information relating to ASAP, including but not limited to any changes in the program;
- An orientation that will cover academic and administrative matters. The campus orientation program for students will provide a disclosure of fees, services, and policies;
- A series of American and academic culture events/activities designed to help students understand and adjust to their environment. This segment will teach adaptation strategies, academic success skills, and UCI resource optimization;
- Ongoing academic advising and monitoring for each student. UCI will also assist students on administrative matters such as transportation, visa, and other matters. ASAP will monitor academic progress and make recommendations, when appropriate, regarding responses to difficulties the student faces. Academic Advising is available during the walk-in hours for the duration of the program;
- A series of special events and programs during the students' stay. Such events will include a welcoming ceremony and end-of-quarter celebratory event. In addition, where appropriate, students will be included in international student activities with the goal of integrating them into the academic and social fabric of the campus;
- The opportunity to engage in one-on-one or group conversational English-speaking activities with trained undergraduate students. This opportunity will be in addition to other student activities throughout the program.

### **Program Tracks**

- **Academic Track: Students who have met the minimum entry requirements for this track will enroll in credit-bearing academic courses and can study for three, six, or nine months at UCI.**
- **Customized Success Language (CSL) Track:** Students who do not meet the minimum entry requirements for the Academic Study Track will receive English training as part of their studies to increase their English fluency and academic competitiveness. Enrollment in this track requires at least six months.

### **Academic Track**

#### **Entry Requirements**

- Completion of one full year of university coursework prior to starting U-ASAP.

- Minimum GPA requirement – 3.0 on a 4-point scale (or 80% total cumulative average grade).
- TOEFL 80 iBT/550 PBT; 685 TOEIC, iTEP 3.5; ISE B2; IELTS 6.5; CET-4 (493); CET-6 (450); or equivalent
  - International applicants are exempt from submitting English proficiency scores if any of the following circumstances are met:
    - Applicant’s native language is English
    - Applicant has completed secondary/high school in a country where English was the language of instruction for at least three years; or
- Applicants must be eligible to apply for an F-1 visa.

**Program Curriculum:** UCI and Continuing Education Courses Each Quarter (12 Units)

**Intakes:** Winter, Spring, and Fall

### Customized Success Language Track

#### Entry Requirements

- Completion of one full year of university coursework prior to starting ASAP.
- Minimum GPA requirement – 3.0 on a 4-point scale (or 80% total cumulative average grade).
- TOEFL 61 iBT/500 PBT; IELTS 5.5; Duolingo 85; CET-4 (475); CET-6 (450); or equivalent
- Applicants must be eligible to apply for an F-1 visa.

#### Program Curriculum

**Intakes:** Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESL/Academic English Courses</li> <li>• Undergraduate / Continuing Education Courses</li> </ul> <p>12 Units</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undergraduate / Continuing Education Courses</li> </ul> <p>Minimum 12 units; up to 14 units with approval</p>

Note:

1. DCE ESL Placement Test is required upon arrival. The test results will determine CSL students’ English proficiency levels (Level 1 – 7). Level 5 CSL students may choose one Continuing Education course as the additional elective in the first quarter. Level 6 or 7 CSL students may choose one undergraduate credit-bearing course as the additional elective in the first quarter.
2. CSL students must receive at least a B average in all ESL (Level 6 or 7), UCI Continuing Education, and/or UCI undergraduate courses in the previous quarter or provide a new TOEFL score of at least 80 iBT/550 PBT (IELTS 6.5), to be exempt from taking any ESL/Academic English courses in the following quarter.

#### Internship

Students may participate in an optional unpaid 3-month internship after completing at least one quarter of UCI courses and Resume Writing & Interviewing Skills course during the ASAP program. Internships are supervised, unpaid paraprofessional positions, which provide students the opportunity to work in a real-world setting, practice skills and concepts related to their current major of study and develop professional contacts while earning six units of academic credit. Internships last 10 weeks and many are in mid-sized organizations in the growing high-tech business environment of Orange County, as well as in the greater Los Angeles area. Internships enhance the student’s education and develop career paths through exposure to the American business environment. An internship also increases English language capacity, helps to develop adaptability to different environments, and

shapes future goals. Internships range from a minimum of 20 hours per week to up to 35 hours per week for a minimum of 200 hours in the quarter.

Students may choose from a comprehensive list of companies or seek an internship on their own. Internship placement is not guaranteed. UCI is not responsible for any costs students may incur during their internship. The Internship Experience staff will determine if an outside company is suitable to meet the student's professional goals as well as meet the UCI's strict requirements for host sites. As a culmination to the internship, students are required to complete an 8-10-page reflection paper, which details their work experiences. The Internship course carries six (6) academic quarter credits, is considered full-time study, and can only be completed in the final quarter of study.

#### **Application Steps for Applicants**

Application information can be found at <http://ip.ce.uci.edu/apply-now/>. The application deadline is 30 days prior to the program start date. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

#### **Program Dates**

Program Dates can be found on UCI's website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>.

## **II. FEES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Fees (i.e., Rates/Cost): Program Fees can be found under **Tuition and Fees** on UCI International Programs website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>. Students enrolling under this Agreement will be provided a 10% discount on program only. Should a higher tuition fee discount be published on UCI's website for the quarter(s) a student enrolls it will be applied. Discounts from all sources may not be combined or cannot exceed the largest single discount.

Payment Policies and Deadlines: can be found under **Tuition and Fees** on UCI International Programs website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>.

Terms of Payment: Pursuant to Section 3.2 of this Agreement and Payment Policies and Deadlines.