

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

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SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

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Dear New Stevenson College Student:

On behalf of the faculty, staff and students, I want to congratulate you on your recent acceptance to UCSC and welcome you to your new home at Stevenson College.

As the Provost of Stevenson College, I am responsible for providing classes and academic activities to enrich the intellectual life at the college. I also oversee the academic advising staff who work with you to monitor your progress towards graduation and can assist you with choosing courses and finding a major that is right for you. In addition to my role as Provost for Stevenson College, I am Professor in the History Department.

At UCSC you will discover a large research university with a wealth of opportunities for growth and learning. Your academic work and co-curricular activities will allow you to explore this beautiful and expansive campus. Within the context of a major university, UCSC seeks to provide our undergraduates with the collegiate experience. UCSC is virtually the only public university in the United States to afford students both the warm embrace of a small college and access to researchers who are at the frontiers of knowledge.

Founded in 1966, Stevenson is one of the first colleges at UCSC. We are located on a hill overlooking the beautiful Monterey Bay, close to the bookstore, library, pool, track, and gym. Our theme, "Self and Society," emphasizes the goals of both self-understanding and active participation in one's community. Our students' diverse backgrounds, perspectives and interests, our 2-quarter "Self and Society" seminar sequence, and our lectures and community events contribute to making Stevenson a stimulating environment. Your active involvement and leadership are important to this community and I hope that you will be able to take advantage of the many opportunities available to you while you are in residence. I hope you also will take time to join the faculty, staff, and students in participating in the life of the college.

You will soon receive detailed information about UCSC's [Online Orientation process](#). This orientation to UC Santa Cruz will be delivered in your first university course, *Stevenson IA: Introduction to University Life and Learning*. This required course will guide you through a wide range of opportunities and resources at UC Santa Cruz, assist you with the challenges of planning your education, and introduce you to habits and styles of engagement that can meaningfully contribute to your learning and success. Unlike most UCSC courses, *Stevenson IA* is online, and 'asynchronous', which means that there are no scheduled meetings required of you. There are some deadlines in the course, but you will make your own decisions about when to participate and engage with the course materials. The course is graded "Pass/No Pass", and when you complete it you will have earned one-unit of academic credit. Among its other outcomes, the course introduces you to the academic advising system at UCSC, helps you explore your educational goals, prepares you to enroll in fall classes, shows you how to use your MyUCSC portal to enroll in classes, connects you to your online Orientation Leader

Team, and reminds you of critical deadlines. Engagement and active participation is required to pass this course.

In order to get an early enrollment appointment date (to enroll for classes), you must complete Parts 1 and 2 of the orientation process, and [submit your official test scores and transcripts to admissions](#) by the deadlines. Official transcripts must be sent electronically or postmarked no later than July 1. The deadline for official test scores is July 15. You will receive Part 1 on June 21st. You will only receive Part 2 when you complete Part 1. The earlier you complete Parts 1 and 2 of the orientation process, the earlier you will receive your enrollment appointment date. Many UCSC classes fill up quickly so you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of early enrollment to maximize your chances of obtaining a spot in these classes.

Instructions about how to access the Online Orientation process will be sent directly to your [UCSC email account](#). Check your UCSC email account regularly (your @ucsc.edu email) as it is the official form of communication for the university. In addition to information about academic advising in Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Orientation process, you will get information about how to connect directly with your academic advisors this summer as well as contact information for other offices on campus.

One of the important functions that Stevenson College offers is academic advising. I would like to introduce you to your Advising Team at Stevenson College: Academic Preceptor Marie Yoo and Academic Advisers Esteban Adame and Eric Bellis (interim). Your Stevenson College academic advising team provide support in transitioning to the university, understanding university requirements and policies, exploring academic interests, and supporting your academic success. More information about Advising, including contact information is available here: <https://advising.ucsc.edu/about/colleges-advising/index.html>.

An important element of your first quarter experience at Stevenson College will be taking your core course, “Stevenson 1: Introduction to University Discourse: Self and Society.” Stevenson 1 helps students develop academic proficiency in reading, critical thinking, and habits of mind and practice that encourage academic success. This course prepares students for success in other UCSC courses requiring critical thinking, listening, discussion, and effective communication. It explores rhetorical principles and conventions of university discourse and considers the roots of modern society using foundational religious texts and major classical and modern philosophical works. You will enroll in this class over the summer during your enrollment period.

Stevenson’s second quarter of Core, Stevenson 2, satisfies the textual analysis general education requirement. Some majors, such as Engineering and Computer Science, require prerequisites in your first year, so consider discussing your academic plan with an advisor if you’re considering one of these majors.

At UCSC we have a strong commitment to the environment. From now on, all of our communication with you will be done via email, as this is the official form of communication for the university. When the time comes, be sure to activate your UCSC google email account: <http://its.ucsc.edu/google/gmail.html>. In early June we will be sending you some very important advising information via email to assist you with academic planning for the fall (this will be sent to your personal email, but as of September we will no longer use your personal email). Please read this information carefully when it arrives because the material will help you prepare for fall quarter.

In the fall we will welcome you into our university community and help you dive into collegiate life. We are honored to be a part of your experience, and we have no doubt that your attachment and passion to UCSC and specifically to Stevenson College will grow during your time here.

Sincerely,

Matt O'Hara
Provost, Adlai E. Stevenson College
Professor of History