UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING NEWS (Spring 2014, Issue 9)

This newsletter is designed by your college advisers to keep you informed of important deadlines and alert you to programs and resources that may enhance your undergraduate academic experience.

Visit the UCSC College Advising Blog @ http://ucsccollegeadvising.tumblr.com!! This serves as an online version of the UCSC Undergraduate Advising Newsletter. Start following us today!!!

IN THIS ISSUE

• Final Exam Schedule: Monday - Thursday, June 9 - 12
• Do you need to request an incomplete?
• It is Never Too Early to Start Career Planning
• What is ACE?
• Honoring UCSC's Undergraduate Students
• Advising Tip of the Week: Prepping for Finals

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: MONDAY - THURSDAY, JUNE 9 - 12
Can you believe finals are here already??? The spring final examination schedule can be at: http://registrar.ucsc.edu/soc/final-examinations.html#c. You can read about "Final Examination Policies" above on this page. And you can also view the final exam schedule for fall 2014. Planning out your finals will help you to be able to prioritize your studying and allow you to feel more organized. Remember to take care of yourself during this time with healthy food, sleep, and little breaks now and then. Stock up on pencils, blue books and scantrons so that you will be prepared! Good luck!

DO YOU NEED TO REQUEST AN INCOMPLETE?
At the instructor's discretion, an incomplete grade notation may be assigned for work that is of passing quality but incomplete by the end of spring term. The deadline to complete the work must be negotiated with the instructor and must be no later than the last day of fall quarter 2014. Incomplete grade notations are typically given for emergency reasons or unforeseen circumstances, and if the course work is not completed by the deadline, the "I" lapses to an "F" or "NP". Because an incomplete grade carries no credit, talk with your college academic adviser about the possible consequences on your academic standing. If an Incomplete grade is truly necessary for your situation, you must make your request with your instructor by the end of the quarter. Faculty members generally appreciate any efforts you might make to contact them well before the end of the quarter.

IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO START CAREER PLANNING
Whether you are in your first, second, third or fourth year at UCSC, you can take steps to identify meaningful career goals. Click here for a four-year planner with suggested activities for each year to clarify your career interests and begin to take steps to enter the professional world. The Career center offers career assessments at UCSC and links to online career assessments, major handouts that link majors to careers, and much more. Click here to see a comprehensive list of all career services available to students.

WHAT IS ACE?
Are you thinking about majoring in a science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) discipline? Would you like to meet and network with other UCSC students with the same interests? Then ACE is the place for you!

The UCSC Academic Excellence Program (ACE) brings STEM students together in small discussion sections that accompany the large math and science lectures. This program helps you understand the lecture and textbook through concept specific worksheets that you and your classmates work on as a team. For more information visit the ACE website.

ACE is offering discussion sections for Fall 2014 in BIO 20A, BIOL 105, CHEM 1A, 1B, 1C, & 108A, MATH 3, 11A, 11B, 19A, & 19B, Math 23A, and PHYS 5A. Section space is limited. Apply online now HERE and be prepared to select your preferred section times. The ACE Office is located in Baskin Engineering 199.

HONORING UCSC’S UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
Students are recognized for their achievements in research and other scholarly activities during Student Achievement Week, June 2 – 6, 2014. Many presented their work publicly through a myriad of events -- everything from the Annual Print Sale, art exhibitions, and theater productions to a sciences and engineering poster symposium. For full schedule of events go to http://honors.ucsc.edu/saw/2014-schedule.html.
Advancing Tip of the Week: Prepping for Finals

As you wrap up your 9th week of spring, finals are waiting right around the corner. In two more weeks, the quarter will be over, and summer break will be here! But before you start daydreaming about the wonderful summer plans that lie ahead, make sure you are setting yourself up for finals success. You are on the home stretch, the final sprint to the finish line, so don't give up now! Here are a few tips that can help you stay focused on your finals prep:

1. **Take advantage of review sessions.** Find out if your professor or TA will be holding a review before the final. If so, do not miss it! This will give you the inside scoop for the test and the opportunity to ask questions and clarify any confusion before the final.

2. **Form a study group.** If you haven't done so already, form a study group with some of your classmates. You can meet a couple of times between now and the final in order to prepare. Group study can help you solidify your knowledge by allowing you to explain concepts to others, while at the same time, you will learn from your group members. Studying in a group also creates greater accountability. You are less likely to bail on your friends, than if you have a study date with yourself!

3. **Get missed notes from a classmate.** It is likely that you missed at least one class this quarter; if not, give yourself a pat on the back! If you did have to miss any classes, now is the time to ensure you have any missing notes or handouts from those classes. One of your classmates is likely to come through for you.

4. **Skim through missed readings.** Reality is, you were not able to get all of your reading done for every class. For the classes that seem to rely heavily on reading content for testing, go back and skim through chapters or sections that you may have missed during the quarter. Especially review chapters covering topics that were a big focus of discussion in class or that have appeared on previous exams.

5. **Find out what your current grade is.** Now is the time to review the syllabus on how you will be graded, or check in with your professor or TA after class or during office hours regarding your current grade in their class. Some may not be able to give you a hard and fast answer, but it is worth it to at least ask. Finding out this information will allow you to set a goal for your finals. This awareness could result in the difference of a whole letter grade.

This newsletter is produced by the UCSC Colleges Advising Support Team.