

## Pacific Academic Calendar 2009-2010

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| International Student Check-In Day - FALL        | August 17             |
| Transfer Orientation - FALL                      | August 18             |
| International Student Orientation - FALL         | August 18             |
| General New Student Orientation and Registration | August 19-20          |
| Classes Begin                                    | August 24             |
| Fall Student Break                               | October 9             |
| Thanksgiving Vacation                            | November 25-27        |
| Classes End                                      | December 11           |
| Final Examination Period                         | December 14-18        |
| International Student Orientation - SPRING       | January 7 (Tentative) |
| New Student Orientation and Registration         | January 8 (Tentative) |
| Classes Begin                                    | January 11            |
| Martin Luther King Holiday                       | January 18            |
| President's Day Holiday                          | February 15           |
| Spring Break                                     | March 8-12            |
| Student Travel Day                               | April 5               |
| Classes End                                      | May 4                 |
| Final Examination Period                         | May 6, 7, 10-12       |
| Commencement Weekend                             | May 14-16             |

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. What do I do once I arrive on campus?  
A. *Come directly to the Bechtel International Center to check in.*
- Q. Where can I buy computers, bikes, and other items I need?  
A. *Shopping trips to local stores will be available during check-in and orientation.*
- Q. What furniture is provided in my on campus housing?  
A. *Bed, desk, and dresser.*
- Q. Is there internet and phone available in my dorm?  
A. *An internet and phone outlet is available for every student in their room. However, telephones, internet cables, and phone lines are not provided by Pacific. You will need to bring those with you or purchase them once you get here.*
- Q. Is there wireless internet connection on campus?  
A. *All residence halls are equipped with wireless internet, and limited areas on campus are wi-fi accessible.*

# University of the Pacific Handbook for International Students

2009- 2010



University of the Pacific  
International Programs and Services (IPS)  
Bechtel International Center  
3601 Pacific Avenue  
Stockton, California 95211  
Telephone: (209) 946-2246  
Fax: (209) 946-2094  
E-mail: [ips@pacific.edu](mailto:ips@pacific.edu)

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Frequently Asked Questions

# University of the Pacific

Welcome to University of the Pacific! We at the Office of International Programs & Services (IPS) are excited to have you join us next semester. We created this handbook to help you prepare for your travels. This is a short guide to help you keep track of the things you will need to do between now and when you join us on campus. Enjoy this guide, prepare your things, and get ready for a great Pacific experience. We look forward to meeting you next semester.

Best Regards,

David, Shirley, Kathy, Kristina, Koura and Cathy

IPS Staff

## People & Offices You Should Know

### International Programs and Services (Bechtel International Center):

International Programs & Services (IPS) is responsible for all international students at the University of the Pacific. Office hours are . . .

Academic Year: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Summer Session: Monday ~ Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Fridays, 'til 1 p.m.)

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, all campus numbers are (209) area code.

### IPS Staff Directory

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| International Programs & Services Main Line              | 946-2246 |
| David A. Schmidt, Ph.D., Director                        | 946-2090 |
| Kristina Ordanza, International Enrollment Specialist    | 946-2091 |
| Shirley Redoblado, Int'l Student and Scholar Specialist  | 946-2247 |
| Kathy Cruz Rodriguez, Int'l Student Counselor/Programmer | 946-2092 |
| Koura Fabiny, Education Abroad Advisor                   | 946-2592 |
| Cathy Martinez, Budget and Office Administrator          | 946-7746 |

### Student Life:

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Emergency Line   | 946-3911 |
| Public Safety Office (Non-emergency Line)                    | 946-2537 |
| Student Victim Advocate (Emergency)                          | 403-0250 |
| Student Victim Advocate (Non-emergency line)                 | 946-2428 |
| Cowell Wellness Center Health and Counseling Services        | 946-2315 |
| Health Insurance Coordinator (Ranai Koch)                    | 946-2994 |
| Housing & Greek Life Office                                  | 946-2331 |
| Associated Students of the University of the Pacific (ASuop) | 946-2233 |
| Athletics Department   | 946-2472 |

# Checklists

## Pre-Arrival Checklist

- On Receiving Your I-20 or DS-2019 Document:
  - Check to see that program & personal information is accurate. If the information is not correct, please contact International Programs & Services. The document must have correct information before moving on to the next step.
- Pay \$200 SEVIS I-901 Processing Fee (does not apply for Transfer Students). Please visit [www.fmjfee.com](http://www.fmjfee.com) to pay the fee and for information regarding this payment. Keep the Form I-797 receipt.
- Schedule a Visa Interview at the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. A list of U.S. Embassies and Consulates can be found at [www.usembassy.gov](http://www.usembassy.gov). Each embassy or consulate has different procedures, so make sure to visit your regional office's website for more detailed information.
- The following documents are needed for the VISA Interview with the US Embassy or Consulate:
  - Valid Passport (Valid for at least 6 months)
  - Valid Form I-20 or DS-2019
  - Form I-797 (receipt for paying SEVIS fee)
  - Financial Statement from you or your sponsor
  - For a complete list, please visit the website of the embassy or consulate where you will interview.

## Port of Entry Process

- When you arrive at the port of entry to the United States, you will need to provide the following documents to the immigration officer:
  - Current Passport (valid for at least 6 months) with a US Visa
  - Original Form I-20 or DS-2019
  - Letter of acceptance from University of the Pacific
  - Financial Statement presented during your visa interview
- After you pass through immigration, please make sure you have the above documents and FORM I-94

## On-Arrival Process at Pacific

- Transportation: San Francisco Airport to Pacific, Stockton  
Note: Pacific does not provide transportation to campus  
A CAR SERVICE, STOCKTON (Shuttle Service): This is another local service that has picked up our international students in the past. You can call them at (209) 608-2902 and review their website at [www.acarservicestockton.com](http://www.acarservicestockton.com). Prices vary and group prices are offered. Please notify IPS if you plan to use either of the shuttle options.  
STOCKTON AIRPORTER (Shuttle Service): This service may be contacted at (209) 234-5700 or toll free 1-800-488-1999. This company provides 24-hour service. The fare costs vary (depending on the time you arrive) each way and the Airporter will drop you off near Bechtel International Center on our campus.  
AMTRAK (Train Service): [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)
  
- Transportation: Sacramento Airport to Pacific, Stockton  
SUPER SHUTTLE: This Blue Van can be contacted at (800)258-3826. The fair costs approximately \$63. Please notify IPS if you plan to use this option. For more information visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com)  
AMTRAK (Train Service): [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)  
GREYHOUND BUS: [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)
  
- Pick-Up Service once in Stockton: If you are arriving during the IPS office hours (Monday-Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm), we can pick you up from the Greyhound or Amtrack stations if you arrange it in advance (at least 2 weeks). Please contact IPS.
  
- Hotel/Motels: If you arrive in Stockton in the evening or on a weekend, it would be best for you to check into a hotel or motel for the night. Below is a list of local hotels that offer special rates to Pacific visitors. Just ask for the “Pacific Special Rates.” Please make a reservation if you are arriving early.  
  
COURTYARD by MARRIOTT ([www.courtyard.com](http://www.courtyard.com)) (209) 472-9700 or (888) 472-9700  
  
RESIDENCE INN by MARRIOTT ([www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)) (209) 472-9800  
  
STOCKTON HILTON ([www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com)) (209) 957-9090  
  
EXTENDED STAY HOTEL ([www.extendedstayhotels.com](http://www.extendedstayhotels.com)) (209) 472-7588 or (888) 398-7829

## What to Bring With You to the United States

- Here are some things to keep in mind when planning your stay in the States:

### Things to Bring with you:

- Clothes
- Immigration papers
- Towels & Washcloths
- Personal Items (Soap, Toiletries)
- Bathrobe
- Shower Shoes
- Decorations (pictures, posters)
- Small Sewing or First Aid Kit
- Bedding (Sheets, blanket, ect.)

*NOTE: Campus beds are Extra Long Twins*

### Things you can buy in Stockton:

- Iron/Ironing Board
- Hangers
- Cleaning Supplies
- Detergent/Dryer Softeners &
- Laundry Basket/Bag
- School Supplies
- Stationary
- Waste Basket & Liners
- Bicycle/Bike Lock
- Computer
- Desk Lamp
- Alarm Clock, Stereo/Radio
- Telephone
- Small Refrigerator
- Pillow(s) & Blankets
- Microwave
- Cable Cords
- Surge Protectors
- Television/VCR/DVD

Please note that you can buy the above mentioned items after your arrival or you can ship items to International Programs and Services at the following address:  
(Does not apply for exchange students)

### Your Name

c/o International Programs & Services  
Bechtel International Center  
University of the Pacific  
3601 Pacific Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95211 USA

\* Please note the above address can also be used to ship boxes in advance. Limited space allows only two medium boxes per student. It can also be provided to immigration officers at port of entry in the United States. In addition, it can be used as the label address on your baggage.

# Housing Options

## On-Campus Housing

### ADVANTAGES TO ON-CAMPUS LIVING

Besides the convenience of being close to classrooms and libraries, there are definite educational and social advantages to living on campus. When you live in residence halls, you are able to find more opportunities to improve your English and to learn about U.S. American culture. Having a roommate from the U.S. can be a valuable and memorable experience for you both.

### RESIDENCE HALL & LIVING COMMUNITIES ON-CAMPUS:

- Global Living 'n Learning Community (GLLC) in Southwest Hall
- Grace Covell Hall
- Cowell Hall
- John Ballantyne Hall
- Price House
- Eiselen House
- McConchie Hall
- Carter House
- Casa Werner
- Farley House
- Wemyss House
- Southwest Hall
- Jessie Ballantyne Hall
- Casa Jackson
- Ritter House

All Freshmen, Sophomores and Exchange Students are required to live on campus. Please see your "Life On Campus" guide included in the Welcome Packet for more information.

### UNIVERSITY OWNED APARTMENTS (Pacific has six apartment complexes):

- Monagan Hall
- Townhouses
- Brookside Hall
- Manor Hall
- McCaffrey Center
- Towerview

The apartment communities at Pacific offer a different housing option for upper-division (junior and senior) students. In addition to bedroom furnishings including a bed, dresser, desk and desk chair, these apartments provide living room and dining furnishings. Monagan and Brookside Halls feature Internet and phone connections in each bedroom and living room. All other apartment facilities feature at least one Internet connection per unit. Telephone service to Towerview and Townhouse Apartments is provided through SBC and is the responsibility of the resident. For

## Off-Campus Housing

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Some international students live in off-campus apartments or rooms in private homes. It may be in your interest to live near campus if you do not have a car. If you want to live off campus but you are unsure of which area is safe, contact IPS and we will help you. The Public Safety Office can also recommend safe areas.

Public transportation is available around town if you need to move further away. In addition, if you do not want to prepare your own meals, a meal plan is available to off-campus students. Arrangements can be made at the Campus Dining Office located on the second floor of Bannister Hall.

### HOW TO FIND OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Students find off-campus housing by referring to advertisements in local newspapers, searching the Stockton craigslist.org website, looking at the bulletin board in front of the Housing and Greek Life Office, and by asking IPS or other students who are more familiar with Stockton. You may have to sign an official lease or contract for your housing option.

## What to Expect

### Adjusting to a New Environment

Making a major transition in your life requires some period of time for adjustment to the new environment. Even moving to a new city, changing schools or jobs, anything that alters your accustomed patterns of thought and behavior can cause some "transition shock," which can be mild or severe depending on the circumstances.

You have probably heard of "culture shock." The term "culture shock" describes a specific type of reaction that can occur when people travel abroad or confront ways of life substantially different from their own. Culture shock is caused by the stress of entering and adjusting to an unfamiliar culture. To some extent, the degree of culture shock experienced by students varies depending on how different the country is in contrast to your own. Of course, personal factors and your goals for traveling abroad will influence how quickly and appropriately you can "fit in," and consequently, the level of culture shock you will experience.

Please visit <http://web.pacific.edu/x10227.xml> to learn more about adjustment issues. Please be aware this is written to prepare US students for their study abroad experiences.



Visit our FaceBook page (Bechtel Center) and send your request to be our friend! You may then view activities and events put on by IPS & our extended network of friends!

## Getting Involved On Campus

ASUOP (Associated Students, University of the Pacific) is the main student organization on campus. It represents students' interests and sponsors events and services for students. This is a good place to go if you have questions regarding events, services, and clubs. Pacific offers a wide variety of programs and events for students to attend, so please check <http://asuop.pacific.edu> for upcoming events. In addition, ASUOP often has trips to fun, local attractions which they invite all of you to attend. Many students take part in these opportunities, and this is a great way to meet others at Pacific.

**PACIFIC RECREATION** is a great place to go if you like outdoor adventures, sports, or working out. They offer great trips around the western part of the United States. Information is available at <http://web.pacific.edu/x457.xml>.

**CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS** are another great way to get involved on campus. There are many global clubs on campus such as the International Club, International Chinese Student Union, *Matsuri* Club, Korean Student Association, and more. For a detailed list visit <http://web.pacific.edu/x4001.xml>.

## Health Insurance

### HEALTH INSURANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Health insurance coverage is mandated by the University. All international and exchange students (except ISEP students) **must** be covered by the University's Health Insurance Plan or another approved insurance provider. Health insurance protects students from the high costs of medical care which may otherwise be prohibitive in obtaining appropriate or timely care. Health insurance may be used for health service office visits, diagnostic tests, or specific medical procedures performed at our on-campus clinic, Cowell Wellness Center (CWC), or any other health clinic, doctors' clinic, or hospital. CWC is staffed with a Health Insurance Coordinator, Ranai Koch, who can assist you with insurance-related issues or enrollment in the University's Health Insurance Plan. Please contact Ranai at [r\\_koch@pacific.edu](mailto:r_koch@pacific.edu) or (209) 946-2994.

### COWELL WELLNESS CENTER'S HOURS & CONTACT INFO

Fall - Spring: Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Summer: Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am - 4:00 pm; Friday, 7:00 am - 1:00 pm

Closed Weekends, Holidays, and University Seasonal Days

In case of an emergency, please call **946-3911** if on campus or **911** if off-campus.

If medical advice is needed after hours, call the Nurse Advice Line: 939-4534.

## Other Services IPS Offers

### GLOBAL LIVING & LEARNING COMMUNITY (GLLC) SEMINAR

The GLLC Seminar is designed to complement and enhance the intercultural environment of the GLLC residence hall. At weekly meetings, students will be actively involved in planning globally themed activities for the residence community. Events will include guest speakers, foreign films, community service projects and international cultural activities. Students will have opportunities to learn about international topics, discuss global issues and gain further understanding about perspectives from other cultures.

This 1-unit, 10-week seminar, offered during fall semester, is an excellent opportunity for international students to ease in to the American culture. International students will meet and work alongside American students on fun class projects.

### GAIN STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE!

**Pacific International Club:** This club works very closely with IPS to meet the unique needs of new international students as they adjust to American culture and college life. Helping to organize events and activities that educate the campus and community about international matters develops leadership skills and provides a fun way to get to know other international students as well as American students. Kathy Cruz Rodriguez, International Student Counselor/Programmer, is club advisor. Contact Kathy at [krdriguez@pacific.edu](mailto:krdriguez@pacific.edu) to get involved!

### International Student Ambassador:

During your second semester at Pacific, IPS would be delighted to have you serve as an International Student Ambassador to gain student leadership experience. If you are enthusiastic about helping new international students prepare for university life in the states, just like you received personal assistance with your transition to Pacific, contact Kristina Ordanza, International Enrollment Specialist at [kordanza@pacific.edu](mailto:kordanza@pacific.edu).

### SHOPPING TRIPS

When you arrive on campus, you might need to buy many things at the local stores in order to organize your room for comfort. Within the first week or two, we will provide you with several opportunities to go shopping at the local stores. If you plan on arriving late in the evening or at night, we recommend that you make arrangements to have your bedding sent to IPS in order to use it your first night. Please feel free to contact IPS if you have any questions.

*We are looking forward to meeting you in person.  
Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns  
during your preparation for studying at the University of the Pacific.*