Welcome Webinar: Mentorship Programs for New International Students

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Mentoring Program Webinar: 
Mentorship Programs for New International Students

Session Etiquette

• Please keep your microphone off/muted
• Please note that questions asked during the presentation will not be answered. Once the Q&A portion begins, we will start answering questions then
• Kennedy (LSE) will be monitoring the chat
• If your question is not answered at the end of the webinar, first review the ISS & LSE websites

• This session will be recorded. The recording and slides will be posted within 2 business days:
ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops
Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations, the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

The University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is “Moh’kins’tsis”, which we now call the City of Calgary.
Kirsty Gruber
Advisor, International Student Transition Support
International Student Services

• Advising to assist with getting settled in Calgary
  • Kirsty.gruber@ucalgary.ca
  • iss@ucalgary.ca

• Coordinate International Student Mentorship Program

• Coordinate New International Student Orientation
International Student Services

International Student Services (ISS) provides advice and programs to support all international students adjusting to studies at the University of Calgary and to life in Canada.

ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss

- Canadian Immigration Advising & Workshops
- Transitional Advising & Workshops
- Web Resources
- New International Student Orientation
- International Student Mentorship Program
- USpeak Global Program
- Global Families Program
- Social Events

International Student Services: currently providing remote advising only
Vicky Hirsche

Coordinator, Leadership and Training Programs

• Coordinate Leadership Programs including Emerging Leaders & Sophomore Leadership Programs

• vlhirsch@ucalgary.ca
Leadership & Student Engagement

- Orientation & Transition
- Leadership development
- Community Engagement & Volunteering
- Student Life
- [https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/leadership](https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/leadership)
Session Agenda

What is Mentorship
- Benefits of mentoring

ISS Program
- GPS Mentorship Program (formerly International Student Mentorship Program)

LSE Programs
- Emerging Leaders Program
- Sophomore Leadership Program

Additional Resources

Questions
What is Mentorship?
• Paired with someone with more experience in a certain area
• Exchange of knowledge and perspectives
• Empowering and supportive
Benefits of Mentoring

- Form Connections
- Ask Questions
- Support Finding Resources
- Feedback and Guidance
Group Pair Share (GPS) Mentorship
(formerly, the International Student Mentorship Program)
UCalgary International Student Services
What are the objectives of this program?

This is a term-based program:

• To welcome new international students to the University of Calgary community *remotely*

• To provide peer-advice about adapting to studying at the University of Calgary (remotely or in-person) and adapting to life in Calgary (*if not now, soon*)

• To build connections *among new international students starting their studies (online or in-person)* and current UCalgary students
Who is a mentor?

A mentor is a “trusted friend or guide”.

An International Mentorship Program Mentor is a student who has experienced life at the University of Calgary and wishes to be a resource or helping hand to another student as they navigate their own UCalgary experience.
Support Network across Campus

- Career Services
- Wellness Centre
- ISS
- Leadership & Student Engagement
- Student Success Centre
- Academic Faculties & Departments
- SU & GSA
- Community Resources
Who is a mentee?

A new-to-UCalgary international student starting studies in Fall 2021 in Calgary or remotely

If there is capacity, 2nd year students new-to-Calgary will be matched and/or welcomed to attend group events
How are participants matched?

Level of Study
(undergrad+undergrad; grad+grad)

Area of Study (program> faculty)

In Calgary or time-zone (if possible)

Shared Interests
Why might a mentee sign up?

- Get advice about settling in Calgary
- Learn about social things to do in Calgary
- Get advice about studying in their program or faculty
- Learn about UCalgary resources *(remote/in-person)*
- Meet new people and build social network
- Feel connected to a community *even (especially) if that connection is remote*
ISS Links

• General website:
  www.ucalgary.ca/iss

• GPS Mentorship Program Application link:
  https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/student-life/international-mentorship

• Questions:
  imentor@ucalgary.ca
LSE – Emerging Leaders Program

- First year program (your definition)
- September-April
- Workshops, socials
- Paired with a mentor
- Apply by Sept. 15 (or earlier!)
LSE – Sophomore Leadership Program

- 2nd-year and up (your definition)
- September-April
- Workshops, socials
- Mentor support
- Apply by Sept. 15 (or earlier!)
FAQs about ELP/SLP

Who can sign up?
- ELP: All incoming first years
- SLP: All students 2nd year and up

What to expect?
- Workshops, socials, support from a mentor

Time commitment?
- Approx. 2 hours a month from September to April

What if it's not for me?
- Opt-out anytime
LSE Links

• General website:
  https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/leadership

• ELP application link:
  https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_7O3x86PPdsMAafs

• SLP application link:
  https://survey.ucalgary.ca/jfe/form/SV_3QlLD4Kb3n23c5U
Set Yourself up for Success!

Welcome Webinars

- **July 20**: Finding off-campus accommodation
- **July 21**: Finances and planning for the year ahead
- **July 27**: Resources for students with families
- **Aug 5**: How to Prepare for Your Arrival in Calgary during the Covid-19 Pandemic
  - [https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops)

Additional webinars through SSC, Wellness Services, and Career Services!

Programs & Events

- **Graduate International Student Orientation**: Sept. 1, 9-10 a.m. MDT
- **Undergraduate & International Exchange Student Orientation**: Sept. 1, 10:30-11:30 a.m. MDT
- **Student panels, social events**, and **extended orientation workshops** throughout September!

[events.ucalgary.ca/international-student-services/](events.ucalgary.ca/international-student-services/) [ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/resources/international-student-orientation](ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/resources/international-student-orientation)
Questions?

*Please type them in the chat box.*