



Studying and Living in an American Research University

Fall 2020

Duration: Oct 1st – Dec 3rd, 2020

Time: Thursday, 6-7pm (Pacific Time)

Location: Zoom (link will be provided after registration)

Coordinator: Jun Wang, Assistant Provost, jun.wang@ucr.edu

Registration Link: http://bit.ly/UCR_VSE

The United States is home to many of the world's most prestigious universities. In fact, colleges and universities in the U.S. host more international students than any other country – around 1.1 million by the latest count. The rich ethnic and cultural diversity of people across the U.S. adds to the unique experience of living here; it is that diversity that fuels creativity and innovation in every sector of the working world. But living in the U.S. and attending an American university is not like it looks in the movies.

A research university is a university that is committed to research as a central part of its mission. They can be public or private, and often have well-known brand names. Undergraduate courses at many research universities are often academic in focus, rather than vocational, and may not prepare students for specific careers. Many employers highly value degrees from research universities because they teach fundamental life skills such as critical thinking and real-world problem solving. Public research universities, like the University of California system, initiate the fundamental research that drives scientific and technological discovery. We educate, prepare, and train the skilled workforce of tomorrow, including future schoolteachers and professors.

Learning Outcomes:

This course is a series of 10 workshops with topics that help you learn more about the experience of living in the U.S. and studying at an American research university. Students will learn about the American university system, behaviors and expectations in the classroom, employment options and career development, leadership opportunities and collaboration on campus, the basics of American culture and adjusting to new cultural environments, and other useful information to help them be successful when they study in the U.S.

Timeline:

Date	Class Description	Location
Oct 1 st	Introduction to American Research University	Zoom
Oct 8 th	Understanding the American Classroom & Cultural Adjustment	Zoom
Oct 15 th	Academic Honesty in the American Education System	Zoom
Oct 22 nd	Employment Opportunities & Career Development	Zoom
Oct 29 th	How to choose and apply for graduate programs?	Zoom
Nov 5 th	Leadership and Collaboration	Zoom
Nov 12 th	Personal Wellness: recreational activities, mental health, work-life balance resources	Zoom
Nov 19 th	Student Organizations & On-campus Activities	Zoom
Nov 24 th *	Living On or Off Campus	Zoom
Dec 3 rd	American Culture in a Nutshell	Zoom

*Note: November 24 will replace the 26th due to observation of the Thanksgiving Holiday

About UCR:

UC Riverside is on the rise. A member of the world's most prestigious public university system, ours is an institution powered by an entrepreneurial spirit, a record of innovation and results, and a commitment to excellence and collaboration across disciplines.

Situated on nearly 1,200 scenic acres in Inland Southern California, UCR's strong core programs and new and emerging disciplines are housed within three colleges, four professional schools, and more than 20 interdisciplinary research centers — and our campus continues to grow.

Our diverse, inclusive, and globally focused community is creating a new model for what a great public research university can achieve. With more than 25,000 students and 1,100 faculty — including two Nobel Prize winners and 13 members of the National Academies of Science and Medicine — we are pioneering research with economic, scientific, and social impact on the real-world challenges we face in California and beyond.

The reach and importance of our work is gaining in prominence. We placed among the top 1 percent of universities worldwide in the 2019-20 Center for World University Rankings — and we jumped 20 positions to rank No. 12 among all U.S. universities by Money Magazine in 2020.

But the benefits of being a Highlander don't stop with the stats — or within the bounds of our expansive campus. Being a part of the UCR community means you have access to the vibrant city of Riverside — and you're just a short drive away from desert, mountain, and coastal destinations, as well as dozens of major cultural and recreational sites.

More info available at: <https://www.ucr.edu/>