



SGROUP  
EUROPEAN  
UNIVERSITIES'  
NETWORK

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY - SGROUP AGREEMENT

### *Applications Academic Year 2015/2016*

#### **1. BASIC UNDERSTANDING**

The agreement with the University of California, Berkeley stipulates exemption from **tuition fees** for applicants from SGroup university members. All other expenses will be underwritten by the students, including registration/health insurance fee, visa documentation preparation fee and visiting student researcher fee.

**The fee waiver only applies for auditing courses**, not for concurrent enrollment which signifies that the students will follow **non-degree studies**, i.e., students under the agreement will not receive a degree from the University of California, Berkeley and will not be registered as full-time students at the University of California, Berkeley.

#### **2. ELIGIBILITY**

The exchange is open to **graduate students** (fifth year or above in some countries).

The number of exchanges to be awarded in the academic year 2015/2016 is **eight**. The duration of studies is **one semester**, either Fall (August-December) or Spring semester (January-May). Applicants have to clearly identify in their application the semester they are applying for.

Please refer to [http://opa.berkeley.edu/AcademicCalendar/calendar.aspx\\_](http://opa.berkeley.edu/AcademicCalendar/calendar.aspx_) for the specific dates of the academic year.

The acceptance of any participants to this programme will be at the discretion of the host institution.

**N.B.:** The agreement is open to all areas except: The UC Berkeley School of Law, The Haas School of Business, The Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism. The administration cannot require a department or school to accept non-degree exchange students if the receiving unit declares itself impacted. Some departments are perennially in that situation; others are there from time to time or for a particular sub-unit.

### **3. DEADLINES**

There is one deadline per year for applications to both the Fall and Spring semester. **The deadline** for the document submission is **4th March 2014**

### **4. PROCEDURE**

Applications must be sent electronically at [sgadmin@sgroup.be](mailto:sgadmin@sgroup.be) and in paper to the Santander Group Secretariat, at the following address:

**Santander Group**  
European Universities Network  
Rue de Stassart 119  
B – 1050 Brussels  
BELGIUM

Only **one** application is allowed per member university.

Further information about the administrative procedure can be obtained at the SG Secretariat. Applicants should get information about Berkeley from normal academic sources and define the activities (courses, etc.) that each candidate proposes to undertake.

### **5. DOCUMENTS**

The application packet should include the following documents \*:

1. Nomination Letter from Home Institution
2. Application form found on the UC Berkeley website. Please note that the form must be typed.
3. Statement of Purpose / Academic Interest - a letter from the student describing his/her academic preparation and plan of study abroad.
4. Curriculum Vitae
5. Official Transcripts (in English or with translation)
6. Grading Key (comparison with grades to Berkeley System) - subject transcript of grades and grading scale used by the home University; in case a first degree has already been obtained, the same information as above on transcript of grades;
7. Letters of Recommendation
8. List of Courses applicant wishes to take at UC, Berkeley

\* Please note that Documents 7 and 8 are optional.

*SGroup Secretariat*  
*1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014*

<b>ACADEMIC INFORMATION</b>	
Academic Year	<b>Fall Semester:</b> August 19, 2015 - December 18, 2015 <b>Spring Semester:</b> January 12, 2016 – May 13, 2016
Academic Calendar	<a href="http://opa.berkeley.edu/AcademicCalendar/calendar.aspx">http://opa.berkeley.edu/AcademicCalendar/calendar.aspx</a>
Department Exceptions/Restrictions	<p>The <b>Department of Economics</b> charges a \$2500 fee <b>per semester</b> for all visitors to the department. Students enrolling in courses via Concurrent Enrollment do not need to pay this fee.</p> <p>The <b>School of Information</b> <b>does not</b> accept auditors.</p> <p>The following departments do <b>not</b> participate in the GEO Exchange Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The UC Berkeley School of Law</b></li> <li>• <b>The Haas School of Business</b></li> <li>• <b>The Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism</b></li> </ul>
Auditing Courses	<p>Exchange students may audit courses at the permission of the professor. Please note that auditors may attend courses but will NOT be expected to turn in assignments/papers or sit for exams, as professors will NOT evaluate them. Professors cannot provide auditors with a grade at the end of the semester. <i>Exchange students seeking official credit for courses taken at UC Berkeley must enroll through Concurrent Enrollment (please see next section).</i></p> <p>Auditing courses is optional. If the applicant's primary interest in coming to UC Berkeley is to conduct research related to writing his/her dissertation, it is not necessary to take courses. GEO will provide auditors with an 'audit report' at the end of their time at Berkeley, which will list the courses that the student audited. It is possible for students to enroll in 1 or 2 courses (no more than 5 units) via Concurrent Enrollment with a J-1 visa (see fees below).</p> <p>After arriving on the Berkeley campus, auditors must pay a University Services Fee of \$500.</p> <p><i>*Students coming to UC Berkeley to audit courses or do research will enter the United States on a <b>J-1 Research Scholar visa</b>.</i></p>
Concurrent Enrollment	<p>The Concurrent Enrollment program allows students from international partner universities to enroll in courses offered at Berkeley for one or two semesters on a space-available basis, without applying for admission to a UC Berkeley degree program. <b>Students who wish to enroll with Concurrent Enrollment must take a full course load.</b> The Graduate Division at Berkeley defines a full course load as 12 units per semester. Effective the 2014 Fall Semester, Concurrent Enrollment will charge \$655 per unit. The Concurrent Enrollment program is administered by UC Berkeley Extension.</p> <p>Concurrent Enrollment: <a href="http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html">http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html</a>  Schedule of Classes: <a href="http://schedule.berkeley.edu/">http://schedule.berkeley.edu/</a></p> <p><i>*Students who enroll in courses via Concurrent Enrollment will enter the United States on an <b>F-1 visa</b>. It is <b>mandatory</b> that students who come on an F-1 visa enroll in a minimum of 12 units per semester.</i></p> <p><b>Concurrent Enrollment Fees (Fees subject to change):</b></p> <p><b>One Semester:</b></p>

	<p>Tuition (12 units): \$7860  International Student Fee: \$200  Cal1 Card/Concurrent Enrollment Fee: \$375  <b>Full Academic Year:</b>  Tuition (24 units): \$15,720  International Student Fee: \$200  Cal1 Card/Concurrent Enrollment Fee: \$375</p>
<p>Courses at Berkeley: Offered on a Space-Available Basis Only</p>	<p>GEO cannot guarantee that an exchange student will be able to audit or enroll in (via Concurrent Enrollment) every course they wish to take. Courses are offered on a space-available basis. Some courses may be impacted due to high enrollment of domestic students.</p> <p>Please be aware that not all courses listed in a department's curriculum are offered every semester. Student demand and faculty availability has a great effect on determining what courses are offered.</p>
<p>Language Requirements</p>	<p>Exchange students enrolling in courses via Concurrent Enrollment must submit a TOEFL score report of at least 90 IBT.</p> <p>Exchange students who are auditing and/or doing research do not need to provide proof of English language skills, <b>unless required by the department</b>. However, our office expects that our partner institutions will not nominate students for this exchange program whose English level is below a TOEFL score of less than 90 IBT.</p>
<p>Required Course Load for J-1 and F-1 Students</p>	<p><b>J-1 Students:</b>  Students auditing courses and/or doing research are not required to take a minimum number of courses. It is possible for students to enroll in 1 or 2 courses via Concurrent Enrollment on a J-1 visa.</p> <p><b>F-1 Students:</b>  In accordance with federal regulations governing F-1 students in the US, international graduate students must follow a <b>full-time and directed</b> course of study. <b>Full-time</b> means a minimum of 12 units per semester and <b>directed</b> means that for the most part the student must be studying within a single department. A minority of the student's coursework may occur in a separate though closely related department with the special permission of the host faculty at Berkeley.</p>
<p>Visa Requirements</p>	<p>Visas for incoming exchange students will be processed by UC Berkeley.</p> <p>Students coming to UC Berkeley to audit courses or do research will enter the United States on a <b>J-1 Research Scholar visa</b>:  <i>(J-1 visa) DS-2019 Processing/Shipping: \$450, J-1 visa: \$160</i></p> <p>Students who enroll in courses via Concurrent Enrollment will enter the United States on an <b>F-1 visa</b>:  <i>F-1 visa: \$160</i></p>
<p><b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b></p>	
<p>Housing</p>	<p>Housing is not guaranteed. Most exchange students spending a semester at Berkeley prefer stay at the International House. It has several advantages. The International House is ideally located at the edge of campus. Your furnishings and meals are provided; and you may confirm your housing before leaving home. The International House on the Berkeley Campus accepts reservations for one semester or more on a space-available basis. (<a href="http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/">http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/</a>)</p>

<p>Health Insurance for J-1 and F-1 Students</p>	<p>Exchange students are required to have health insurance that meets the U.S. Department of State's regulations. If their insurance does not meet the approved levels, they may purchase insurance through our provider. If their home insurance meets the U.S. Department of State regulations for health insurance, they may request an exemption from purchasing this insurance. Please see the UC Berkeley Visiting Scholars Benefit Plan found here: <a href="http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/index.htm">http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/index.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://vspa.berkeley.edu/visiting-researcher-scholar-health-insurance-and-requirements">http://vspa.berkeley.edu/visiting-researcher-scholar-health-insurance-and-requirements</a></p>
--	---

<b>USEFUL WEBSITES</b>	
Berkeley International Office	<a href="http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/">http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/</a>
Visiting Scholars and Postdoc Affairs	<a href="https://vspa.berkeley.edu/">https://vspa.berkeley.edu/</a>
Concurrent Enrollment	<a href="http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html">http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html</a>
UC Berkeley Visiting Scholars Benefit Plan	<a href="http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/">http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/</a>
University Health Services	<a href="http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/vspd/visitingscholar.shtml">http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/vspd/visitingscholar.shtml</a>
International House	<a href="http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/applicants/rates.php">http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/applicants/rates.php</a>
Cal Rentals	<a href="https://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/">https://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/</a>
Craigslist Apartment Rentals	<a href="http://sfbay.craigslist.org/search/apa/eby?query=&amp;srchType=A&amp;minAsk=&amp;maxAsk=&amp;bedrooms=&amp;nh=48">http://sfbay.craigslist.org/search/apa/eby?query=&amp;srchType=A&amp;minAsk=&amp;maxAsk=&amp;bedrooms=&amp;nh=48</a>
Visitor Services	<a href="http://visitors.berkeley.edu/">http://visitors.berkeley.edu/</a>
Getting to Berkeley	<a href="http://visitors.berkeley.edu/gethere/public_transit.shtml">http://visitors.berkeley.edu/gethere/public_transit.shtml</a>
Campus Map	<a href="http://berkeley.edu/map/">http://berkeley.edu/map/</a>