Your Student’s First Year:
Understanding the Research University & Advising Resources

ORIENTATION 2017
Who are we and what do we do?

UC DAVIS
Research University Mission

• Teaching
• Research
• Public Service
The focus of our presentation today is to discuss how we work together to encourage student success at UC Davis.
Who is “We” and what are our roles:

- **UC Davis:**
  - Provide your student with opportunities to learn from world renowned faculty and engage and with our campus community

- **Your Role:**
  - Support and empower your student

- **Your Student’s Role:**
  - Take ownership over their learning and engage in these opportunities
Your student’s role:

1. Actively **Learning** in the classroom
2. Use **Academic Resources**
3. Embrace **Co-Curricular Opportunities**
Why?

• Engagement in these three areas has implications for your student’s probability of succeeding.
  
  • Learning
  • Timely Graduation
  • Persistence and Retention
1. Actively learning in the classroom

- Student’s responsibility to own their education
  - Go to class-attendance not usually taken
  - Responsible for material even if you miss class
- Students are given a lot of autonomy
- Know the Student Code of Conduct
## Academic Differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>UC Davis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Semester</td>
<td>• Quarter</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Teachers</td>
<td>• Faculty, T.A.s</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Counseling</strong></td>
<td>• Advising</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Principal’s Office</td>
<td>• Dean’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grades – sent home</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grades – students only</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Class schedule</td>
<td>• Registration/Pass Times</td>
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<td>• Academic content</td>
<td>• Academic Rigor</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Attendance</td>
<td>• Participation</td>
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TEACHING

Methods

• Lecture Courses
  • 250-500 During Year 1 & 2
• Discussion Sections & Labs
• Smaller size in language, writing, and upper-division courses
• Technology utilized as a regular part of coursework
FACULTY CONNECTIONS

- Entrée to Education (Dining program)
- First-Year Seminars
- Faculty Evening Programs
- First-Year Aggie Connections
Benefits of Connecting with Faculty

- Critical thinking and analytical skills
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Leadership
- Global perspective
- Increased self-confidence
- Take research methods from the classroom and apply them to real-life situations
- Letters of recommendation for graduate or professional school
Tips

- Talk with your student before classes start and agree on expectations

- Students will receive the best education from world-renowned, cutting-edge faculty

  - Take advantage of the research university: networking, office hours and research opportunities
Questions to ask your student:

- What are you learning in class?
- What are some ways you’ve been engaging with your professors?
- How have you changed your study habits in college?
- What has your attendance been like in class?
  - Have you thought about how you would get class material if you missed class?
2. Use Academic Resources

- Student must utilize their resources to be successful
  - Academic Advising
  - First-Year Experience and RHAT Program
  - Tutoring
  - Major Exploration Tools
Academic Advising

- College Advisors
  - General Education
  - University Requirements
- Major Advisors
  - Major Requirements
- Faculty Advisors
  - Career, Graduate School, Internships Advice
- Peer Advisors
  - College Office, Major Office, Residence Halls
- Additional Advisors
  - EOP, Athletics, UHP, VSC, and many more
First-Year Experience (Starts with Orientation!)

- **Residence Hall Advising Team (RHAT)**
  - First-Year Experience, 4 Colleges and SASC

- **RHAT Program**
  - Programs designed to deliver information & advising when students need it

- **Liaison Program**
  - 1 Peer Advisor assigned to each residence community
  - Present program in community and communicate academic information

Student success is our success
Academic Advising Centers

- One in each housing area
  - Tercero, Segundo, Cuarto
- Academic Advising
  - Drop-in (no appointments)
  - Weekdays – daytime and evenings
- Tutoring: Math, Chemistry, Writing
  - Drop in group tutoring
  - Monday-Thursday evenings
Major Exploration

- Common for students to change majors, there is support and resources
  - Major blog
  - Major sort tool
- When students are in the “right” major, they are more successful
- Can change their major beginning winter quarter…and more than 80% will during their time at UC Davis
Tips

• Students MUST take advantage of academic advising resources!

• Get advising EARLY and OFTEN to ensure they are on track
Questions to ask your student:

• How did your meeting with your academic advisor go?
• What challenges are you experiencing?
• How did you feel about your first exam?
• Tell me about your favorite class.
• Why do you think your major is a good fit for you interests, talents and career goals? Are there other majors you are interested in exploring?
3. Embrace co-curricular activities

- Research
- Living-Learning Communities
- Student Organizations
Research…

Distinguishes a UCD education and many students do not realize it goes on all around them.

Be a knowledge creator!
Need help getting started?

The Undergraduate Research Center is here to help!

Explore, Discover, Create

Student success is our success
Living-Learning Communities

Living communities based on shared academic, cultural or career interest.

Foster academic success  Community building/friendship  Academic assistance

Individual development  Faculty interactions  Programming

Student success is our success
<table>
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<th>Living-Learning Communities</th>
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<tr>
<td>• African American &amp; African</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Aggie Business Leaders &amp; Entrepreneurs</td>
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<td>• Aggie Explorers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Asian Pacific American Theme House</td>
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<td>• Casa Cuauhtémoc</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Environmental &amp; Agricultural Sustainability Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Health Sciences Community</td>
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<td>• Middle East/South Asian</td>
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<td>• Multi-Ethnic Program</td>
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<td>• Music, Arts, &amp; Performance</td>
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<td>• Native American Theme Program</td>
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<td>• Rainbow Community</td>
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<td>• Wellness Community</td>
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<td>Nursing Club</td>
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<td>Society of Biological Engineers</td>
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Tips

- Encourage students to explore and pursue opportunities to apply the knowledge they are learning in the classroom: they need to be proactive!

- Bonus! Large institution *can* feel like a small community: live in a Living-Learning Community, join a student organization, get involved in research
Questions to ask your student:

• How you gotten involved outside of class?

• What have you done to seek out opportunities to apply what you are learning outside of the class room?

• Are you interested in any of your professor’s areas of research? What are they?
Bridge’s Transition model

- Your students' level of engagement could be dependent on how they manage their transition.
Final Tips

- All students will experience change and transition and each will progress at their own pace.
- There are no admission mistakes, your student should be here.
- Your student is responsible for engaging in class and using academic resources.
- Encourage co-curricular activities.
Thank You!

Welcome class of 2021!

Student success is our success