

Sophomore Newsletter



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Congratulations – you have finished another year at The Beach! Summer is a great time to recharge your batteries; gear-up for next year; and remind yourself why you wanted to come to college, what you have already accomplished, what you want to become, and what resources you need to get you there.

SPREAD THE WORD!

If you know of any high school seniors that are coming to The Beach this fall, tell them about the Learning Alliance. We want more great students in our program! Applications are available on the Learning Alliance website at <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/cla/alliance/> at the bottom of the “Prospective Students” page.

IMPORTANT SUMMER CONCERNS

Don't forget to pay your fees! See pages 16-17 of the Fall Schedule of Classes for more details.

Taking summer school? Here are some important dates to remember:

- CSULB Summer Session I: June 2 - July 11
- CSULB Summer Session II: June 23 - August 1
- CSULB Summer Session III: July 14 - August 22
- Campus closed on July 4 for Independence Day
- First day to register for over 16 units is August 1
- First day of classes for Fall 2008 is September 2

Take the Writing Proficiency Exam this summer!

The next test is Saturday, July 12 (sign up by Friday, June 20). Register online at www.csulb.edu/divisions/students2/testing/test_information/wpe/

Taking classes at a community college?

ASSIST (<http://www.assist.org>) can tell you which classes will count at CSULB. Don't forget to submit a transcript of community college classes taken to Enrollment Services (BH-101) to earn credit at CSULB!

Looking for a job? BeachLINK

(<http://careers.csulb.edu/beachlink.html>) is a one-stop shop to finding a job on or off campus. An on-campus job is a great way to feel connected to campus!

DO YOU WANT TO GET AWAY?

Well, next year is a great time to study abroad. In fact, 40 percent of students who study abroad do so during their junior year! Study abroad options range from one semester to a full year in another country, and many programs do not require that you know another language.

In order to choose a program that suits you, you will first need to define the goals you would like to achieve through the experience. For example, would you like to learn a language? If so, then you should not choose a program in which courses are taught in your native language. Are you looking for an opportunity to travel? Then finding a program in a fairly central location with good public transportation and ample free time to travel is an important feature to you.

You should also explore how program offerings apply toward your degree or to your education as a whole. Does the program relate to your major? Can you take courses that will apply to your major or general education requirements? Does the program give you the opportunity to take courses you might not otherwise have the opportunity to take at CSULB? Are there extracurricular offerings – organized field trips or pre-program language immersion courses – that can enhance your experience?

Misinformation and outright falsehoods keep many students from even considering studying abroad each year. Too many students mistakenly believe that there is no place in their academic plan or major for time abroad or that study abroad is just a luxury that they can neither afford nor benefit from. Au contraire!

The best place to debunk some of these myths is at the Center for International Education, located in Brotman Hall, Room 201. You can find out what programs CSULB offers and what requirement and prerequisites are in place. Check out the website at www.csulb.edu/cie for more information.