



SAN FRANCISCO  
STATE UNIVERSITY

# International

2023

# Year One

The perfect start  
to your degree





# Welcome

to International Year One at  
San Francisco State University

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# The Opportunity of a Lifetime

International Year One is the perfect way to start your degree at San Francisco State University.

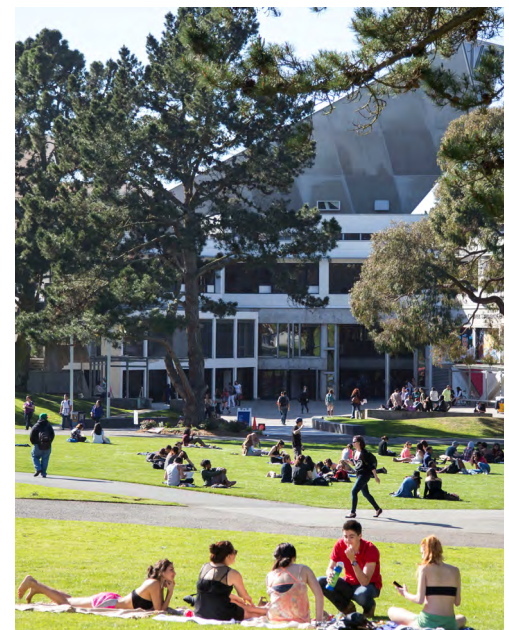
Located in the city of San Francisco across two campuses, San Francisco State University (SF State) is one of the most desirable places to study in America. In a globally influential city that's also home to some of the world's biggest tech companies, our students have the chance to build the connections and experience that will transform their careers.

## TAKING THE PLUNGE

At SF State, we understand that studying in another country can be daunting. That's why we are now offering international students a tailored course that helps ease the transition to U.S. undergraduate study.

As part of the International Year One course, you'll begin college-level study at SF State whilst also taking a range of specially designed modules that help build English language fluency and research skills. At the same time, you'll become part of a highly supportive international community, with dedicated staff to help you adjust to your new life as a U.S. university student.

This brochure will introduce you to some of the great things about living in San Francisco and learning at SF State. If studying for a degree in America seems like a dream... just take a look inside and see how it could become reality.





# A City Without Equal

Studying in San Francisco is the experience of a lifetime – and it provides opportunities no other city can.

With its iconic landmarks, sloping hills, mountainous skylines and cool Pacific climate, the city of San Francisco is not only world-famous – it's also one of the most beautiful places on Earth. In fact, our students think it's the perfect place to spend four years studying, learning and building a career.

## LIVING IN SAN FRANCISCO

Long known for its eclectic culture and diversity, San Francisco is a place where international students can feel very much at home. Due to its relatively small size, the city is also easy to get around, and cycling is a very popular method of transport.

Iconic sights such as the Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf and Chinatown will be the backdrop to your university life. Stroll the streets of Downtown, relax in Golden Gate Park and nearby Lake Merced, or check out the famous San Francisco Zoo – the possibilities are endless.

San Francisco is widely considered the  
**most important**  
city in the world for new technology start-ups

## Golden Gate Bridge

is the most-photographed bridge anywhere in the world

Despite the city's huge global influence, its population is just







**875,000**  
as of 2019

## A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Studying in San Francisco arguably brings you closer to the heart of the global tech industry than anywhere else in the world. The city itself is the home of Twitter, Airbnb, Uber and Lyft, but it is also within easy reach of Silicon Valley, where the headquarters of Apple, Facebook, Google and Tesla can be found. SF State students are often able to find internships or employment with these (or similar) companies when they graduate.

In other fields, San Francisco is also home to 30 international financial institutions and six Fortune 500 companies, as well as being a national hub for marketing, design and biotechnology. Whatever your skills and abilities, you'll have the chance to start a great career.

## SAN FRANCISCO BY NUMBERS

-  Founded in 1776 by Spanish settlers
-  Birthplace of the United Nations in 1945
-  San Francisco's Chinatown is the oldest in North America (and the largest outside Asia)
-  It is one of the most ethnically mixed cities in America
-  The city's has cool summers, mild winters – and 100 days a year of fog
-  San Francisco International Airport is less than 10 miles from SF State



# Why SF State?

World-class academics,  
a diverse campus – and  
an incredible location.








For international students, SF State is the ideal place to earn a degree and prepare for your future career. Rated one of the most diverse colleges in America,<sup>1</sup> our campus is a vibrant mix of different races, cultures and languages where everyone can feel at home.

27,000  
students

1,800  
academic  
staff

144-acre  
campus

## SF STATE: FAST FACTS

-  Founded in 1899
-  Ranked in the Top 20 colleges nationwide for best location (Niche.com)
-  Bachelor's degrees offered in 72 subject areas
-  200+ on-campus students clubs
-  Ranked ninth for intramural sports (Best Colleges)
-  16 Academy Award winners and 49 Emmy winners among SF State alumni
-  21 Pulitzer Prize winners among SF State alumni

You'll have plenty of opportunities to build expertise in your chosen field. Our students frequently go on to outstanding careers in film, business, the law, medical science, education, entertainment, and the tech industry – with a significant number also heading to local companies such as Apple, Google, Wells Fargo and Oracle.

At the heart of this success are market-leading departments like our Business faculty (top 5% nationwide<sup>2</sup>) and film school. With 21 Pulitzer Prizes, 49 Emmy and 16 Oscar winners and NASA astronauts among our alumni, our students know that with hard work, success can be theirs too.

## AFFORDABLE TUITION

Based in San Francisco, with all that the city has to offer, SF State is also part of the California State University system – meaning it is able to offer very low tuition fees to international students.

## GOING PLACES

SF State is ranked among the Top 25 universities in America for Social Mobility<sup>3</sup> – meaning that we're among the best at making it affordable for our students to graduate and obtain well-paying jobs.



# What is International Year One?

International Year One is a special first-year program that boosts your academic English language skills and helps lay the groundwork for future success.



Full SF State student status, with access to all university facilities from day one



Class sizes of approximately 18 students for supporting (non credit)

International Year One allows students to take credited SF State General Education courses alongside additional academic and English language instruction. The carefully curated credited course options allow first-year students to both discover new fields and further explore already strong subjects.

Once International Year One is completed, students proceed directly to their second year of degree study at SF State.

## SUPPORT AT EVERY STAGE

We understand how challenging it is to become an international student. Moving to another country, establishing a new life, tackling official processes and improving language skills are all difficult. That's why we provide constant support and guidance – not just from your first day at SF State, but from the moment you apply.

We have long experience in advising students on how to make a success of their studies and smooth out any practical or administrative difficulties – so you can ask a member of our team for help at any time.



Provides the best preparation for success in your subsequent studies



A selection of SF State credited courses

## AREAS OF STUDY FOLLOWING IY1:

- Liberal/Creative Arts
- Ethnic Studies
- Science/Engineering
- Health/Social Sciences
- Business
- Education

For a full list of the 72 subject areas you can choose from, see page 31.



In partnership with San Francisco State University, Oxford International operates International Year One supporting courses to prepare international students for their further degree studies. Oxford International is a unique private education provider that operates international colleges, online courses and English language schools across the UK and North America to create life-enhancing experiences for students worldwide.

**oxfordinternational.com**



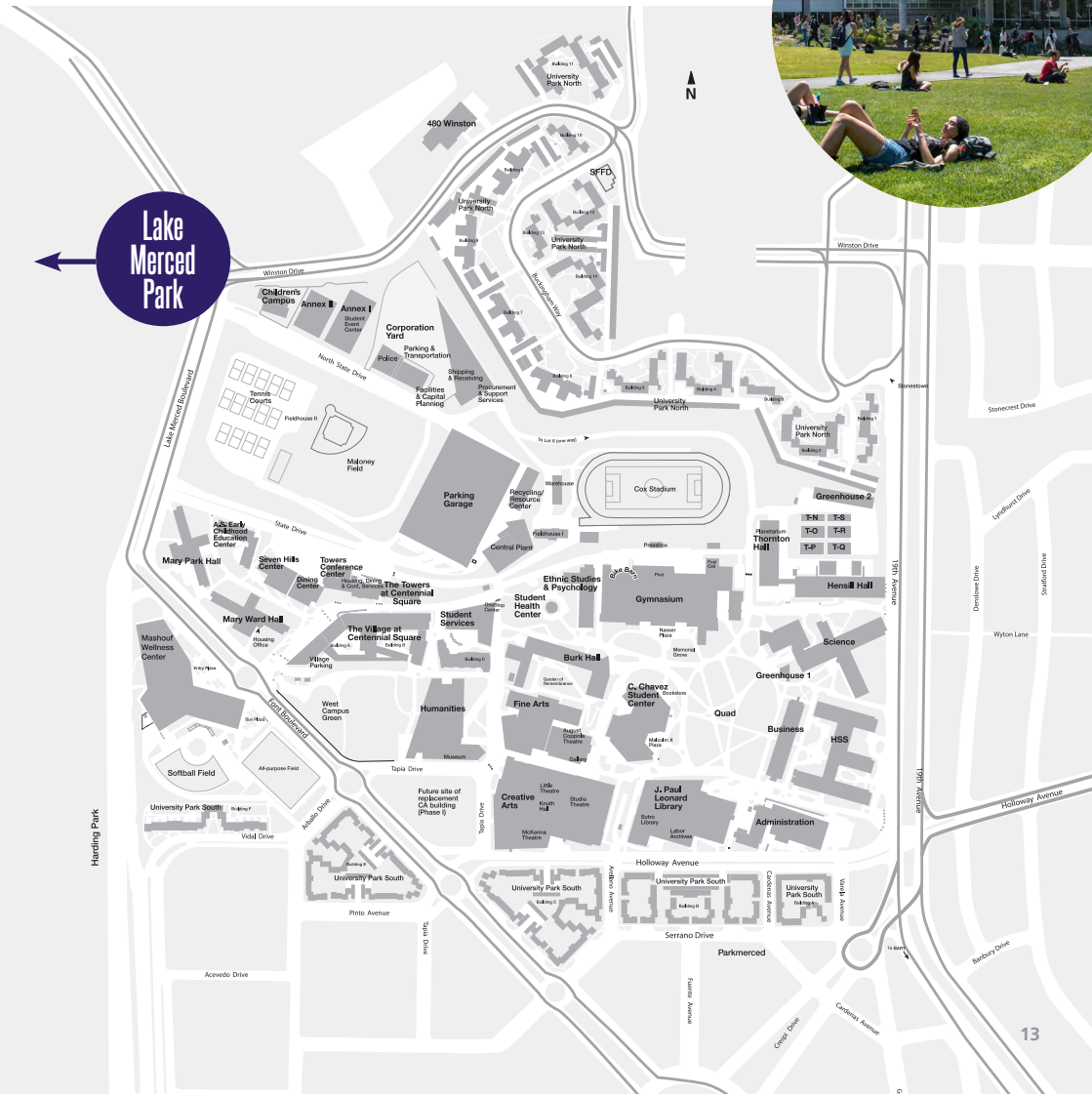
# An Unmatched Location

SF State is ideally situated in uniquely beautiful areas of San Francisco.



## SF State Main Campus

SF State University main campus is located just east of Lake Merced, a quiet and picturesque area of the city with acres of parkland for relaxation.





# SF State Downtown Campus

Located in the heart of downtown San Francisco, just minutes from the Embarcadero, Salesforce Tower and financial district, the SF State Downtown Campus includes 12 classrooms, mobile computer labs and student study spaces with state-of-the-art technology and easy access to the greater Bay Area. It's 30 minutes direct between campuses on Muni (public transit) - see more at [parking.sfsu.edu/transit/muni](http://parking.sfsu.edu/transit/muni)

The International Year  
One students will study principally at the Downtown campus but have access to the main University campus and from time to time be required to attend classes from both campuses.

  
Students receive a free Muni pass



**Address:**  
160 Spear Street,  
5th Floor,  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
+1 619 642 7285  
[cel.sfsu.edu/  
downtowncampus](http://cel.sfsu.edu/downtowncampus)





# Studying in America

Home to the world's finest universities, the United States is a destination for students seeking opportunities and education that is both broad and deep.

41%

of employers consider offering a higher salary to students who have studied abroad\*

## FAST FACTS



U.S. universities and colleges enrolled over 1 million international students in 2019



Half of the global-Top 10 universities are American\*\*



One-quarter of all international students in the U.S. are studying STEM subjects



International students contributed more than \$39 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support an estimated 410,000 American jobs in 2020

## FLEXIBILITY

Compared to many university systems around the world, the U.S. system allows students a great deal of choice in how they will begin, develop and eventually concentrate their undergraduate studies.

Instead of launching immediately into the study of a single subject, U.S. colleges and universities allow students to take a range of courses in various fields from the outset. This allows students to follow their intellectual interests, develop a broader understanding, and sample different fields to gauge their potential. Students can then choose their subject of focus – their “major” – at the end of their second year.

## DIVERSITY

The United States is home to over one million international students – the largest number of any country in the world. At SF State, students come to study from over 100 different countries, so you can learn about other cultures simply by making friends amongst your peers. You may even make lifelong connections that will open doors – not only in America, but also in your home nation and many other places around the world.

## EMPLOYABILITY

U.S. degrees have an international reputation, and employers particularly value U.S. graduates – both for the quality of their education and for the other benefits that come with studying in America.

The experience of studying overseas demonstrates resilience, adaptability and drive, as well as developing your understanding of the wider world and different cultures. In California, you'll also have a greater chance to participate in internships and work experience than almost anywhere else on the planet – and more opportunities to meet potential employers, both during and after your degree.

## POSTGRADUATE WORK EXPERIENCE

International students who have studied on an F-1 visa will also have the opportunity to engage in work experience or training within the U.S. after they have graduated. This is called Optional Practical Training (or OPT) and can be undertaken for up to one year after graduation (or two years afterward in the case of applicants with degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics). Training must be taken in a field related to the prior course of study.

1/3

of the global Top 100 universities are American\*\*



# An International Community of Learners

Every year, SF State welcomes students from all over the world to begin their studies with us.

SF State aims to become a truly global university, with a mix of students from every continent. This is a map showing the home countries of the 2019 - 20 student population.





# A Vibrant Campus Life

Whatever your passions, you'll never run out of ways to get involved at SF State.

## Clubs

athletics, Judo, Jiu Jitsu, Taekwondo, wrestling, water polo, swimming, rugby, tennis, volleyball, Cheer Club

## Facilities

indoor basketball courts, climbing wall, heated swimming pools, sauna, outdoor tennis courts, baseball ground, athletics, soccer

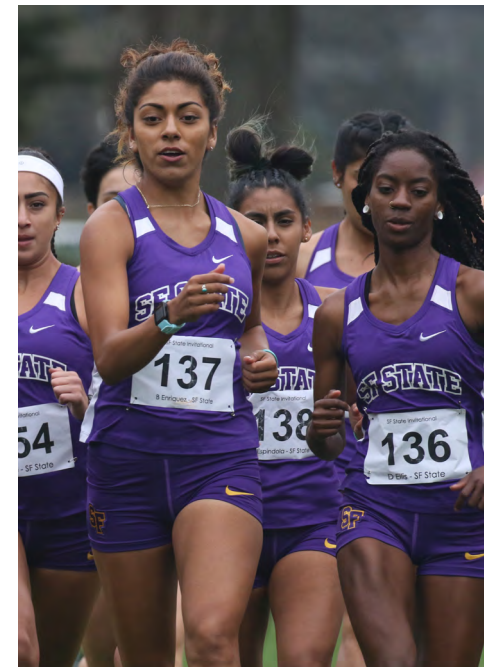
On campus, our energetic students run more than 200 clubs, focused on everything from politics to sports and religious organizations. At the heart of student life is our new Mashouf Wellness Center, the home of most SF State activities. It's also a major campus social hub, where student events range from workshops and careers fairs to movie nights and concerts.

Extra-curricular activities are also a great chance to build deeper connections with your peers by participating in smaller communities based on mutual interests. They can add a great deal to your time at SF State and can even help give you a broader perspective on your studies!

## SPORTS

Whether you play competitive sport or simply want to try out a new pastime, there is a club for everyone at SF State. Whatever your confidence level, we aim to give every SF State student the opportunity to enjoy and take part in sports.

Our university is ranked ninth in the U.S. for intramural (intra-university) sports, but we are also active in external competitions – for instance, both women's and men's athletics teams compete in the NCAA II, CCAA and RMAC conferences.





# Welcome to Your Future

From the moment you arrive at SF State, our Career Services and Leadership Development Center can help transform you into a highly employable professional.

Students graduating today face a more demanding job market than previous generations. Beyond academic achievement, students must now demonstrate commitment, dedication and interpersonal skills – as well as a firm grasp of the practical aspects of their chosen field. This means that most students will need to undertake work experience while still studying, as well as preparing thoroughly for the many different assessments they will face in any recruitment process.

## OUR SUPPORT

SF State's Career Service and Leadership Development Center offers a range of ways to ensure that every student can make the best start to their career.

- **Careers events:** These include a fall and spring career fair, a part-time job fair, and a graduate school fair. We also offer a wide variety of workshops to all current SF State students and alumni.
- **Resources:** The Career Service provides a number of careers-oriented webinars, as well as written and video guides on how to write resumes, apply for internships and approach graduate school admissions. Face-to-face practice interviews in various fields are also offered.
- **Partnerships with industry:** Collaborations with strategic partners like Genentech and the CSU Entertainment Alliance create many opportunities for students in the state's top industries.
- **Special courses:** The President's Leadership Fellows Course helps students develop soft skills including resume writing, interview skills and networking. Workshops are also provided on leadership, teamwork, critical thinking, unconscious bias and emotional intelligence. Alternatively, the San Francisco Venture Capital Fast Pitch Conference gives students a chance to pitch their ideas to venture capitalists and angel investors: to date, it has won millions of dollars in investment for student and graduate startups.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Part of the Career Service & Leadership Development Center's mission is to develop visionary, goal-driven and action-oriented student leaders. Because there is no one-size-fits-all leadership style, we aim to empower each student with the ability to access their own unique identity as a leader. Students will develop lifelong skills through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge and career preparation.







You can learn more about the different University Housing options at [housing.sfsu.edu](https://housing.sfsu.edu)

# Accommodation

International Year One students can choose from a range of accommodation options such as:

- Homestay
- SF State Housing
- Private Housing



For more information please scan the QR code to view the [accommodation guide](#)

## HOMESTAY

### StudentRoomStay

We welcome international students and encourage students to live in personally-matched homes with local families to get a once in a lifetime cultural experience. We provide students with a welcoming family and a place to call home while pursuing their education. SRS Concierge specializes in providing safe, easy and world-class homestay experiences. When students choose SF State Housing, they have the option of living in one of seven residence halls. All are supported by a network of support staff who work to ensure everything runs smoothly.

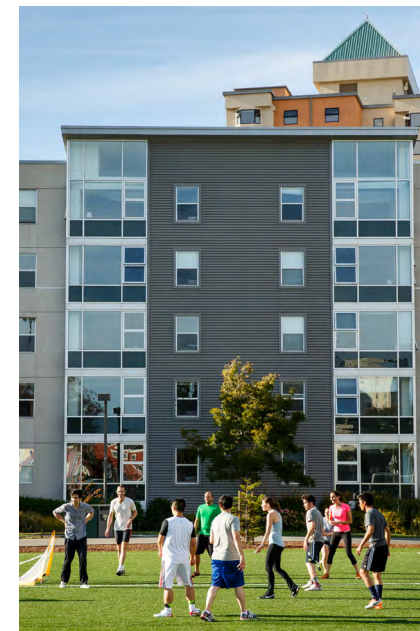
See more info at: [go.studentroomstay.com/oxford-international-education-group-san-francisco](https://go.studentroomstay.com/oxford-international-education-group-san-francisco)

## LIVING ON CAMPUS

Residents of SF State have described living on campus as a rewarding and enjoyable experience. SF State is positioned in an ideal San Francisco area—residents are within close proximity to public transportation and bike routes. SF State Housing offers move-in ready, pre-furnished bedrooms and unfurnished bedrooms, which allows residents to bring their own furniture.

### For students 19 and under,

SF State has residence halls with bath and apartment style 1 – 4 bedroom/ 1-2 bathroom units. Information about costs can be found [here](#).







Our residential communities have a network of support staff who work to ensure that your on-campus living environment supports your studies.

# SF State Residences



## MARY WARD HALL (pictured above)

- Traditional residence halls
- 9-month lease
- Furnished double occupancy dorm rooms
- Common gender-specific showers and bathrooms in each floor
- Meal plan required

See more info at:  
[housing.sfsu.edu/mary-ward-hall](https://housing.sfsu.edu/mary-ward-hall)

## MARY PARK HALL

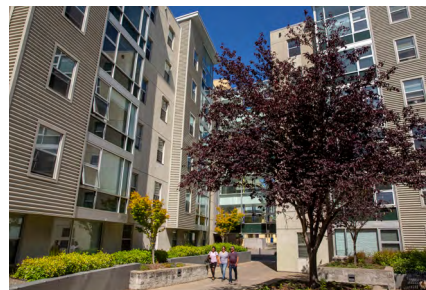
- Traditional residence halls
- 9-month lease
- Furnished double occupancy dorm rooms
- Common gender-specific showers and bathrooms in each floor
- Meal plan required

See more info at:  
[housing.sfsu.edu/mary-park-hall](https://housing.sfsu.edu/mary-park-hall)

## TOWERS JUNIOR SUITES

- 9-month lease
- Furnished double occupancy suites, with private bathrooms and no kitchen
- Meal plan required

See more info at:  
[housing.sfsu.edu/jr-suites-0](https://housing.sfsu.edu/jr-suites-0)



## VILLAGE AT CENTENNIAL SQUARE

(pictured left)

- 9-month lease
- 2–3-bedroom apartment, with 2 bathrooms, kitchen, and a living/dining room
- Double junior, double standard and single occupancy rooms may be available
- Meal plan required

## TOWERS AT CENTENNIAL SQUARE

- 9-month lease
- Furnished 1-2 bedroom apartment, with kitchenettes, living areas, bathroom and storage areas
- Double and triple occupancy rooms available
- Meal plan required.

See more info about Centennial Square residences at: [housing.sfsu.edu/village-centennial-square](https://housing.sfsu.edu/village-centennial-square)

For students 19 and over, SF State has a wide array of low- and high-rise apartment style housing ranging from 1–4 bedrooms/ 1-2 bathroom apartments.

## UNIVERSITY PARK NORTH & SOUTH

- 9-month lease
- 1-3 bedrooms, furnished units in town house with a kitchen, living/dining, semi-private patio, and 1 or 2 bathrooms
- Meal plan may be required

See more info at:  
North: [housing.sfsu.edu/university-park-north](https://housing.sfsu.edu/university-park-north)  
South: [housing.sfsu.edu/university-park-south](https://housing.sfsu.edu/university-park-south)



## MANZANITA SQUARE (pictured above)

- 12-month lease
- 1 –4 bedrooms, furnished units with a kitchen, living/dining and 1 or 2 bathrooms
- Meal plan optional

See more info at:  
[housing.sfsu.edu/Manzanita-Square](https://housing.sfsu.edu/Manzanita-Square)





# Courses


International Year One offers a mix of credit-bearing SF State courses and non-credit courses designed to boost your English language study skills.

The combination of courses you take in International Year One depends on your level of English language skills at the outset:

- **Students with the minimum 4.5 IELTS / 45 TOEFL iBT (or equivalent)** will be enrolled in International Year One for 3 terms. The first term will focus primarily on gaining English language and academic skills through our non-credit courses (29 hours per week). You will also experience your first credit-bearing course – Living in San Francisco (1 unit).
- **Students with an English proficiency score of 5.0 IELTS / 50 TOEFL iBT (or equivalent) and 5.5 IELTS / TOEFL – 55** will be enrolled in International Year One for 2 terms, beginning their first term with a combination of non-credit English language courses (10-18 hours per week) and 7-11 units of credit-bearing coursework.

Most students will complete International Year One having earned 18 - 24 credits towards their SF State degree.

As you progress through International Year One, the hours spent on English language instruction gradually decrease, while the hours of credit-bearing coursework increase – until you matriculate into your second year at SF State with a full schedule of credit-bearing coursework.



SF State's  
Bachelor's degrees  
are offered in

**72**  
subject areas

**1/4**

of all international  
students in the U.S.  
are studying STEM  
subjects





## NON-CREDIT COURSES

International Year One non-credit courses are designed to supplement and support your wider studies at SF State. They cover a wide range of topics including:

- English for Academic Purposes to strengthen and develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, and critical thinking in the university context.
- Academic acculturation on matters such as plagiarism, study skills, collaboration, critical thinking, active class participation, course requirements/expectations, and research
- Small group seminars to support the content of the credit-bearing courses
- Living in San Francisco

## Extra Support

Our full-time student services manager will also be on campus to provide International Year One students with ongoing assistance and guidance. This support covers academic issues as well as practical, social and emotional needs arising from the transition to studying in the U.S.

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

<b>Liberal/Creative Arts</b>	Italian
American Studies	Japanese
Anthropology	Journalism
Art	Liberal Studies
Art History	Music
Broadcast & Electronic Communication Arts	Philosophy
Chinese	Philosophy & Religion
Cinema	Political Science
Classics	Spanish
Communication Studies	Theatre Arts
Comparative & World Literature	Women & Gender Studies
Dance	<b>Ethnic Studies</b>
English	Africana Studies
French	American Indian Studies
German	Asian American Studies
History	Latina/Latino Studies
Humanities	Race & Resistance Studies
International Relations	

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

<b>Health/Social Sciences</b>	<b>Science &amp; Engineering</b>	Environmental Science	Management
Apparel Design & Merchandising	Applied Mathematics	Physics	Marketing
Environmental Studies	Biochemistry	Statistics	
Health Education	Biology	<b>Business</b>	<b>Liberal &amp; Creative Arts</b>
Interior Design	Chemistry	Accounting	Industrial Design
Nutrition & Dietetics	Computer Science	Business (General)	Visual Communication Design
Recreation, Parks & Tourism Administration	Earth Sciences	Business Finance	
	Civil Engineering	Hospitality & Tourism	<b>Education</b>
	Computer Engineering	Information Systems	Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences
	Electrical Engineering	International Business	
	Mechanical Engineering		

## Areas of Study

Once you have completed International Year One and matriculated into your second year at SF State, you can begin to choose from 72 different majors for your final degree.

### Science/Engineering

Biology  
Chemistry  
Earth Sciences  
Family & Consumer Sciences  
Geography  
Mathematics  
Modern Jewish Studies  
Physics

### Health/Social Sciences

Child & Adolescent Development  
Criminal Justice Studies  
Environmental Studies  
Sociology  
Urban Studies & Planning

### Business

Economics  
Labor & Employment Studies



# What You Will Study

Through a tailored combination of study, you will learn social, academic, and professional skills that will help you succeed in your studies at SF State.

## AT A GLANCE

You can earn and transfer up to 24 units (credits) to your SF State Bachelor's degree.

	IELTS 4.5 Term 1	IELTS 4.5 Term 2 IELTS 5.0 + 5.5 Term 1	IELTS 4.5 Term 3 IELTS 5.0 + 5.5 Term 2
Credit	Living in San Francisco (Credits: 1)	Writing the First Year: Global Perspectives of Multilingual Speakers Stretch I (Credits: 4)  + one Mathematics class depending on desired major (Credits: 3-4)  Living in San Francisco (Credits: 1): IELTS 5.0 + 5.5 Term 1 students only	Writing the First Year: Global Perspectives of Multilingual Speakers Stretch II (Credits: 4)  Critical Thinking and the Ethnic Studies Experience (Credits: 3)  + one-two General Education courses (Credits: 3)
Non-Credit	+ University support classes with a total of 24hrs study	+ University support classes with a total of 18hrs study	+ University support classes with a total of 12-14hrs study
Total approx. hrs/wk	25hrs	28hrs	24-30hrs

## FIRST TERM OF STUDY FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTER AT IELTS 4.5:

IELTS 4.5

Term 1

Below details the courses you will study in your first term.

### Living in San Francisco (Credits: 1)

Learn about the historical, geographic, and environmental, socio-cultural, and political context of the SF Bay Area that draws people to this place.

### + University support classes with a total of 24hrs study:

- Integrated Skills Course
- Immersive Experience
- English for Academic Purposes
- Academic Success Skills
- Academic Support

## FIRST TERM OF STUDY FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTER AT IELTS 5.0 AND SECOND TERM OF STUDY FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTERED AT IELTS 4.5:

IELTS 4.5

Term 2

IELTS 5.0

Term 1

IELTS 5.5

Term 1

Below details the applicable courses you will study in this term.

### Living in San Francisco (Credits: 1)

Learn about the historical, geographic, and environmental, socio-cultural, and political context of the Bay Area that draws people to this place.

### Writing the First Year: Global Perspectives of Multilingual Speakers Stretch I (Credits: 4)

The first semester of the stretch version of the First-Year Writing Seminar for multi-lingual students. Focused on developing the academic reading and writing skills necessary for university coursework.

\*Students will need to meet additional requirements before being able to take one of these classes.

### + one of the following Mathematics classes depending on desired major:\*

- Business Calculus (Credits: 3)
- Elementary Statistics (Credits: 3)
- Pre-Calculus (Credits: 4)
- Calculus I (Credits: 4)
- Calculus with Business Applications (3 credits)

### + University support classes with a total of 18hrs study:

- Immersive Experience
- High Intermediate English for Academic Purposes
- Academic Success Skills
- Academic Support





## FINAL TERM OF STUDY:

Below details the courses you will study in your final term of your Pathway Program:

### Writing the First Year: Global Perspectives of Multilingual Speakers Stretch II (Credits: 4)

Students will need to have achieved a C- or better in the first term of this class. The second semester of this class will allow extra time to revisit and practice reading and writing strategies to improve English fluency.

### Critical Thinking and the Ethnic Studies Experience (Credits: 3)

Basic skills involved in understanding, criticizing, and constructing arguments by using materials reflective of experiences of ethnic/racial groups in the U.S.

#### + One - two of the following General Education Courses

- Fundamentals of Oral Communication (Credits: 3)
- Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis (Credits: 3)
- Survey of U.S. History for International Students (Credits: 3)

#### + University support classes with a total of 12-14hrs study

- Immersive Experience
- Advanced English for Academic Purposes
- Academic Success Skills
- Academic Support

## University Support Classes

### Integrated Skills Course

Students will develop their ability to master everyday English communication skills in an American context, socially, professionally, and academically.

### English for Academic Purposes

The course teaches students the English language and critical thinking skills needed to achieve academic success according to American university expectations.

- EAP High Intermediate: Minimum of 5.0 IELTS or equivalent
- EAP Advanced: Minimum of 5.5 IELTS or equivalent

### Academic Success Skills

This course will focus on the social, academic, and professional skills required to succeed in an American higher education setting and on the campus of San Francisco State University.

### Academic Support

In a small group, students are encouraged to talk, think, and share more readily than in a larger group.

### Immersive Experience

SF State offers a range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities that ensure all international students enjoy a truly immersive experience, nurturing individual success and community connections.





# Admission Requirements

Before admission to International Year One, applicants must satisfy our minimum requirements for English language skills and academic achievement.



## REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL YEAR ONE STUDENTS

To be admitted to SF State, applicants must demonstrate a minimum English proficiency score of 4.5 IELTS / 45 TOEFL iBT (or equivalent), as well meet or exceed, the academic entry criteria listed on pages 38 to 41.

Students' level of English language skills at the outset will also determine their route through International Year One. Those with an English proficiency score of 5.0 IELTS / 50 TOEFL iBT (or equivalent) will be able to take standard credit-bearing courses from the beginning of their first year, while those with lower scores will first receive a more intensive course of English language instruction. (For further details, see the previous section on Courses.)

## REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER TO SF STATE – YEAR 2

To complete International Year One and matriculate into their second year at SF State, students must successfully complete a minimum of 18 academic units earning a "C" (2.0) Grade Point Average or higher and demonstrate English Proficiency by earning a 2.0 GPA and a CR or C– or better in ENG 202.



## ENGLISH ENTRY CRITERIA

The following English proficiency exams and levels accepted for entry into the International First Year at SF State:

International Year One	IELTS	ELLT	TOEFL iBT*
<b>3 Terms</b>	4.5	3	45
<b>2 Term Advanced</b>	5.5	5	55
<b>2 Term Standard</b>	5	4	50

Alternatively, applicants who are able to demonstrate 2 years of full-time academic study in the following countries where the language of instruction was English, are **exempt from supplying an English proficiency exam for admission** into the International First Year at SF State:

Antigua	Ghana	Nigeria	Swaziland
Australia	Grand Cayman Islands	Northern Marianas	Tanzania
Bahamas	Grenada	Palau	Trinidad & Tobago
Barbados	Ireland	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
Belize	Jamaica	Scotland	United States
Bermuda	Kenya	Sierra Leone	Virgin Islands
Botswana	Lesotho	South Africa	Wales
Canada	Liberia	St. Kitts	Zambia
England	Malawi	St. Lucia	Zimbabwe
Gambia	New Zealand	St. Vincent & Grenadines	

Correct at time of print- subject to change.



# Academic Entry Criteria for International Year One at SF State

COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Albania</b>	High school GPA 7 out of 10
<b>Algeria</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School, Azhar certificate, or Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement Secondaire with 60% average or 12
<b>Argentina</b>	Bachiller + Certificado de Estudios/Notas/Calificaciones with a 6.5 average
<b>Australia - Australian Capital Territory</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with a C average
<b>Australia - New South Wales</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with Band 4 or 70 HSC Marks
<b>Australia - Northern Territory</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with a C average or 14
<b>Australia - Queensland</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with SA/HA (Sound Achievement/High Achievement)
<b>Australia - South Australia</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with a C average or 14
<b>Australia - Tasmania</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with SA or 9
<b>Australia - Victoria</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with C average
<b>Australia - Western Australia</b>	Year 12 Certificate + Record of Achievement with C average
<b>Austria</b>	Abschlussprüfungszeugnis when studied for 2 years with a minimum grade of 3 OR Matura minimum average of 3
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Successful completion of complete secondary education with 3 average or 70%
<b>Bahrain</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 60% average
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) with 45% average
<b>Botswana</b>	Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education with a D average
<b>Belgium</b>	Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur minimum (French speaking) Diploma van Secundair Onderwijs (Dutch speaking) Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts (German speaking) minimum 14/20 (70%) or 7/10 (70%)
<b>Brazil</b>	Brazilian Secondary School Leaving Certificate (Certificado de Ensino Médio) with 7
<b>Brunei</b>	General Certificate of Education – Ordinary and Advanced Level with Third class Honours
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Diploma of Completed Secondary Specialised Education OR Diploma of Completed Secondary Education - Minimum overall grade of 3/6

COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Cambodia</b>	Baccalauréat or Certificate of Upper Secondary Education exam results with a D average
<b>Cameroon</b>	Baccalauréat or Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement Secondaire with 12
<b>Canada - Alberta</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 65%
<b>Canada - British Columbia</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 73%
<b>Canada - Manitoba</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - New Brunswick</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 65%
<b>Canada - Northwest Territories</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 65%
<b>Canada - Nova Scotia</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - Nunavut</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 65%
<b>Canada - Ontario</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - Prince Edward Island</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - Quebec</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 80%
<b>Canada - Saskatchewan</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 70%
<b>Canada - Yukon</b>	Successful completion of grade 12 with 73%
<b>Chile</b>	Licencia de Educacion Media (academic) with 5
<b>China</b>	Senior Middle School Graduate Certificate with a 75% average
<b>Colombia</b>	Titulo de Bachiller with 7.5 average
<b>Croatia</b>	Svjedodžba o Maturi (Matura Certificate) with minimum grades of 3
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	Vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) with a minimum of 3
<b>Denmark</b>	Bevis for Studentereksamen STX (Secondary Education Graduation Certificate)/ Bevis for Højere Teknisk Eksamen (HTX) (Higher Technical Examination Certificate)/Bevis for Højere Handelseksamen (HHX) (Higher Commerce Examination)/Bevis for Højere Forberedelseksamen (HF) (Higher Preparatory Examination Certificate with minimum grade 7
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	80% or above
<b>Ecuador</b>	Bachiller with a 7
<b>Egypt</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 65% average
<b>Estonia</b>	Gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) <b>OR</b> Lõputunnistus kutsekeskhariduse omandamise kohta (Vocational Secondary Education Certificate) with minimum overall grade of 3



COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Fiji</b>	Fiji School Leaving Certificate (Form 6) with a 5
<b>France</b>	Baccalauréat Général with an average score of 12
<b>Germany</b>	VET Qualification: Berufsfachschulabschluss (Mittlerer Schulabschluss) (from 2013) - Overall GPA of 3.0 VET Qualification: Berufsschulabschluss / Berufsfachschulabschluss - Overall GPA of 3.0
<b>Ghana</b>	West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination with C4 average
<b>GREECE</b>	Upper Secondary School (Lykeio) Leaving Certificate (Apolytirio) Overall of 13
<b>Honduras</b>	Bachillerato or Bachiller Técnico, minimum grade needed is 81%
<b>Hong Kong</b>	HKDSE overall average at a minimum level 3
<b>Hungary</b>	Érettségi Bizonyítvány (Matura) Secondary Education Graduation Certificate school evaluation: 3/5 Szakközépiskola Érettségi Bizonyítvány (Vocational Secondary School Leaving Certificate) with minimum grade of 3/5
<b>Iceland</b>	Stúdentspróf (from Gymnasium) (Matriculation Certificate) /Stúdentspróf (post-vocational) (Matriculation Certificate):7/10 Lokapróf á framhaldsskólastigi (Upper secondary school leaving examination): 7/10
<b>India</b>	All India Senior Secondary Certificate 50%
<b>Indonesia</b>	SMA 3 with an average grade of 7 or 70%
<b>Iran</b>	Peesh-daneshgahii (pre-university) + Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education with 14 average
<b>Iraq</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School or Azhar certificate with 70% average
<b>Ireland</b>	Leaving Certificate Higher level three subjects average grades H4 (60%)
<b>Israel</b>	Teudat Bagrut with 7 or 75% average
<b>Italy</b>	Diploma di Esame di Stato with overall of 76/100
<b>Japan</b>	Kotogakko Sotsugyo Shosho (Upper Secondary School Leaving Certificate) with 3.5 average
<b>Jordan</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 70% average
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Successful completion of Attestat with 75% average or 3.5 on 5 point scale
<b>Kenya</b>	Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) with a C+ mean grade
<b>Korea, Republic of (South Korea)</b>	Korean Ranking equivalent grade 4.9 OR Korean GED 70
<b>Kuwait</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 80% average
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Kyrgyzstan credential: Certificate of Secondary Education with 3.5 or higher
<b>Laos</b>	Baccalaureat II with a 14 average
<b>Latvia</b>	Atestāts par vispārējo vidējo izglītību (Certificate of General Secondary Education) OR Diploms par arodizglītību (Diploma of Vocational Education) with Minimum grade 6/10
<b>Lithuania</b>	Pagrindinio Išsilavinimo Pažymėjimas (Basic School Leaving Certificate) Minimum Grade of 6.
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Certificat de Fin d'Études Moyennes with no less than 30 in each subject
<b>Macau</b>	Form 6 with minimum grade average of 60%

COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Malaysia</b>	SPM with C+ or 8/10 average
<b>Malawi</b>	Successful completion of MSCE with 6 average
<b>MALTA</b>	Secondary Education Certificate pass (4/7). Matriculation Certificate Examination /Advanced Matriculation Certificate Examination:pass (grade C)
<b>Mauritius</b>	See GCE/ O and AS/A LEVEL requirements
<b>Mexico</b>	Certificado de Bachillerato with a 7.5 average
<b>Moldova</b>	Diploma de bacalaureat with exam grade of 7 or higher
<b>Mongolia</b>	12-year School Leaving Certificate (Gerchilgee) with 80% average
<b>Morocco</b>	Successful completion of Baccalauréat with a 12 average
<b>Myanmar</b>	Basic Education High School Examination (BEHSE) + AGTI Certificate/Diploma of Education/Certificate of Education: 50%
<b>Nepal</b>	Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) with 60% average or 2.8 GPA (Use grade type on transcript, do not convert).
<b>Netherlands</b>	MBO Middenkaderopleiding (Level 4) - min 6 Hoger Algemeen Voortgezet Onderwijs (HAVO) diploma - min 6 Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) (Gymnasium A/B and Atheneum A/B and Lyceum) diploma) - min 6
<b>Nigeria</b>	WAEC/NECO/IGCSE with Grade C average
<b>Norway</b>	Vitnemål fra den Videregående Skole (Leaving Certificate from Upper Secondary School) with minimum overall grade of 3
<b>Oman</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 80% average
<b>Pakistan</b>	Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) with 50% average
<b>Panama</b>	Diploma de Bachiller with 81% average
<b>Peru</b>	Bachillerato Académic with 12 average
<b>Philippines</b>	High School Diploma with 85% average
<b>Poland</b>	Świadectwo Dojrzałości Certificate of Maturity (Matura) Pass Matura with a minimum average of 3/6
<b>Portugal</b>	Certificado de fim de Estudos Secundários / Certidão do Décimo Segundo Ano / Nível 4 Qualificação do Quadro Nacional de Qualificações with Overall GPA of 14/20
<b>Qatar</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 70% average
<b>Russia</b>	Attestat o srednem (polnom) obschem obrazovanii (Certificate of Secondary Education) with 3.5 average
<b>Romania</b>	Diplomă de Bacalaureat (Baccalaureate Diploma) with minimum pass of 7
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 75% average
<b>Singapore</b>	See GCE/ O and AS/A LEVEL requirements
<b>Slovakia</b>	Vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) with minimum pass of 3
<b>Slovenia</b>	Maturitetno spričevalo (Matura Certificate) or Spričevalo o poklicni maturi (Vocational Matura) with minimum pass of 3/5
<b>Spain</b>	Titulo de Técnico Superior – or Título de Bachiller (current system): minimum average grade 6/10
<b>South Africa</b>	National Senior Certificate with 4.5 or 55% average



COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	See GCE/ O and AS/A LEVEL requirements
<b>Sudan</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School or Azhar certificate with 70% average
<b>Sweden</b>	Avgångsbetyg /Slutbetyg från Grundskola Gymnasiet (Upper secondary school leaving certificate), OR: Högskoleförberedande examen (higher Education Preparatory Diploma), OR: Yrkesexamen from gymnasiet (vocational secondary education), OR: Komvux (Kommunal vuxenutbildning på gymnasial nivå) = adult upper secondary education D
<b>Switzerland</b>	FEDERAL MATURITY – ACADEMIC: 3-5 years Diploma: Maturitätszeugnis / Certificat de maturité / Attestato di maturità: or VOCATIONAL MATURITY: 3 years (or as a 1-2 year add-on programme when a student has studied a normal VET 2-3 year diploma) Diploma: Eidgenössisches berufsmaturitätszeugnis / Certificat federal de maturité professionnelle / attestato federali di maturità professionale. COMBINED WITH: additional examination (Passarellenprüfung Berufsmaturität / Ergänzungsprüfung / Passerelle maturité professionnelle / Examen complémentaire / Passerella maturità professionale / Esame complementare)- or VOCATIONAL MATURITY: 3 years (or as a 1-2 year add-on programme when a student has studied a normal VET 2-3 year diploma) Diploma: Eidgenössisches berufsmaturitätszeugnis / Certificat federal de maturité professionnelle / attestato federali di maturità professionale: or VET DIPLOMA: 3-4 years. Diploma: Diplôme d'École de Culture Générale / specialised maturity (fachmatur / maturité specialise / attestato di maturità specializzata or VET DIPLOMA: 3-4 years. Diploma: Eidgenössisches Fähigkeitszeugnis / Certificat fédéral de capacité / Attestato federale di capacità Overall grade: 4/6, 6/10, 3/5
<b>Syria</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School or Azhar certificate with 60% average
<b>Taiwan</b>	Senior High School Graduation Certificate with 70% average
<b>Tanzania</b>	ACSEE D/4 Average
<b>Thailand</b>	Matayom VI with 70% average
<b>Tunisia</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School or Azhar certificate with 60% average or 12
<b>Turkey</b>	Lise Diplomasi with 70% average
<b>UAE</b>	Tawjahiya Secondary School Certificate with 80% average
<b>Uganda</b>	Uganda Certificate of Education with 6 average
<b>Ukraine</b>	Attestat with Grade 7 on the 12 point scale or Attestat with Grade 3 on the 5 point scale
<b>United Kingdom</b>	See GCE/ O and AS/A LEVEL requirements
<b>USA</b>	Successful completion of Year 12 with GPA of 2.5
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Achieving O'rta Ma'lumot To'g'risida Shahodatnoma or Umumiy O'rta Ta'lim T'G'Risida (Certificate of Completed Secondary Education) or Kasb-Hunar Kolleji Diplomi (Diploma of Professional College) with a minimum grade of 3.

COUNTRY	In country equivalency to a GPA of 2.5
<b>Vietnam</b>	Bang Tot Nghiep Pho Thong Trung Hoc (Diploma of Completion of Secondary School) with 5.5 average
<b>Zambia</b>	Zambian School Certificate Examination with 4 average
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	See GCE: O and AS/A LEVEL requirements
<b>Other Accepted Qualifications</b>	
<b>GCE: O Level</b>	Minimum grade of C in a minimum of 5 subjects
<b>IGCSE: International General Certificate of Secondary Education</b>	Minimum grade of C in a minimum of 5 subjects
<b>GCE: AS/ A Level</b>	Considered as College Level study therefore need to meet requirement of 2.0 GPA, to be reviewed in addition to High school GPA equivalency to 2.5 GPA (i.e O'Level; Minimum grade of C in a minimum of 5 subjects.
<b>IB: International Baccalaureate</b>	Successful completion of IB Diploma minimum of 24 Points
<b>West African School Certificate</b>	Completion with minimum C4
<b>General Educational Development (GED) exam</b>	The GED satisfies proof of HS graduation only. Applicants would still need to meet the GPA requirement based on any high school coursework completed in their country's system to date





# Your Investment

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR 1 - TUITION FEES

Number of semesters	IELTS entry	Program cost*
3 semesters	4.5 entry	\$30,000
2 semesters	5.0 entry	\$27,500
2 semesters	5.5+ entry	\$25,000

\*Tuition list current for 2023 and will be subject to increase each year. For most update to date program costs please visit the International Year one at SF State website. Admin fees related to their application progressing.

## LIVING EXPENSES

Applicants living expenses will of course vary depending on a number of factors, such as their choice of accommodation, transportation and lifestyle. As a guide, the average living expenses for nine months for the academic year 2023 was estimated to be **\$26,251**. This amount includes estimates for meals, housing, books and supplies, transportation, personal expenses, and health insurance. Here is an estimated breakdown for your reference:

Living Expenses *	Amount (in U.S. dollars)
Room & Board	\$18,999
Books & Supplies	\$1,099
Personal Expenses	\$2,736
Transportation	\$1,467
Health Insurance	\$1,950
<b>Total living expenses</b>	<b>\$26,251</b>

\*Actual cost may be higher or lower depending on specific applicant choices



## KEY DATES\*\*

Year	Intake	Admissions deadline*	Arrival to SF State	Orientation	First Day of Classes
2023	January (Spring)	November 15, 2022	January 23, 2024	January 25, 2023	January 30, 2023
2023	June (Summer)	March 15, 2023	May 29, 2023	May 31, 2023	June 5, 2023
2023	August (Fall)	June 15, 2023	August 14, 2023	August 16, 2023	August 21, 2023

\* Late applications may be accepted if space is available; however, this may impact your ability to get your visa in time. \*\*Dates are subject to change, for the most up-to-date listings, visit the International Year one at SF State website



# How to Apply

Once you have met our admissions requirements, applying to International Year One at SF State is easy.

All you need to do is complete our application form and return it to your local representative. The application must include copies of all relevant academic transcripts and certificates of English language qualifications.



A copy of a valid passport



A copy of your original qualification certificate and transcripts  
(Certified translation if applicable)



Any current or previous U.S. visas and I20 forms



Proof of English proficiency



Proof of financials

## Contact Us

Email:  
[Contact@motivationacademy.org.uk](mailto:Contact@motivationacademy.org.uk)

Website:  
[motivationacademy.global](http://motivationacademy.global)



