Dear Student,

What a unique year it has been for all of us! As this will be our final newsletter for 2020, we want to take a moment to wish you and your families a happy, healthy and restful holiday break.

Happy holidays! See you in the new year.

International Student Services

Important dates

- **Dec. 23**: Fall final exams end
- **Dec. 24**: Fall term ends
- **Dec. 23 – Jan. 1**: Holiday observance (campus closed)
- **Jan. 4 – 8**: Block Week

**Holiday closure**

Our regular office operations and advising services will be temporarily paused to observe the university holiday closure from Dec. 23 through Jan. 1. If you have questions, please contact our team prior to 4 p.m. MST on Dec. 22 or after 9 a.m. MST on Jan. 4, 2021.

If you have an emergency during the holiday closure, please contact Campus Security at 403-220-5333 or campus.security@ucalgary.ca.
New bursary for UCalgary students

The Tuition Reinvestment Bursary is designed to help students with demonstrated financial need. This bursary program is funded by tuition fees paid by undergraduate, professional and graduate students.

Learn more »

USpeak Global: Build your language skills

Want to be more comfortable speaking English or another language? This language exchange program aims to improve your language skills while sharing your own at the same time! It's also a fantastic way to meet new people on campus. Applications will be open from Jan. 4 – 15.

Learn more »

Online events and workshops

Virtual Board Game Café

Want to meet other students and have some fun? Join the Wellness, Health and Awareness Team (WHAT) Student Volunteers as they host several virtual games and activities.

Date: Thursday, Dec. 17
Time: 1 - 3 p.m. MST

Register here.

Transitioning to first year as an international student

Looking for ways to succeed as a student? The Student Success Centre is available to answer your questions about learning in your first year at UCalgary.
They'll also provide advice on how to study for classes, creating a time management plan or any other topics related to learning that you wish to learn about.

- **Wednesday, Dec. 16:** 11 a.m. – noon MST
- **Thursday, Dec. 17:** 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. MST
- **Wednesday, Jan. 13:** 11 a.m. – noon MST
- **Thursday, Jan. 14:** 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. MST

Learn more and register »

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**ISS social events for students**

Come make friends, take a break from classes and have some fun with these online events. Register on our **events page** for our upcoming social events.

**Mix & Mingle with ISS**

- Jan. 5, 9 – 10 a.m. MST [Register »](#)
- Jan. 5, 4 – 5 p.m. MST [Register »](#)
- Jan. 7, 4 – 5 p.m. MST [Register »](#)

**Online Unwind: Colouring and chat**

- Jan. 6, 10 – 11 a.m. MST [Register »](#)

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**Permanent residence information session**

Interested in staying and working in Canada after you graduate? A Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCIC) will present basic information on permanent residence (PR) pathways that may be available to you.

**Date:** Jan. 6, 2021  
**Time:** 9 – 11 a.m. MST

Learn more and register »

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**Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Events**

The GSA will be hosting fun and informative events in the new year to connect you with your peers and advisors.
Holiday BINGO: Running now until Jan. 4. Register »

GSA Executive meet and greet: Jan. 7, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Register »

Virtual scavenger hunt across Canada: Jan. 7, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Register »

Health and dental Q&A: Jan. 8, 9 – 10 a.m. Register »

Tackle real-world problems with UCalgary International

Global Community Challenge YYC

Want to develop your teamwork, critical thinking, communication and intercultural capacity skills? By joining the Global Community Challenge, you'll get the chance to identify solutions for real-world problems faced by local organizations, alongside students from UCalgary's partner institutions around the world. Applications open Friday, Jan. 8 and close Thursday, Jan. 21.

Learn more »

World’s Challenge Challenge

This global pitch competition that encourages students to work across disciplines to come up with innovative solutions to global problems that align with the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Applications are now open — deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 15.

Learn more »

Virtual RealiTEA

Need help focusing? Feeling isolated? Get work done in a social setting with the Faith and Spirituality Centre. There will be a timer for task-focused intervals to keep you motivated. After each
interval, the FSC will lead conversations, play games, do trivia, teach you a new skill, guide a stretch and more!

- **Date:** January 13 – April 7
- **Time:** 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. MST

Learn more and register »

UCalgary student club feature

**Pushkin's Students (Culture & Literacy Club)**

Interested in fun events and interesting ways to practice and improve your Russian language proficiency skills and have an exposure to Russian culture? This club welcomes students of any proficiency and all backgrounds who are studying or wanting to practice their Russian language skills or learn about the culture. The club is comprised of native speakers, students of Slavic background, Russian degree majors, students taking classes in Russian, and students from the general community.

Learn more here, and follow them on Instagram and Facebook.

*Interested in having your club featured? Complete the submission form here.*