Need to Know: London School of Economics and Political Science Summer School

Objective of the “Need to Know” Document
The Need to Know document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on theUCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide, as well as LSE’s Summer School web site. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or Need to Know document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/contact/advising

Minimum and Recommended GPA
The minimum UC GPA required to apply for the program is 2.85. However, a minimum UC GPA of 3.3 is highly recommended because of the academic demands of this program.

Program Information
LSE is a very large international summer school program of approximately 4,000 students; EAP-LSE is a very small sub-group of that total. Be aware that you will probably receive the same official messages as all the students applying independently. If you have questions about any email communication from LSE or are told something that appears confusing or seems to conflict with EAP policy, send an email to the LSE Adviser at Berkeley Study Abroad.

Each session is three weeks long and students participate in one intensive course per session. Courses must be taken for a letter grade; Pass/No Pass is not an option. More information on courses, academic culture and expectations can be found in the UCEAP Program Guide.

Session 1: students receive 3.7 semester units in 3 weeks
Session 1 + 2: students receive 7.3 semester units 3 weeks

Financial Aid
To qualify for summer financial aid a student must take a minimum of 6 semester units. Therefore, if you apply to Session 1 alone, you will not qualify for financial aid. If you apply to Session 1 + 2 you will meet the minimum of 6 semester units, and are eligible for summer financial aid.

Application
EAP students may apply to Session 1, or Sessions 1 & 2. There are two applications to fill out, with different deadlines:

1. The EAP Application on the Berkeley Study Abroad website: You can submit this application to the BSA office in 160 Stephens Hall no later than the February 1, 2016 deadline.

2. The LSE host university application (link provided from the EAP Application Checklist): You can submit this application any time between January 20, 2016* to February 1, 2016. Applications are reviewed by LSE on a first-come, first-served basis. Course choices become limited as time passes.

*Or earlier if the 2016 LSE Summer School application is online.

For the LSE application you will need to upload an official copy of your UCB transcript. The transcript must be official because it needs to show both your name and the name of UCB; online transcript uploads from Bearfacts do not include the name “UC Berkeley.” You may pick up a free official transcript in person at Cal Student Central in 120 Sproul Hall.
Selection:
You will receive two selection notifications if you properly submit your application: One from Berkeley Study Abroad (within 6-8 weeks of applying) and one from LSE (within 2 weeks of applying). LSE makes the final selection decision. Both selection notifications are necessary in order to participate as an EAP student. Students who apply directly to LSE and do not submit an EAP Application by the February 1st deadline will participate as Independent study abroad students.

THINGS TO REMEMBER AFTER YOU SUBMIT THE LSE HOST UNIVERSITY APPLICATION:

1) The deadline to withdraw without financial penalty is midnight on April 1st.

2) Do not pay tuition directly to LSE: You should receive selection notification directly from LSE two weeks after you submit the LSE host university application, including a demand for immediate payment of tuition fees. Although you will receive a generic email, LSE is aware that EAP students do not owe tuition at time of selection. You do not pay tuition directly to LSE.

3) When you receive an email from LSE about signing up for housing, you must sign up for LSE housing and pay for it in full. The housing cost is a large, up-front payment that you will have to pay well before departure. There is no deposit or payment plan options. You must be prepared to pay the total payment sometime in February or March, approximately two weeks after LSE selects you. Delay in paying for housing will not prevent you from registering for courses, but it may prevent you from getting the housing you want because the residence halls fill up quickly for the summer session. Housing costs should be anticipated to be at least $2000 for Session 1 and $4000 for Session 1+2. Financial aid students: Your financial aid will not pay out in time for you to make this payment. Please plan accordingly. Advanced planning is key in making this work.

4) UCEAP fees will include program fees and tuition costs, the bulk of which will be due much closer to departure for your program.
   a. UCEAP Program Fees due dates:
      -Session 1: Students who do not receive financial aid will have a $950 payment due on April 1st and the balance of UCEAP Fees due on July 1st.
      -Session 1 & 2: Students who do not receive financial aid will have a $950 payment due on April 1st and the balance of UCEAP Fees due on July 1st.
   b. Financial Aid students will have UCEAP fees deducted from their allocation when their financial aid awards are released to UCEAP 10 days before the start date of the program. Remember, only participants on both Sessions 1 + 2 qualify for UCB financial aid.

5) EAP participants are required to live in LSE housing. If you apply for the housing of your choice and subsequently receive a response that LSE housing is full, email back that you want LSE "alternative housing.” There are no exceptions to this policy.

6) Dependents: the Student Visitor Visa needed for this program does not permit the student to bring dependents.