FINDING & MAKING A HOME:

Make house hunting easier by utilizing the campus housing office and their great website: [www.housing.ucsb.edu](http://www.housing.ucsb.edu). Take advantage of the fact that landlords like to rent to graduate students. Most people say you should be able to find housing within a few days to a week of arriving, depending on what you are looking for. It is best to arrive in late August or early September (before the undergrads return). The basic options are to:

- **Rent a room in a private house.** This is a (relatively) cheap way to live, and you usually have full house privileges, although some folks feel it offers less privacy. (COST: $750/month and up—depending on the level of privacy you want, i.e. private bath, private entrance, etc., cost extra—most utilities are usually included)
  - **NOTE:** On average, Santa Barbara is more expensive than Goleta

- **Share a house with other students.** This can be a lot of fun and is a great way to meet people. There are rooms for rent in “Student Households” as well as in “Grad Student Households” - beware of rooming with undergraduates who won’t necessarily share your “work ethic”!! (COST: 4 bedroom houses are ~ $2500-2900/month + gas, water, electric, phone, trash, and cable). A lot of landlords have gardeners who maintain the outside of the house for you. Leases are generally a year long, but often there are month-to-month options.

- **Rent or lease an apartment.** This gives the option of living alone or with just one other person. (Cost: 2 bedroom/2 bath apartments start at $1500-1700/mo with some utilities included occasionally)

- **San Clemente Graduate apartments.** These are 2 or 4 bedroom shared apartments adjacent to campus (NW corner). They are very conveniently located and have a fair amount of programming for new graduate students. The costs are generally more than off campus and they have a year-long lease.

- **Where to find housing?** Craigslist and the Grad Housing Listserv are your best options. Emailing bionews@lifesci.ucsb.edu (biology listserv) looking for housing isn’t a bad idea either. There is also the Community Housing Office (CHO), located in the University Center (UCen); phone (805) 893-4371; hours M-F 8am-5pm. Online at [http://www.housing.ucsb.edu](http://www.housing.ucsb.edu). The CHO provides numerous listings of rooms, houses, and apartments throughout the area, as well as guidance and advice on the logistics of finding a place and the legal aspects of renting.

LOCATIONS:

The area surrounding UCSB is divided more or less into four sections: Isla Vista ("IV"), a student community directly west of campus; Ellwood and Winchester Canyon, a suburban section northwest of campus; Goleta, another suburban spread north and east of campus; and the city of Santa Barbara, which is 5 to 15 minutes* (by freeway) or about 12 miles east of campus. The University also owns housing
near campus for grad students and students with families. Whatever your priorities in choosing a home, the following highly subjective comparison points highlight the pros and cons of each area.

*Californians, both native and transplanted, tell travel distances in terms of time rather than miles. Particularly near LA, distance has very little relationship to actual travel time...

**Isla Vista**

Populated primarily by undergraduates, IV can be noisy and crowded. On its main streets, Del Playa and Sabado Tarde, you can usually find a party any night of the week during the school year. Rent can be high for the quality of apartment (or lack thereof). On the flip side, IV is a “happenin’” place, very exciting, and many people who live there enjoy it. Also, IV is your best bet for affordable housing within walking distance to the beach and UCSB. The west side furthest from campus can be more subdued. Note: anyone living within a two mile radius of UCSB is not allowed to buy a parking permit on campus—which covers all of IV.

**Ellwood / Winchester Canyon**

Ellwood offers suburban neighborhood housing and attracts a number of grad students to its relaxed ambience. Anticipate life on the flight path into Santa Barbara Municipal Airport. (No planes between 10pm and 7am, though.) Special precaution for cyclists: expect to bike into the wind every night on the way from UCSB to Ellwood. Bus takes approx 20+ min.

Winchester Canyon is situated just opposite of the 101 from Ellwood, so it is a bit further from campus (4+mi), but is also nestled further into the orchards and hills. Like Ellwood, it has suburban housing, mostly 4 bedroom family homes. Beautiful views of the mountains, quiet neighborhoods with an elementary school, a high school, and a frisbee golf park are just a few of the things Winchester Canyon has to offer. It should be noted, however, that biking to school does require travel over the 101. Bus takes approx 25+ min.

**Goleta**

Goleta also features typical suburban homes and neighborhoods relatively close to campus. For cyclists, the area east of Highway 217 and south of Highway 101 provides the perfect haven. There is a cycling path along the beach/coast leading directly to the various Biology buildings. And don’t expect scintillating nightlife pretty much anywhere in Goleta except for the Mercury Lounge and several dive bars.

**Santa Barbara**

If you want easy access to night-life and a more “cosmopolitan” feel, Santa Barbara proper may be your ticket. Rent is can be comparable to Ellwood or
Goleta, but can also be much higher, and you are much closer to whatever “action” may be happening in the area. Prepare for a serious commute though: at least 15 minutes by car and (for the gonzo cycling types) 30-45 minutes by bike. There is, however, an express bus service between downtown SB and the campus. See www.sbmtd.gov

UNIVERSITY-OWNED HOUSING:

The El Dorado and Westgate apartments house upper-division undergrads, transfer students, and incoming grad students. They are located in IV, very close to the west side of campus, and usually place two people per bedroom and either two or four people per apartment. The Santa Ynez complex has a section reserved for currently enrolled grad students, which houses one student per bedroom. There is a waiting list for all three apartments, so you must apply to the Office of Apartment Living to reserve a place on the list. See www.housing.ucsb.edu for more info.

The San Clemente Villages are a 973-bed complex that opened in the 2008-2009 academic year. San Clemente is sited at the El Colegio Road border of the Storke fields, making it in close proximity to Isla Vista as well as UCSB. The 325 apartments are made up of a combination of one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and four-bedroom units. San Clemente is the first housing facility dedicated to single graduate students. There are also several community buildings that provide laundry, meeting areas, and study space. To be guaranteed a space in San Clemente Villages, apply online and adhere to all application procedures and deadlines. All apartments are furnished and monthly rates include gas, electricity, water, garbage pick-up, cable for television, wired and wireless internet access and parking. See www.housing.ucsb.edu for more info.

FAMILY STUDENT HOUSING:

Students seeking family housing can also apply at the Office of Apartment Living to live in either the West Campus or Storke Campus Complexes. The CHO claims, however, that there is a 12-24 month waiting list for these apartments (though we have known it to be faster in many cases). This housing is open to all couples.

INTERIM HOUSING:

While enduring the search, you can stow your belongings and yourself in a local motel, throw yourself to the mercy of your fellow department-mates (email bionews@lifesci.ucsb.edu for housing requests), if it is available, stay in university-provided temporary housing. For further information, visit www.housing.ucsb.edu. From September 1st to Sept 21st, UCSB will accommodate incoming students who have not yet secured housing in the Santa Cruz Residence Hall for ~$25.00 per night (double occupancy). You will need a valid UCSB Registration Card or a letter confirming that you have been admitted for Fall Quarter.
BANKING:

There is a plethora of banks within 5 miles of the UCSB campus, although the only ATM machines on campus are for Wells Fargo, Montecito Bank and Trust, Golden One, and Bank of America. Please check the websites for specific account information and lobby hours. (NOTE: UCSB offers a Direct Deposit salary payment option, which is very convenient. Contact Andi Jorgensen, the head of Financials in EEMB). When you begin work at UCSB, you will not be paid until November 1st. Plan to bring enough money for rent (including deposit, first and last month’s rent), utility setup fees, and living expenses for at least one month. Payment frequently varies with your fellowship, teaching or research assistantship. The Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology Department pays monthly and NSF pays in one yearly sum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Website/Phone</th>
<th>ATM on Campus?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Bank</td>
<td>299 North Fairview Ave, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.unionbank.com">www.unionbank.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.683.1404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells Fargo</td>
<td>-195 North Fairview Ave, Goleta, CA -6530 Pardall Rd, Isla Vista, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wellsfargo.com">www.wellsfargo.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.967.1242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase</td>
<td>-5787 Calle Real, Goleta, CA -901 Embarcadero del Norte, Isla Vista, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chase.com">www.chase.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.683.3106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabobank</td>
<td>5956 Calle Real, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rabobankamerica.com">www.rabobankamerica.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.967.0451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden 1 Credit Union</td>
<td>5676 Calle Real, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.golden1.com">www.golden1.com</a></td>
<td>1.877.465.3361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of America</td>
<td>5892 Calle Real, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bankofamerica.com">www.bankofamerica.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.683.4536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community West Bank</td>
<td>5827 Hollister Ave, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.communitywestbank.com">www.communitywestbank.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.683.4944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montecito Bank &amp; Trust</td>
<td>-5658 Calle Real, Goleta, CA -6900 Hollister Ave, Goleta, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.montecito.com">www.montecito.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.963.7511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citibank</td>
<td>3757 State St, Santa Barbara, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.citibank.com">www.citibank.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.284.9997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of the West</td>
<td>1036 State St, Santa Barbara, CA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bankofthewest.com">www.bankofthewest.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.564.4466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Bank</td>
<td>-5170 Hollister Ave, Goleta, CA (inside Ralphs)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usbank.com">www.usbank.com</a></td>
<td>1.805.683.6208</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SETTling UP THE HOUSE:

The following resources may be useful in locating furniture and household items:

- Sears (3845 State St. Santa Barbara, CA 93105 (805) 569-6728)
  - NOTE: they deliver beds.
- At least 6 bed/mattress/futon/furniture stores are located in old town Goleta between 5968 and 5600 along Hollister Ave.
- Just to name a few: Parkway Furniture, Fairview Furniture, SB Mattress Expo (see yahoo yellow pages).
  - NOTE: some of these stores also deliver beds.
- Bed Bath & Beyond (189 N. Fairview Ave. Goleta, CA 93117)
- Kmart (6865 Hollister Ave. Goleta, CA)
  - NOTE: NO Target or Walmart within 40 miles
- Thrift stores in Goleta and downtown Santa Barbara
- Garage sales!!
- CRAIGSLIST SANTA BARBARA (http://santabarbara.craigslist.org)

Utilities

The following are utility companies in the area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Utility</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>SoCal Edison</td>
<td>1.800.684.8123</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sce.com">www.sce.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>SoCal Gas Company</td>
<td>1.800.427.2200</td>
<td><a href="http://www.socalgas.com">www.socalgas.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>SBC</td>
<td>1.800.310.2355</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sbc.com">www.sbc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Goleta Water District</td>
<td>1.805.946.6761</td>
<td><a href="http://www.goletawater.com">www.goletawater.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash</td>
<td>Marborg Industries</td>
<td>1.805.963.1852</td>
<td><a href="http://www.marborg.com">www.marborg.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable/Internet</td>
<td>Cox Communications</td>
<td>1.805.683.6651</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cox.com">www.cox.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* FYI: without cable, there is not much that is not static

FOOD SHOPPING:

There are some small markets within Isla Vista, but there are several larger grocery stores within a few miles of campus:

- Vons (175 Fairview Ave, Goleta)
- Albertsons (7127 Hollister Ave, Goleta)
- Trader Joe’s (5767 Calle Real, Goleta)

Alternatively, there are excellent weekly farmer’s markets that take place in Goleta and downtown Santa Barbara on different days. For more information see:
For instance, there is a farmers market in the Camino Real Marketplace (approx. 1 mile from campus) every Sunday from 10am-2pm.

In addition to all the regular stores there are many more specialty markets as well as health food/organic/expensive stores, such as Lazy Acres (www.lazyacres.com), Pacific Health Food (5880 Calle Real), Lassen’s Health Foods (5154 Hollister Ave.), and Whole Foods Market (www.wholefoodsmarket.com). There is also the Isla Vista Food Co-op located in Isla Vista that has a large variety of organic health foods.

For those who choose to live in the Winchester Canyon area, Ellwood, or IV, the Camino Real Marketplace (http://www.caminorealmarketplace.com/) serves as a major resource hub for all our needs. Just to give you an idea, this little strip mall has a Kmart, Home Depot, Costco, Albertsons, Sports Authority, Borders, DMV, Camino Real Cinema, small chain restaurants, and much more.