

# Summer Sessions First Year Discovery Seminars RFP

**Deadline: Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The Office of Summer Sessions is seeking proposals for First Year Discovery Seminars to be taught during Summer Session B (August 7<sup>th</sup>-September 15<sup>th</sup>). Discovery Seminars offer incoming students in the Freshman Summer Start Program (FSSP) the opportunity to participate in small group discussions where they can build meaningful connections with faculty and each other.

## About Discovery Seminars

Discovery Seminars introduce students to subjects that UCSB faculty care about and explore how faculty study these subjects. In this way, they serve as introductions to academic disciplines -- that is, they enable students to understand what issues or problems are of interest within particular disciplines and how faculty in those disciplines go about exploring those areas of interest.

We encourage proposals that:

- Introduce students to current areas of faculty interest and research;
- Enable students to learn about strategies for navigating UCSB disciplines and courses;
- Provide opportunities for students to become oriented to and study the physical surroundings of the campus;
- Include intentional strategies for students to get to know other students to build support networks.

We also encourage you to talk with students about how you and others in your discipline bring particular perspectives to bear on the subjects you study: What kinds of questions do you ask? What evidence or data do you collect? How do you analyze this evidence? How do you and others in your field share what you have learned? Building this layer of meta-analysis and meta-learning peels back the curtain on knowledge-making in disciplines and enables students to develop their own strategies for recognizing and navigating among these practices.

Learn more about Discovery Seminars at <https://duels.ucsb.edu/academics/seminars/about>.

## Logistics

Summer Discovery Seminars are 1 unit, and are offered during Session B. They typically meet once each week for 1.5 hours. Enrollment is limited to 20 students, or 11 students if a field trip is involved.

Instructors have the option to receive either standard Summer compensation for teaching the course (for a 1-unit course, standard compensation is 2.13% of their annual base salary), **or** \$1500 in research funds. They may also receive up to \$300 for supplies and expenses.

## Submissions

To propose a Discovery Seminar for Summer 2023, please fill out our brief form at <https://forms.gle/CMQKUWTgjQkbRskV9>. Note that you will be asked to indicate your scheduling preferences.

*Questions? Please contact Leesa Beck, Director of Summer Sessions, at [leesa@ucsb.edu](mailto:leesa@ucsb.edu) or 805-893-2706.*