2019 AE Script Transfer Orientation:

Slide 1: Cover
Welcome to the Enhancing your Academic Experience Presentation for Undecided & Undeclared students

For the next 30 min, we’re going to provide you with an overview of your academic experience, and some key tips and tools on how to lead with a strong start in your first semester at USC.

We will be covering a lot of information so we encourage you to take note of your questions that you can discuss with your academic advisor during your virtual advisement appointment before orientation. We hope this will facilitate a seamless registration experience.

Slide 2: Overview
Here is an overview of our agenda for today:
1. We will discuss the Major Exploration process for UNDE/UNDL students
2. We will review the core requirements for our Undergraduate Students
3. We will provide you with Tips and tools for Academic Success
4. We will highlight essential resources for the following:
   - Wellness
   - Professional Development
   - Research
   - Academic Support

Slide 3: Undeclared & Undecided
First, we would like to explain what it means to be an undecided student versus an undeclared student.

Undecided
An exploratory (or an Undecided) student:
- Purposefully seeks to decide which field will be their major focus and fit.
- Actively explores options and possibilities

Undeclared
An Undeclared student:
- Has identified a major to pursue, but they have not officially declared or they are not admitted to the major (just yet).
- Typically, there is already an established map for you to follow.

Slide 4: 180+ Majors
USC is composed of many academic units. There are 22 professional schools, schools of the arts and specialized academic units, in addition to the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

Currently, there are over 180 majors and over 190 minors.

With what USC has to offer and the various combinations of majors and minors, the possibilities are endless.

In the next few slides, we will provide you with a brief overview of our Academic Units at USC. There is a complete list available in your orientation packet, which can also be accessed on our website.

**Slide 5: Dornsife College:**
The largest and oldest of the USC schools, USC Dornsife functions as the academic core of the university, offering courses and advancing knowledge across the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

- Therefore most of your GE courses are in Dornsife. Majors in Dornsife offer many opportunities for an interdisciplinary approach to your education. For Example:

  *Facilitator can pick one of the highlighted clusters below. They do not have to talk about all 3 clusters.*

- **Humanities:** houses majors such as Art History, English, Philosophy, and History. As an example…for those of you interested in writing or storytelling can be used for entertainment, education, or cultural preservation may look in the Humanities.

- **Social Sciences:** You will find majors like Psychology, Political Science, Economics, and International Relations. As an example…for those of you interested in understanding the role of law, politics, and social issues in public policy may look in the Social Sciences or also in Humanities.

- **Natural Sciences:** are the Biological sciences, Chemistry, Physics, and Math. As an example…for those of you interested in learning how to use data or computational analysis to understand and solve complex problems consider majors in the Natural Sciences that also integrate the social science lens.

**Slide 6: Applied and Performing Arts**
The Applied and Performing Arts schools will require a Portfolio of work or an audition to apply to the program. *(Facilitator can mention 1 or 2 of the following schools)*

- USC School of Architecture
- The Roski School of Art & Design
- The USC School of Cinematic
- USC Kaufman School of Dance
- USC School of Dramatic Arts
- USC Thornton School of Music
Slide 7: Health and Medicine
These academic units offer specialized majors and pathways for health related areas such as
(Facilitator can mention 1 or 2 of the following schools)

- The Davis School of Gerontology
- The Keck School of Medicine: offers undergraduate majors of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and Global Health Studies
- Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry
- USC School of Pharmacy
- USC Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy

Slide 8: Professional Schools
These Professional school majors require an application and have internal transfer requirements such as
(Facilitator can mention 1 or 2 of the following schools)

- USC Leventhal School of Accounting
- USC Marshall School of Business
- USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
- USC Viterbi School of Engineering
- USC Price School of Public Policy
- The USC Iovine & Young Academy for Arts, Technology, and Business of Innovation

Slide 9 Academic Advising (Process)

- Next we will cover what to expect in academic advising
- Our advisement process will vary for each person and may take a few semesters.
- Some of you may already have an idea
- Some will need to explore interests before finding a program.
- This exploration process is one of continual Assessment and Reflection. You will explore your academic interests using your General Education Courses known as your GE’s. We will discuss your GE requirements later in the presentation.

- *Toggle to slide 10: Career Resources*
- Another way of exploring possibilities is conducting a self-assessment through career centers on campus.
- As an example, the Career Center offers a variety of self-assessments to identify your values, interests, skills and personality traits.
- Another example are the Major 2 Career Exploration events through Dornsife Career Pathways, which offers networking events with Alumni.
*Toggle to Slide 11: Research*

As you explore different majors and opportunities across campus, we encourage you to consider research as a way to learn more about yourself and hone in on your academic interests.

Many USC faculty are leaders in their field. This is your opportunity to conduct research in your area of interest with top scholars and also learn more about yourself.

For example:

Dornsife offers BISC 193, Introduction to Research where Faculty introduce their research activities to students in the class, which leads to individual research projects.

*Toggle back to Slide 9: Academic Advising (Process)*

- You can also explore study abroad programs, student organizations and activities with your academic advisor. These are the many ways to enrich your academic experience and provide you with a stepping stone towards your major.
- As a USC student, there are also Information Sessions to provide you with internal transfer requirements and curriculum.
- Decision Making - We will assist in refining your decision making process and take into account factors like – “Is this a major that pairs well with my personal, academic, and career interests?” “Does the major allow for flexibility in course selection and leaves room for a minor?”
- Once you have decided on a major (or majors), we will guide you through the process to officially DECLARE that major.

*Note for Facilitator: Skip slides 10 & 11 since you already discussed those*

**Slide 12: Academic Advisors**

Here are the key individuals that you should work closely with to make decisions about your academic experience. Academic Counseling Services consists of four lead advisors. You’ll be assigned your primary advisor by the start of the school year.

**Slide 13: Framing your Education**

Before we transition to General Education requirements, I would like to highlight that USC is intentional in its design of your academic experience. Therefore, you will be prepared for the Challenges of the 21st Century after college. Our USC faculty have come together to design a curriculum that prepares you to:

- Work in teams with those who are differently trained and differently situated
- Be literate in a high-tech world
- Interpret the validity, relevance, and reliability of data
- Organize and deploy data effectively
• Communicate across disciplines, cultures, and languages
• Lead in public and private spheres
• Understand the importance of values: It’s less about the what and how, and more about the why

**Slide 14: Your USC Degree**

A minimum of 128 units is required to attain your degree. While your USC Core requirements will remain the same, your major requirements and elective options will vary according to the degree and the major.

**Bachelor of Arts Degree**

- Most BA majors have between 9-11 courses required for the major and generally make up a third of your degree
- BA’s also provide you with the opportunity to pursue a breadth of electives which creates space in your timeline to double major, minor, study abroad, etc.

**Bachelor of Science Degree**

- A BS degree involves more course requirements to achieve greater specialization in a discipline, which can span up to 17 required major courses.
- It’s important to note that if you plan to pursue a Bachelor of Science, you’ll have less space for electives, and you’ll want to start on the major sooner rather than later. For instance, majors in the sciences, engineering, or business.

**Slide 15: GEs and Core Requirements**

- These General Education requirements provide students with a breadth and depth of knowledge that spans across different disciplines.
- *Referring to new GE curriculum: USC requires students who have started college fall 2015 or later, to complete the following core literacy and global perspective requirements.
- *Toggle to Slide 16*
  - If you have started college prior to Fall 2015, please refer to the following web resource for additional information: (website will be displayed on slide)
- *Toggle back to Slide 15*

**Slide 15 (Continued) Post Fall 2015 GE curriculum**

- These GE classes pertain to students who started college after fall 2015.
- Here are your General Education requirements and the number of courses required to take in each:
- The Core Literacy requirements includes:
  - GE A: The Arts 1 course
GE B: Humanistic Inquiry 2 courses
GE C: Social Analysis 2 courses
GE D: Life Science 1 course
GE E: Physical Science 1 course
GE F: Quantitative Reasoning 1 course

- The Global Perspective requirements include:
  - GE G: Citizenship in a Global Era 1 course
  - GE H: Traditions and Historical Foundations 1 course
- Some of the Global Perspective requirements (Categories G & H) can overlap with one Core Literacy (from categories A-C.) Please refer to the list of GE 2’fers we have provided in your orientation packet.

*Narrator skips over slide 16* and goes to 17.

Slide 17: Dornsife College Requirement
- All transfer students must complete TWO GE Core Literacy courses (A-F) at USC offered through the Dornsife College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences.
- If you have more than two GE’s remaining, additional GE courses may be from other USC schools
- No additional GE core literacy courses are allowed in transfer once enrolled at USC.

Slide 18: Writing & Foreign Language requirements

There are two writing requirements at USC.

- WRIT 150
  - WRIT 150 should be completed in your first academic year (unless you took a lower division equivalent at your previous institution)

- WRIT 340.
  - We recommend enrolling in this course once you have declared your major. WRIT 340 must be taken in residence at USC, no exceptions.

Regarding Foreign Language Requirement

USC requires students to complete three semesters of a Foreign Language. We highly encourage you to start on the foreign language requirement as soon as possible.
- Depending on placement, you may need to take the full 3 semesters worth or you may just need to take one.
- This requirement applies to most majors at USC
  - You can ask your advisor for clarification on majors that require completion of a foreign language.
- This requirement must be finished within the first 48 units in residence at USC (typically by the end of your third semester).
Slide 19: Transfer Credits (Summer Only)

- We will now review transfer credit policies for General Education and Foreign Language requirements.
- General Education
  - No additional Core Literacies (GE-A-F) Or Writing courses may be transferred.
  - Global Perspectives (GE-G&H) are still transferrable.
- Foreign Language (Facilitator note: This is optional since this was covered in the previous slide)
  - Transfer courses in language do not determine placement at USC.
  - Foreign language courses are still transferrable—must be completed within your first 48 units at USC.
- Submitting a Pre-Approval Request
  - For students who are interested in taking courses outside of USC in a summer term, you must submit this request for review. If you have questions regarding this, contact your academic advisor.

Slide 20: AP/IB

USC does accept AP and IB scores.

For AP’s,

- Only scores of 4 or 5 will be accepted and given 4 units of credit towards graduation.
- AP’s can also receive subject credit towards select courses depending on the major and can even fulfill certain GE requirements.
- Please refer to the AP/IB sheet included in your welcome email.

For IB’s, only scores of 5 or higher will be accepted and works in one of two ways:

- Receive 6 semester units of elective credit for IB Higher Level exams up to a maximum of 4 exams; OR
- Receive 20 semester units of elective credit if you earned the IB diploma with a score of 30 or higher.

Slide 21 & 22: Tips and Tools (Communication & Appointments)

- MyUSC is your primary portal to access a number of tools and resources while you are here. In this next section we will talk about tips (*take a brief pause*) and tools to help you manage your academic experience.
- MyUSC is your primary portal to access a number of resources while you are here such as your email, WebRegistration, Blackboard, and scheduling an appointment with your advisor.

*Toggle to Slide 22: OASIS*

- OASIS is the Online Academic Student Information System where you go to see your registered course schedule, your grades, your STARS Report, and your permit to register.
- This is also where you can access OASIS for guests:
• In accordance with Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines, students at USC can grant access by creating an OASIS for Guests account.
• This only allows guest users to view grades, courses, degree progress, transfer credits, restrictions on the student’s account and financial data.
• This does not grant permission to act on the student’s behalf or contact the advisor directly with questions.
• Whatever you decide, we are always here to help you manage expectations, and meet your academic goals.
• *Toggle to Slide 23: OASIS (Petitions/TCR)*

OASIS is where you can review your Transfer Credit Report and submit an articulation petition.

• (Articulation Petition
  o Courses that you would like to petition for must already appear on your Transfer Credit Report
  o A Syllabus is required; however other coursework may also be requested.
  o Petitions should occur in your FIRST TERM of enrollment at USC to avoid petition fees
  o All science GE courses must include a lab

Slide 24: Tips and Tools (STARS Report)
• Your STARS Report is your roadmap to graduation. It lists all General Education and Core requirements as well as all requirements for major.
• Items in blue mean the requirement has been satisfied or it is in progress; items in red are requirements that have not yet been completed.
• You should check your STARS report at the beginning and end of each semester to track your progress towards your degree

Slide 25: Tips and Tools
Before you start your first semester, there are several tips for success during your undergraduate experience:

• Time management- Each course will have a syllabus, which serves as a guide to what to expect from your classes. Your syllabus will include information regarding your learning outcomes, reading and assignment schedule, and how the course is graded. To support our students, we have the Kortschak center for Learning and Creativity, which offers resourceful online tutorials on effective time management.
• Office Hours- We encourage you to meet with your professors during office hours. This is a great opportunity to discuss curriculum or their research. For our Undecided/Undeclared students, these conversations may help you hone in on your own interest. These relationships are important for possible future opportunities that may require letters of recommendation.
• Learning Support: The first semester at USC will be a transitional period for most of you. Therefore we recommend speaking with your academic advisor for learning support resources. We have Supplemental Instruction in the Math and Sciences along with our resource center called VARC for Pre-Engineering students and individual tutoring services within our own office.

• Active learning: Fully Participate in the course lecture and discussion. This is a way of demonstrating your learning and interest in the course.  
  o An example of this is collaborating on group assignments. Not only are group assignments beneficial for your academic progress but they are essential in understanding your work ethic and for professional development after college.

Slide 26: Academic Integrity
• In this slide we want to discuss Academic Integrity standards.
• Some violations of Academic Integrity include plagiarism, cheating, and unauthorized collaboration.
  o For example, you must cite references properly in your research. The Writing Center or USC Librarians can assist with questions regarding this academic standard.
  o In certain STEM courses, sharing laboratory notes is an example of an academic integrity violation.

Slide 27: Wellness
As a final tip for your academic success, I would like to emphasize the importance of wellness. Wellness and the promotion of mental, physical, and emotional health are longstanding priorities of the faculty, staff, and student communities at USC. As a way of proactively addressing wellness on campus, here are a few examples of University programs that advocate for student wellness:
  o Mindful USC offers an ecosystem of mindfulness based practices including live online classes, practice groups, retreats, events and the Mindful USC mobile app.
  o Thrive @ USC
    ▪ There is a new course created by students for students called Thrive.
    ▪ "THRIVE" is a course that allows USC students to explore their well-being, connections with others, and learn strategies for living their best lives.

Slide 28: Registration Prep
Let’s get you prepared for registration!

• Placement Exams: Depending on your pathway, you may need to take placement exams like Math, Chemistry, or Foreign Language. If you plan to enroll in any of these courses, a placement exam is required. Math and Chemistry exams are completed online prior to the start of the semester. Foreign Language exams are taken on campus.
• **Advisement Sheets**: Advisement Sheets have been created by the Lead Academic Advisors to help you to decide what courses or types of courses to register for.

• **Course Scheduling**: We have provided you with a GE worksheet that simplifies the GE requirements for you. As mentioned earlier, the GE Worksheet and list of GE “two-fers” are included in your welcome email.

• **WebReg Help**: Please make sure you review the web registration tutorial videos prior to registration.

• **Advising**: Academic Advisors are available for virtual advisement appointments prior to your scheduled orientation session. We will make course recommendations and go over any required courses for your prospective major.

• For on-campus and off-campus orientations, advisors will have in-person advising sessions prior to registration. For those students who cannot attend an orientation, advisors will be able to assist you with registration through e-mail, phone contact or skype sessions.

**Slide 29: Registration**

Sample Schedule

- Select four (4) courses that *ideally* reflects your interests and meets requirements.
- Register for a GE course that satisfies a core literacy category
- Depending on whether or not you have already fulfilled the foreign language requirement, take either a foreign language course or a major exploration course.
- For those who plan to apply to a specific professional school like Marshall or Viterbi, you can also select courses that satisfies pre-requisite courses for admission to that particular program; in other words, a pre-major requirement.
- The typical course load for students is 4 courses per semester, and most of the classes are 4 units each.
- The way tuition works at USC is you pay a flat rate for “full time enrollment”; Full time is 12-18 units so each semester, you can add up to two more units for a total of 18; Many students use those two units to add a fun elective or tutorial course. As an example, there’s a 1-unit surfing course in Santa Monica Beach.

**Slide 30: UGP Contact**

Thank you very much for joining us! We are Academic Counseling Services, a part of the Office of Undergraduate Programs. Our office is in the Student Union Building (STU) 300. Here is our email, phone number, and website should you need to reach us. We look forward to working with you this upcoming school year. Welcome to the Trojan Family!