

Dear Class of 2021,

As the Director of Education at your new college I'm very much looking forward to welcoming you to UCR on Monday January 21st at 10.30 a.m. at the main UCR building (Townhall on market square).

Faculty, staff and RASA (our student association) are organizing a week-long orientation program filled with events aimed at students getting to know each other, to make the transition to university and to explore what it means to think like a Liberal Arts and Sciences scholar at an International Honors College.

In order to prepare for your start at UCR, we would like you to do two small preparatory exercises:

1. The first is to watch Adichi, C.N. *The danger of a single story*, TEDX  
([https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda\\_adichie\\_the\\_danger\\_of\\_a\\_single\\_story](https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story))

After watching, consider the following and write about it: what is your story? What do you want people to know about you? Which courses or topics are you interested in studying at UCR and how do these interests form part of your story? You will share your stories on the first day of Orientation.

2. The second thing we'd ask you do is think about the following questions: What assumptions do you have about learning? What kind of student are you and what strategies do you have for dealing with challenges?

A week before Orientation starts, there'll be an overview of the full program on the UCR website, along with a practical information booklet prepared by our Student Office as well as information from RASA, [Roosevelt's All Student Association](#) and the activities they have in store for you during the week.

I look forward to seeing you all on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Sincerely, Anya Luscombe  
Director of Education