

*The School of Physical Sciences presents*

## Anteater Spotlight

### Maksym Zubkov



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Meet Maksym Zubkov, a fourth year Mathematics major.

In addition to his academic achievements, including being on the Dean's Honor List for four consecutive quarters, Maksym has received two fellowships for undergraduate research and was nominated by the Scholarship Opportunity Program to apply for prestigious scholarships such as NSF and Fulbright.

Maksym moved to the United States from Ukraine in 2013 and worked as a technical assistant at IT Support LA while studying at Los Angeles Pierce College before transferring to UCI. During his time at UCI, he has become a member of PME, the Anteater Math Club and Tau Sigma Transfer Honor National Society. Maksym is also a math tutor at LARC, a math instructor at UCI Math Circle, and the Vice President for Tau Sigma.

Maksym also conducts research under the supervision of Professor Vladimir Baranovsky, focusing on developing new knot invariants. He plans to attend graduate school in his pursuit to become a math professor and researcher. He believes that UCI has been the perfect place to start accomplishing educational and research goals.

In his free time, Maksym likes programming and reading both fiction and non-fiction books .

In light of Maksym's many achievements, he offers the following advice to students on how to get involved at UCI and be successful:

- ⇒ Go to office hours if you are interested in getting involved in research. Search the departmental website to find professors with research interests that seem interesting to you and try emailing them to make an appointment.
- ⇒ If you want to want to be socially active, find clubs that match your out-of-class interests.
- ⇒ Read books! The most important rule for me is to understand the concepts. By reading different books and watching different lectures, the understanding of concepts will be better compared to just focusing on the professor's lectures. Also, try to study everyday and do extra problems in addition to homework problems.

Well, we think that you are awesome, Maksym! We fully believe that you will accomplish all of your goals!

