Svetlana Jitomirskaya is a Goldman Distinguished Chair Professor at UC Berkeley. She grew up in Kharkiv, Ukraine; both her parents were Holocaust survivors. She obtained Ph.D. at Moscow State University in 1991, and then worked at UC Irvine, from 1991 until 2023, rising there through the ranks from a part-time lecturer to Distinguished Professor. She has also held the inaugural Hubbard Chair at Georgia Tech in 2022-23.

Svetlana's research in mathematical physics has been recognized by various prizes, including the AMS Satter Prize (2005), APS & AIP Heineman Prize (2019), the inaugural Ladyzhenskaya Prize (2022), and the inaugural Barry Prize (2023). She was an invited session (2002) and plenary (2023) speaker at the ICM. She is an elected member of the AAAS, NAS, and AASL.