UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA
Chicano/Latino Community

www.admissions.ucsb.edu
WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE

Dear Prospective Students:
Thank you for your interest in UC Santa Barbara! This is an exciting time for you to be thinking about your future, and we are glad you are considering our campus as the next step in your education. You will find that the roads to growth and personal fulfillment take you far beyond intellectual pursuits. With that in mind, I invite you to get acquainted with our vibrant campus life.

This Chicano/Latino Resource Guide provides information on a wonderful variety of student clubs, programs, organizations, cultural events, activities, and campus services available to you, should you choose to become part of our UCSB family. I encourage you to browse through this guide and familiarize yourself with our community, including our Chican@/Latin@ Cultural Resource Center and El Centro Arnulfo Casillas. These centers, created with students like you in mind, are two of many academic and personal support systems on our campus.

At UC Santa Barbara, our community encompasses a rich and diverse mix of cultures, backgrounds, talents, and perspectives. This diversity is an essential part of our academic excellence. For example, our campus is one of 62 elected members of the prestigious Association of American Universities, placing us among the top 2% of all public and private universities in the United States and Canada. Among those AAU institutions, we are No. 1 for our percentage of Chicana/o and Latina/o enrollment, which has risen from 11% to 26% over the past two decades.

We have been ranked by Hispanic Magazine as one of the “Top 25 Colleges for Hispanics,” and in January 2015, we were designated a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. UC Santa Barbara is the first AAU institution to achieve HSI status, and with this recognition, our campus is now eligible to qualify for certain federal and private grants that will benefit all students as well as our faculty.

In addition, our campus is proud to offer a Chicana and Chicano Studies Department, a Chicano Studies Institute, and a library collection devoted to the field. In 2003, we also became the first university in the nation to establish a doctoral program in Chicana and Chicano Studies.

Many exciting opportunities and rewarding experiences lie ahead for you at UC Santa Barbara, and we hope to have the pleasure of welcoming you to our beautiful campus in the fall. In the meantime, I offer you my sincerest best wishes for your continued success.

HENRY T. YANG
Chancellor

I am delighted to hear you are interested in attending our University of California, Santa Barbara. I want to make sure you know how important each and every one of our students is to us. At UCSB, you will find that faculty, staff, administrators, and of course other students, will make every effort to make you feel welcomed and make you an integral part of our UCSB community.

You will be happy to know that our campus has a wide range of academic programs including an outstanding Chicano Studies Institute and a Chicana and Chicano Studies Department. Of special interest to you are the many organizations that exist specializing on Chicano and Latino academic disciplines that are very active on campus and eager to welcome you.

UCSB is very proud of having achieved the designation of a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) this year from the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). This designation is earned by colleges and universities who achieve a 25% or higher undergraduate student enrollment. I am happy to say that we have reached that goal.

Please note that UCSB is rated one of the top universities nationally and internationally. So be assured that you will be receiving an excellent education at UCSB. I am sure you will be happy to meet our superb faculty, staff, and student body.

MARÍA HERRERA-SOBEK
Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Academic Policy
Professor of Chicana and Chicano Studies
CARL GUTIÉRREZ-JONES
Professor, Department of English

How did the University of California help you get where you are today?
Although I did not receive my degrees from UC, I consider myself a UC product because it was an outreach program organized by UC Davis that put me on the college track. In my different administrative positions, I have sought opportunities to support similar programs, and these efforts have led to my involvement in a variety of collaborations with community-based groups.

How do your interests relate to UCSB's Chicano/Latino community?
My research interests include race and ethnic studies. I have been especially interested in the ways Chicana and Chicano artists have offered compelling critiques of legal interactions, as well as fascinating rethinkings of legal rhetoric. Many members of the Chicano/Latino communities at UCSB are interested in studying institutional discrimination, and I have greatly enjoyed partnering in these efforts.

What advice would you give to prospective students?
My main advice is to consider carefully the many excellent services and academic opportunities available at UCSB (for example, more than half of our undergraduates get directly involved in faculty research). A significant part of being successful in college is learning to draw on the available resources and UCSB has an exceptional array of faculty, staff and students who are deeply committed to the campus' twin goals of pursuing excellence and diversity.

CHICANO STUDIES INSTITUTE
The Institute is an organized research unit that supports research on the history and contemporary socio-cultural, political, artistic and economic conditions of Chicana/os, Mexicans and Latina/os. The Institute brings together faculty who engage in work groups, collaborative research, creative projects, publications, conferences, seminars and exhibits.
http://www.chicst.ucsb.edu/resources | (805) 893-3895

DEPARTMENT OF CHICANA/O STUDIES
Established in 1969, the Chicana/o Studies Department engages students in the interdisciplinary study of Chicana and Chicano history, culture and politics. Students pursuing a B.A. in Chicana and Chicano Studies study literary and religious traditions, artistic movements, mass media and more.
www.chicst.ucsb.edu | (805) 893-8880
OUTSTANDING STUDENT COMMUNITY

AYEJANDRA MELGOZA Chicana/o Studies / Sociology, Class of 2017

WHY UCSB? I chose UCSB because I fell in love with it the moment I visited as a sophomore in high school. I knew I wanted to attend such a prestigious university recognized by its academics but also by its beauty.

HOW ARE YOU INVOLVED AT UCSB? On campus, I currently serve as an Off-Campus Senator for Associated Students and the co-chair of M.U.J.E.R., an organization that dedicates itself to the recruitment of Latina high school students.

COMMUNITY AT UCSB The Chicana/Latina community is very supportive and ambitious. I think what I enjoy the most are late night study sessions where we get together and talk about how important it is to stay on top of our academics. We talk about our families, our friends, our community and how we count on each other to succeed.

MATTHEW ALVAREZ Political Science / Environmental Studies, Class of 2017

WHY UCSB? When I stepped onto this campus, something about the environment and community compelled me to want to be part of it. Coming from Los Angeles, it was a completely different atmosphere that I was not used to. Being walking distance to the beach was just one of the many perks of coming here. The distance from back home was just a two-hour drive and my mom really loved that so much; I think she would have selected UCSB for me too if she could have chosen.

I WISH I HAD KNOWN... It is okay to ask for help. It was not until I transitioned into college that I realized that seeking help and guidance from professors and Teaching Assistants (TAs) was not a bad thing. Your professors want to help and see you succeed. The Gaucho community is so strong that there is always someone there willing to help, be it your friends, family or faculty.


WHY UCSB? I chose to transfer to UCSB because of the great psychology program. I was intrigued by the research that faculty were involved with. I feel in love with the school location, the friendly people and united community. It is a place I can call home away from home.

HOW ARE YOU INVOLVED AT UCSB? I am part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) which gives me the opportunity to know about the different resources on campus and inform other students about the resources provided for us. I am also part of a multicultural academic and social sorority, Sigma Theta Psi, Inc.

COMMUNITY AT UCSB The Chicana/Latina community at UCSB is very united. I like how our UCSB campus not only allows us to embrace who we are but to empower each other.

RYAN RODRIGUEZ Pre-Chemistry, Class of 2019

WHY UCSB? There were multiple reasons why I chose UCSB. UCSB first caught my attention with the academics and the great research resources offered on campus. But it wasn’t until visiting the campus that I was sold. The perfect weather and beachside location, along with the rankings and rigor the school offered, made UCSB an easy choice for me.

I WISH I HAD KNOWN... I wish I had known just how much UCSB has to offer and all the various ways to get involved. UCSB made it easy to find my place on campus and calm any fears I had about coming to a new campus far from home.

COMMUNITY AT UCSB There is a huge Chicana/Latina community at UCSB that is only getting stronger. UCSB offers tons of resources for Chicana/Latina students to get in touch with their community.
UNMATCHED RESOURCES

HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION (HSI)

In 2015 UCSB was named a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. HSIs are defined as colleges or universities in which Hispanic enrollment comprises a minimum of 25% of the total enrollment. UCSB is the only HSI that is also a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOP)

EOP services all students while focusing on low-income and first-generation undergraduates. EOP provides mentorship, social and cultural programming, one-on-one counseling and advising, campus student support service referrals and academic programs. EOP helps motivate students to enhance their preparation for the job market or graduate school admission.

www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP | EOP@sa.ucsb.edu | (805) 893-4758

CHICANA/O LATINA/O CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER (CLCRC)

The Chicana/o Latina/o Cultural Resource Center (CLCRC) provides a space for the UCSB community to showcase art, language, people, food and traditions of Chicana/o Latina/o culture. The CLCRC has two spaces on campus—El Centro Arnulfo Casillas (Building 406) and the Student Resource Building (SRB).

www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP/CLCRC

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

UCSB has more than 35 organizations for Chicano/Latino students. Organizations include academic, cultural, faith-based, Greek, political, service-based, social and more. For a complete list of campus organizations at UCSB, please visit http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu.

18,000+ students live on or within a mile of campus

500 student organizations
EXPLORE UC SANTA BARBARA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

UCSB hosts a variety of celebrations, socials and cultural events throughout the year to celebrate Chicano/Latino culture on campus.

› Celebration of Communities
› Chicano/Latino Graduation
› Chicano/Latino Resource Center Fall Welcome
› Chicano/Latino Social
› Dia de las Madres
› Dia de los Muertos
› Dia de los Trabajadores
› Diversity Days/Week of Welcome
› IDEAS Student/Parent Conference
› Immigrant Right Awareness Week
› International Dessert Festival
› International Film Festivals
› International Women’s Week
› MultiCultural Center Events
› Old Spanish Days (Santa Barbara Fiesta)
› Salsa Classes
› Student of Color Conference
› Student Organization Activities Faire
› Summer Solstice Parade

VISIT UCSB OR CONNECT VIRTUALLY

For information on scheduling a campus tour, visit the Office of Admissions website at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/tours. Can’t visit in person? Stay connected to UCSB with virtual college fairs, online advising opportunities and webinars. To learn more, visit www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/webinars.

SPRING INSIGHT OPEN HOUSE

Visit UCSB for Spring Insight, an open house for admitted students, future applicants and their families held annually in April. Meet with campus clubs and organizations, take a tour, attend lectures and hear about all the exciting opportunities available to UCSB students. Learn more at www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/open-house.

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Cover art by UCSB student Trevor Coopersmith