

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA Middle Eastern Community



www.admissions.ucsb.edu



WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE



HENRY T. YANG

Chancellor

University of California, Santa Barbara

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 Middle Eastern 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 UC Santa Barbara family. I encourage you to browse through this guide and familiarize yourself with our community, including our Middle Eastern Resource Center. This center, created with students like you in mind, is one 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 mutually complements our academic excellence. Our university is proud to offer a Middle East Studies major within our Global & International Studies Program, and relevant workshops and conferences are held during the academic year. We also have a Middle East Ensemble that has performed widely throughout California, as well as in Arizona and Washington, D.C. More broadly, our MultiCultural Center offers a wide range of events including lectures, panel discussions, films, artistic performances, and poetry readings.

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 spectacular campus in the fall. In the meantime, I offer you my sincerest best wishes for your continued success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry T. Yang". The signature is fluid and cursive.



MIDDLE EASTERN RESOURCE CENTER (MERC)

The mission of the MERC is to promote the cultural awareness and academic success of students of Middle Eastern heritage. It fosters dialogue, cross-cultural learning and interaction among the diverse ethnic groups within the Middle Eastern communities and across campus. <https://eop.sa.ucsb.edu/merc>

MULTICULTURAL CENTER

The UCSB MultiCultural Center hosts lectures, films and videos, panel discussions, readings and art exhibitions as well as music, dance and dramatic performances to increase cultural awareness. Most events are free! The MultiCultural Center lounge is a great space to study, read newspapers or magazines, relax or meet with friends. <http://mcc.sa.ucsb.edu>



9,000

students volunteer
in the local
community

500

student
organizations



50%

of UCSB students
conduct research
with faculty

ACADEMIC SUPPORT



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Majors	Minors	Graduate Degrees
Global Studies, B.A.	Global Peace and Security	Global Studies
Middle East Studies, B.A.	Jewish Studies	Islamic Studies

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

UCSB is proud to house resources for Middle Eastern studies across campus.

- › Center for Middle East Studies www.cmes.ucsb.edu
- › UCSB Library, Middle East Studies Collection www.library.ucsb.edu
- › UCSB Middle East Ensemble www.music.ucsb.edu/mee

UC EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAM (UCEAP)

UCEAP provides the opportunity for UCSB students to study abroad in more than 40 countries, including universities and institutes in the Middle East. <https://eap.ucsb.edu>

- › **Cairo, Egypt:** American University in Cairo (AUC)
- › **Israel:** Ben-Gurion University, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- › **Amman, Jordan:** Princess Sumaya University for Technology, Jordan Institute of Diplomacy
- › **Rabat, Morocco:** Qalam Center and CIEE at Mohammad V University
- › **Turkey:** Bilkent University, Bo aziçi University, Koç University

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

For a complete list of campus organizations, please visit <http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu>.

- › Arab Student Group
- › Armenian Student Association
- › Hidden Road Initiative
- › HILLEL – Jewish Students Religious Center
- › International Student Association
- › Jewish Awareness Movement
- › Jewish Voices for Peace
- › Lebanese Social Club
- › Model Arab League
- › Muslim Student Association
- › Persian Student Group
- › Russian Club
- › Saudi Students Club
- › Turkish Student Association



73%
of undergraduate
classes have fewer
than 30 students

18:1
student-
to-faculty
ratio



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



MIDDLE EASTERN STUDENT PERSPECTIVES



ZAHER AKL
Sociology, Class of 2016

WHY UCSB? I chose UCSB because of the tremendous amount of undergraduate opportunities.

MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITY
Being involved in the Middle Eastern

community, specifically UCSB's Lebanese Social Club (LSC), has given me a warm family feel away from home. The UCSB LSC on our campus soon became my second home, and the friends I met within the organization were some of my first friends on campus. It allowed me to share the values, culture and traditions that I grew up knowing so well, but in a totally different environment!



ASHLEY RAHBARPOUR
Biopsychology, Class of 2017

WHY UCSB? I visited many other campuses to which I was accepted, but I never felt the same sense of warmth and togetherness that I did on this campus.

MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITY When I first came to UCSB, I wanted to find a group of people that would be my home away from home. Naturally I looked to the Middle Eastern community. I've had many positive interactions with other Middle Eastern students here of similar and different backgrounds.



MADELINE ATCHISON
Middle East Studies,
Class of 2017

WHY UCSB? I decided to attend UCSB because living at the beach while attending classes taught by dedicated professors is unbeatable.

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES PROGRAM The Middle Eastern Studies program allows students to interact with their professors, attend interesting guest lectures and gain valuable relationships. Through this program, I have studied abroad in Morocco and Jordan, participated in Olive Tree Initiative and learned Arabic all while creating lasting friendships.



MICHAEL WILSON
Middle East Studies,
Class of 2016

WHY UCSB? My decision to attend UCSB was based on not only the fantastic public university rating but also on the outstanding faculty and staff.

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES PROGRAM The department is very eager and willing to help out students, and they love to see you succeed. The Middle Eastern community here on campus is very warm and friendly. I easily made friends and am surrounded by people who have the same experiences I do.

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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www.admissions.ucsb.edu/mailling-list