

Resource Guide

American Indian Community



Welcoming Atmosphere



Henry T. Yang
Chancellor

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. I would like to invite you to get further acquainted with our vibrant campus life. This American Indian Community Resource Guide provides information on a wonderful variety of student clubs, programs, organizations, cultural events, activities, and campus services. This is a special time for you as you think about your future, and we are excited that you are considering our campus as the next step in your education!

A handwritten signature of Henry T. Yang.

9,000
students volunteer
in the local
community

50%
of undergraduate
students pursue
research or creative
projects

73%
of undergraduate
classes have fewer
than 30 students

18:1
student-to-
faculty ratio

19,000+
students live on
or within a mile of
campus



Welcome from the Chumash Community

The local indigenous communities now collectively known as the Chumash welcome new American Indian UCSB students to our homeland. The UCSB campus and the surrounding areas sit on our sister villages of Heli'yuk, Anisq'yo and Helo', where for millennia our ancestors conducted a far-reaching trade network of materials and ideas. Our coastal and inland tribal communities remain an integral part of local intellectual and economic life. We continue our unbroken tradition of welcoming and including people of many nations by inviting you to participate in many of our exciting events and cultural traditions, including canoe paddle events, pow wows, plant gathering trips and family beach barbeques. We are here to guide and support Native students as you navigate your UCSB course of study. Your fellow Native students have nurtured a warm connection with the local Chumash communities, so you can reach us – both in person and via social media – through any of the Native student-led organizations on campus.

Unmatched Resources

American Indian Cultural Resource Center

The mission of the American Indian Cultural Resource Center is to promote the development of cultural identity and leadership, thus enhancing academic studies and empowering American Indian undergraduate and graduate students through their college careers. The AICRC provides resources, activities, events and networking opportunities.

sa.ucsb.edu/EOP/AICRC



Educational Opportunity Program

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 support referrals and academic programs. EOP helps motivate students to enhance their preparation for the job market or graduate school admission.

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

Academic Programs

American Indian and Indigenous Studies Minor

The minor is designed to give students an understanding of the ideas, practices, experiences and issues confronting Native peoples of North and South America through the study of their histories, environment, cultures, languages, politics and economies. religion.ucsb.edu

Native American Religions M.A./Ph.D.

The study of Native American and Indigenous religions is primarily focused on peoples in the Americas. The program focuses on their cultures, worldviews and rituals in the contexts of colonialism, resistance and hybridity. religion.ucsb.edu

American Indian Student Organizations

For a complete list of UCSB's 500 campus organizations, please visit osl.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › American Indian Student Association
- › American Indian Science and Engineering Society
- › American Indian Graduate Student Alliance
- › American Indian & Indigenous Collective
- › American Indian & Indigenous Collective Research Focus Group
- › American Indian & Indigenous Gardens Alliance
- › American Indian & Indigenous Arts Collaborative
- › Native American Authors Reading Group
- › Students Taking Action for Native Dreams of Success Mentor Program (STANDS)

The American Indian & Indigenous Gardens Alliance works in UCSB's community garden.



STANDS members take a photo with UCSB Chancellor Henry T. Yang.



Students get together to celebrate Native culture and make fry bread.



Student artists participate in the American Indian & Indigenous Arts Collaborative to create Native beadwork.



American Indian Student Perspectives



Bridget Moffat

Major: Biology

Minor: Spanish

Tribe: Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Why UCSB? I chose UCSB because of the beautiful campus and numerous opportunities.

American Indian Community

The Native American community at UCSB is just like another family. Included in this family are other students, staff and community members who support each other. There is always someone to talk to.



Makayla Rawlins

Majors: Anthropology & History of Art and Architecture

Minor: American Indian & Indigenous Studies

Tribe: Luiseño

Why UCSB? I chose UCSB because of the beautiful campus

and the friendly people here. I wanted to enjoy my four years in college and I knew I could do that here at UCSB!

American Indian Community The Native community here at UCSB is not just a community, we are a family. When I first came here I did not know a lot about my Native heritage, but I have learned so much and now feel like I have a family away from home.

Event Spotlights



STANDS

Students Taking Action for Native Dreams of Success, now in its seventh year, is a day-long outreach conference for Native junior high and high school students. Hosted by UCSB American Indian student leaders, the goal is to promote research and the college-going experience. Participants stay in UCSB's residence halls, eat in the dining commons, take a guided tour of Native spots on campus and attend workshops on the UC application, financial aid and transitioning to college life. Participants are introduced to UCSB American Indian staff and faculty, as well as members of the local Native community, and they are paired with a UCSB STANDS student mentor.



Harvest Dinner

The Harvest Dinner is an annual event hosted by the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) since 1975. Originally, the dinner was hosted by Native American staff for Native students who remained on campus during Thanksgiving break. The original dinners were intimate potlucks but have since grown to include many Native community members who continue to support our students throughout the year. The event includes traditional drumming and flute playing, Native speakers and a silent auction that funds the UCSB American Indian Cultural Resource Center Scholarship.

UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014
admissions.ucsb.edu | 805-893-2881

Join our mailing list: admissions.ucsb.edu/mailing-list
Visit campus: admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/tours

