

UC SANTA BARBARA

Communities



African diasporic | American Indian and Indigenous | Asian | Chicanx/Latinx |
Middle Eastern, North African, South Asian | Foster Youth | LGBTQIA+ | Military

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The UC Santa Barbara community is academically vibrant and culturally diverse. The Communities Guide provides introductory information on programs and student organizations that uplift our students of many backgrounds. Visit the Communities website for more detailed information about each community. We hope this introductory guide sheds light on life as a UC Santa Barbara student.

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@ucsbadmissions
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@ucsb4me
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@ucsantabarbara
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@ucsb4life
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Scan the QR code to visit the official UCSB Communities website!



Visit: admissions.ucsb.edu to meet your counselor, find additional resources, and more!

Welcome to UC Santa Barbara's Diverse Communities

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. The Communities 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!

Henry T. Yang



Mentorship & Growth

Dream Scholars/Undocumented Student Services (USS)

UCSB is committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for undocumented students. The university maintains the confidentiality of students and develops campus processes to address student concerns, provide mentorship, financial assistance, and free legal aid. sa.ucsb.edu/DreamScholars

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

EOP services all students while focusing on income eligible and first-generation undergraduates. EOP provides mentorship, social and cultural programming, one-on-one counseling and advising, campus support referrals, and academic programs to prepare students for their career post-graduation. eop.sa.ucsb.edu

MultiCultural Center (MCC)

The UCSB MultiCultural Center presents lectures, films, discussions, readings, art exhibitions, and performances to increase cultural awareness. mcc.sa.ucsb.edu

ONDAS Student Center

ONDAS promotes the success and retention of first-generation students with an emphasis on the first-year transition and underrepresented experiences. Undergraduates are provided peer and faculty mentorship. ondas.ucsb.edu

04

African diasporic Student Resources

Office of Black Student Development (OBSD)

OBSD is a space dedicated to advance the holistic support of UCSB's Black student community — a space where culturally relevant programs and services are created through intentional partnerships that will work together to increase the recruitment, retention, academic achievement, and self-advocacy of our Black student population. obsd.sa.ucsb.edu

African diasporic Cultural Resource Center (AdCRC)

The AdCRC educates, promotes, and encourages the interaction and dialogue among the diverse ethnic groups within the African diasporic communities of UCSB and promotes cross-cultural learning and interaction amongst all ethnic and cultural groups. eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers

Academic Programs

Department of Black Studies | blackstudies.ucsb.edu
Center for Black Studies Research | cbsr.ucsb.edu

African diasporic Student Orgs

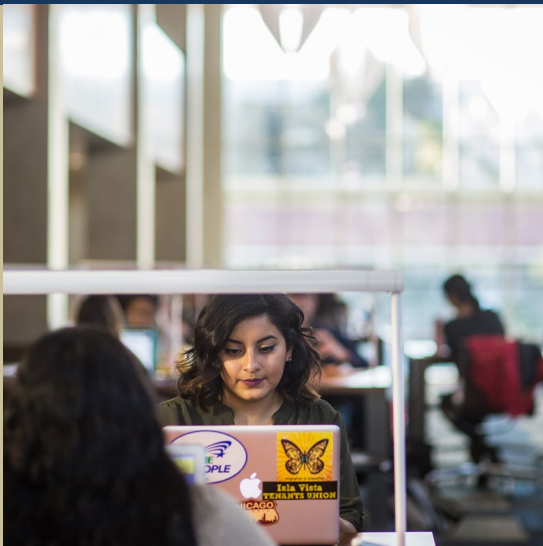
UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- › Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- › UCSB Umoja Community
- › Black Student Union
- › Black Women's Health Collaborative
- › East African Student Association
- › National Society of Black Engineers
- › Nigeria Student Association

Visit the African diasporic Communities site!



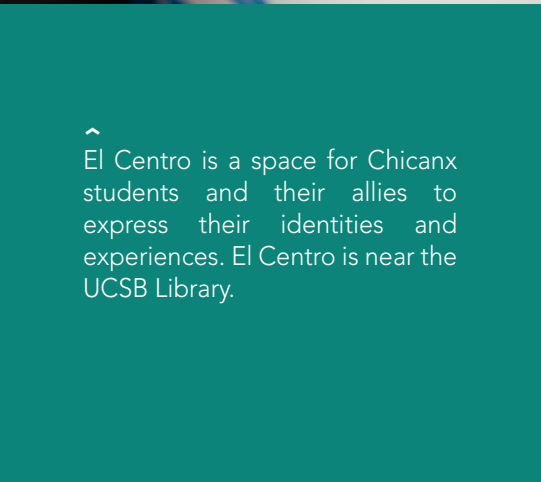
Each cultural center is located at the Student Resource Building (SRB), in addition to other departments, such as the Women's Center, Campus Learning Assistance Services, and more.



Each year, the campus hosts the Black Graduation ceremony and celebration. About 86% of recent graduates have either full-time or part-time positions after graduation.



The Black Scholars floor is a Living-Learning Community dedicated to Black students. Residents have the opportunity to participate in bonding events organized by current Resident Assistants and connect with Black faculty and staff. Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities



El Centro is a space for Chicana students and their allies to express their identities and experiences. El Centro is near the UCSB Library.



The UCSB Library has a social justice zine collection curated with an activism lens. Topics include neurodivergence, anti-racist activism, gender, sexuality, disability activism, Black archives, and more. guides.library.ucsb.edu/zines



In 1968, twelve Black UCSB students took over North Hall's second floor to demand the creation of a program that reflects the rich history of the African diaspora. The Department of Black Studies opened a year later in 1969. Today, the North Hall murals commemorate the historic takeover.



05

American Indian and Indigenous Student Resources

American Indian and Indigenous Cultural Resource Center (AIICRC)

The AIICRC strives to assist in the holistic development of American Indian & Indigenous (AI&I) students by hosting and supporting programming that focuses on academic excellence, cultural awareness, leadership development, social involvement, and proactive civic engagement. In turn, the AIICRC aids in the overall retention and graduation rates of our AI&I students at UCSB. The AIICRC is a space for students, staff, faculty, and community members to develop an understanding of and appreciation for their Indigenous identities. eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers

Academic Programs

American Indian and Indigenous Studies Minor | religion.ucsb.edu
Native American Religions M.A./Ph.D. | religion.ucsb.edu



The UCSB campus is located on the traditional and unceded land of the Chumash peoples. It is important that staff, students, and faculty understand the significance in recognizing the traditional custodians of the land and to respect the history and culture of the Chumash and all Indigenous people.



The Native Scholars House is a Living-Learning Community designed to provide support, resources, and community to uplift and empower Native and Indigenous students navigating university life. Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities

AI&I Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › American Indian and Indigenous Gardens Alliance
- › American Indian and Indigenous Arts Collaborative
- › American Indian and Indigenous Student Association
- › Collective of Pueblos Originarios in Diaspora
- › Mauna Kea Protectors
- › Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science

Visit the AI&I Communities site!



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Asian Student Resources

Asian Resource Center (ARC)

The ARC promotes education and awareness of the diverse ethnicities within the Asian community. The center also provides a supportive environment to develop an appreciation for one's identity. eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers

East Asia Center (EAC)

Separate from the ARC, the East Asia Center organizes lectures and events on the culture, history, politics, and societies of China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. The center's listserv keeps students updated on events, available fellowships, and grants. eac.ucsb.edu

Academic Programs

Asian American Studies, B.A. | asamst.ucsb.edu
East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies | eastasian.ucsb.edu



Graduates celebrate with their families at the Kapatirang Pilipino senior sendoff.



Asian Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › Chinese Cultural Exchange Association
- › Hong Kong Student Association
- › Japanese Student Association
- › Kapatirang Pilipino
- › Korean American Student Association
- › Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers
- › Pacific Islander Student Association
- › Taiwanese Student Association
- › Vietnamese Student Association

Visit the Asian Pacific Islander Communities site!



The APIDA (Asian Pacific Islander Desi American) Scholars floor is a Living-Learning Community where students and campus partners have in-depth discussions, social activities, and cultural celebrations. Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities



Members of the Chinese Student Association play games during their Casino Night event.

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Chicanx/Latinx Student Resources

Chicanx/Latinx Cultural Resource Center (CLCRC) & El Centro

The CLCRC provides a culturally enriched environment where students, faculty, and staff can learn about a diverse culture. The objective of the CLCRC is to educate and unify the UCSB and Chicanx/Latinx community through the mediums of art, language, people, food, and traditions. At the CLCRC and El Centro Arnulfo Casillas, the UCSB community can develop an understanding and appreciation of Chicanx/Latinx cultural heritage and history. eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers

Academic Programs

Department of Chicana/o Studies | chicst.ucsb.edu

Department of Latin American & Iberian Studies | spanport.ucsb.edu

Department of Spanish & Portuguese | www.lais.ucsb.edu

Chicano Studies Institute | csi.ucsb.edu

Linguistics - Spanish Emphasis, B.A. | linguistics.ucsb.edu



Hablamos Español: The Office of Admissions has several Spanish-speaking staff ready to answer admission questions from students or parents in Spanish. Call us at (805) 893-2881.



In 2015, UCSB achieved status as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI).

More than a quarter of undergraduates identify as Chicanx/Latinx.

UCSB hosts a variety of celebrations and events throughout the year to celebrate Chicanx/Latinx culture on campus including Bienvenida, the Resource Center Fall Welcome, Día de los Muertos, Celebración de la Familia, Chicanx/Latinx Graduation, and more.



Chicanx/Latinx Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › Comunidad Latinx Graduación
- › El Congreso de UCSB
- › Hermanas Unidas / Hermanos Unidos
- › Latinx Business Association
- › Los Curanderos
- › Los Ingenieros
- › La Escuelita
- › La Familia de Colores
- › M.U.J.E.R
- › Raíces De Mi Tierra

Visit the Chicanx/Latinx Communities site!



The Chicanx/Latinx Scholars floor is a Living-Learning Community for those identifying or interested in exploring Chicanx/Latinx identities and cultures. Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities



08

Middle Eastern, North African, South Asian Student Resources

Middle Eastern, North African, South Asian Resource Center (MENASARC)

The MENASARC promotes the cultural awareness and academic success of students of Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian (MENASA) heritage. The center also serves as an organizing hub for our MENASA student communities and serves as a dedicated space to organize events and programming for the campus at large. eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers

Academic Programs

Middle East Studies, B.A. | religion.ucsb.edu

Iranian Studies, Minor | religion.ucsb.edu

Jewish Studies, Minor | religion.ucsb.edu

Center for Middle East Studies (CMES) | cmes.ucsb.edu

Center for Sikh and Punjab Studies | punjab.global.ucsb.edu

The CMES faculty and students have produced award-winning scholarship across the disciplines of History, Religious Studies, Anthropology, Film and Media Studies, Global Studies, History of Art and Architecture, Music, Political Science, Communication, and Sociology.



The Center for Middle East Studies offers funding for travel to students from various disciplines in Middle Eastern studies. history.ucsb.edu

◀ The UCSB Middle East Ensemble is a performance ensemble in UCSB's Department of Music. The Ensemble has performed widely throughout California and in Tucson, Arizona, Washington D.C., and Albion and Dearborn, Michigan. mee.music.ucsb.edu



MENASA Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.

- › Agni
- › Dhadkan
- › Chabad at UCSB
- › Indus (South Asia Student Association)
- › Lebanese Social Club
- › Muslim Student Association
- › Persian Student Group
- › Ravaani at UCSB (Acapella Team)
- › Santa Barbara Hillel
- › Sikh Student Association
- › Taara

Visit the MENASARC EOP site!



09 Guardian Scholars Foster Youth

About Guardian Scholars

The Guardian Scholars Program at UCSB currently supports approximately 180 students. The program helps to ensure that incoming students have a smooth transition into the UCSB community and are provided with a network of services to enhance their educational experience. The program provides academic advising, leadership opportunities, campus resource referral, mentoring, student advocacy, career guidance, social support and much more! sa.ucsb.edu/guardianscholars

A foundation of the UCSB Guardian Scholars Program is the belief that services or programs for foster youth should be defined by the youth themselves.

Program Partners

Basic Needs Resources

Basic Needs Advocates help students secure food, housing, financial support, technology resources, and other basic needs.

Associated Students Food Bank

The Food Bank provides a pantry when personal supplies and necessities are scarce.

University Housing

Guardian Scholars are given priority in housing placements and have the support of a dedicated liaison who assists with special requests and unique needs.

Since the inception of the Guardian Scholars Program in 2009, there have been many supporters and champions throughout the Santa Barbara community who assist students in different ways and areas. The Guardian Scholars Program would like to acknowledge the following foundations and groups:

The Makarechian Foundation • The Hilton Foundation • The Center for Living Peace • The Towbes Group • Quest Family Foundation • The John Burton Foundation • UCSB Transportation Alternatives Program • Rotary Club • Echoes of Hope Foundation



More than 60 donors have supported the Guardian Scholars program.

Over 1,000 scholarships have been awarded through the Guardian Scholars program.

Departmental Liaisons

Below are contacts in multiple departments who serve as the liaisons to the program and students.

Office of Admissions | (805) 893-2881

Basic Needs Resources | (805) 893-2786

Campus Learning Assistance Services | (805) 893-4757

Student Health | (805) 893-2167

Counseling and Psychological Services | (805) 893-4411

Housing, Dining and Auxiliary Enterprises | (805) 893-7391

Student Engagement & Leadership | (805) 893-4364

Office of Financial Aid | (805) 893-3760

College of Letters and Science | (805) 893-2948

Career Services | (805) 893-4412

Visit the Guardian Scholars site!



10 LGBTQIA+ Student Resources

Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity (RCSGD)

The RCSGD serves as UCSB's LGBTQIA+ center. The center is located on the 3rd floor of the Student Resource Building. In collaboration with students, staff, and faculty, the center works to ensure that LGBTQIA+ identities, experiences, and concerns are represented and addressed at UCSB. rcsgd.sa.ucsb.edu

The RCSGD provides:

- › Community building events
- › Queer Trans Identities and Experience Seminars (QTies)
- › Resource creation and referral
- › Advocacy and one-on-one support

Academic Programs

LGBTQ Studies Minor | femst.ucsb.edu/undergrad/degree#lgbtq

RCSGD Events

- › Recurring closed identity discussion spaces
- › Coming Out Monologue
- › Trans Week of Visibility
- › Lavender Graduation



Rainbow House in Manzanita Village and Lavender Living in Santa Ynez Apartments are communities that connect LGBTQIA+ students to organizations and resources, provide mentorship, and deepen their network through social and educational events. Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities



^
3,000 visitors explore the RCSGD each year.

LGBTQIA+ Student Orgs

For a complete list of UCSB's LGBTQIA+ Student Organizations, visit rcsgd.sa.ucsb.edu/get-involved/student-organizations.

- › Queer and Trans Community
- › oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math)
- › Black Quare
- › UndocuQueer & UndocuTrans Support Group

Visit the RCSGD site!



The RCSGD celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2019.

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Military Community Resources

Veterans and Military Services (VMS)

VMS promotes a positive educational experience for military-related students, supports their transition through academia, and facilitates access to resources to enable degree completion. veterans.sa.ucsb.edu

Student Veterans of America (SVA) Chapter

The SVA connects student veterans to a community of chapter leaders on a national scale. The SVA is committed to providing an educational experience going beyond the classroom by empowering students through academic, professional, and personal development. facebook.com/studentvets

Veterans Resource Center (VRC)

Students have 24/7 access to the VRC to study, relax, connect with services, and meet military-related peers. veterans.sa.ucsb.edu/VMRC

Army ROTC Surfrider Battalion

UCSB Army ROTC provides leadership training and unique opportunities by combining leadership and management theory with hands-on experience. milsci.ucsb.edu

Partners & Resources

VA Educational Benefits & Financial Aid | finaid.ucsb.edu/veterans

Office of Admissions | admissions.ucsb.edu

University Housing | veterans.sa.ucsb.edu/housing

Transfer Student Center | transfercenter.ucsb.edu

Students may be eligible for a wide range of benefits and services including technology support, food resources, and more.

Visit the
Veterans
Communities
site!



85% of undergraduate military-related students are transfer students.

The average age of military-related students at UCSB is 31.



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/mailling-list
Visit campus: admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits