

UC SANTA BARBARA



Communities

African Diasporic | American Indian and Indigenous | Asian Pacific Islander
Chicanx/Latinx | Middle Eastern, North African, South Asian
Foster Youth | More Communities

Welcome to UCSB's Diverse Communities

The Communities Guide provides introductory information on programs and student organizations that uplift our students of many backgrounds. Visit the website for more detailed information about each community.



Scan to visit the UCSB
Communities website!

Living Learning Communities

The Living Learning Communities (LLCs) are housing communities meant to provide unique and engaging community experiences through cultural, identity or academic themes. If you would like to live in an LLC, indicate your preference on your housing application by your deadline. Find more details at housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities

Campus Organizations

UCSB has nearly 500 campus organizations, ranging from cultural, social, to professional groups. For a complete list, visit seal.sa.ucsb.edu.



Mentorship & Growth



Established in 1970, the Chicana/o Studies Department was the first unit in the entire UC system. Student activism strengthened the Department over time, leading to the creation of the world's first doctoral program in Chicana/o Studies in 2003.

The Poverty, Inequality and Social Justice minor provides students with the tools to understand the structural and political roots, dynamics and consequences of poverty and intersectional inequality; conduct original research; and engage in efforts to address poverty through policy, practice and social action. The minor is offered through the Department of History. history.ucsb.edu

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

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) services all students while focusing on income eligible and first-generation undergraduates. EOP provides social/cultural programming, one-on-one counseling and advising, campus support referrals, and prepares students for their career post-graduation. eop.sa.ucsb.edu



Undocumented Student Services (USS) is committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for undocumented and Dream scholars. The university maintains the confidentiality of students and develops campus processes to address student concerns, provide free legal aid, and more. uss.sa.ucsb.edu



The ONDAS Student Center promotes the success and retention of first-generation students, first-year transition, and underrepresented experiences. Undergraduates are provided peer and faculty mentorship. ondas.ucsb.edu



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

Check out additional campus resources on the UCSB Admissions YouTube channel, [UCSB4ME](https://www.youtube.com/UCSB4ME).

African Diasporic Student Resources

Office of Black Student Development (OBSD)

OBSD is a space dedicated to advancing the holistic support of UCSB's Black student community — a space where culturally relevant programs and services are created through intentional partnerships that 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

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/african-diasporic



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.



American Indian & 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

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/american-indian

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.

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

Linguistics: Chinese Emphasis/Japanese Emphasis, B.A. | linguistics.ucsb.edu

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/asian-pacific-islander



In 2015, UCSB achieved status as an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) by the U.S. Dept. of Education. Over 26% of our students identify as Asian/Pacific Islander.



In 2015, UCSB achieved status as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). Nearly 28% of our students identify as Chicanx/Latinx.

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 | lais.ucsb.edu

Department of Spanish & Portuguese | spanport.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.

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/chicanx-latinx

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

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/menasa



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



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.

Guardian Scholars Program

The UCSB Guardian Scholars Program supports the academic and personal success of students who have been part of the foster care and child welfare systems. We ensure our incoming students have a smooth transition into the campus community, and are provided with a network of services to enhance their educational experience. Through workshops, mentorship programs, and career counseling, we equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in their future endeavors. Program services include academic support, enrichment services, student advocacy, career guidance, peer networking, housing assistance, and financial aid advising. Program partners include:

Basic Needs Resources

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

Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship

The Financial Aid Office provides our students with personalized advising and student advocacy. finaid.ucsb.edu

University Housing

Guardian Scholars are given priority in housing placements and supported by a dedicated liaison who assists with special requests and unique needs. housing.ucsb.edu

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/foster-youth

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)
- › Legal name and gender change advising
- › Resource creation and referral
- › Advocacy and one-on-one support
- › Gender-affirmation resources

Academic Programs

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

admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/lgbtq



RCSGD facilitates the intersectional inclusion and representation of LGBTQIA+ students, staff, faculty, and alumni. RCSGD staff, in collaboration with campus partners, promote the celebration, development, scholarship, and success of the LGBTQIA+ community.



85% of undergraduate military-related students are transfer students. Transfer student resources are available at transfercenter.ucsb.edu.

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

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. 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

VA Educational Benefits & Financial Aid

We also provide support students who are dependent on active and former military. finaid.ucsb.edu/veterans

More Communities

We encourage you to explore more on the UCSB Admissions Celebrating Diversity Page. admissions.ucsb.edu/communities/more-communities

First Generation

As the first in your family to earn a bachelor's degree, we are here to support you as you engage with your education and community at UCSB. firstgen.ucsb.edu

Non-Traditional Students

The Non-Traditional Student Resource Center can assist student parents, re-entering students, or non-traditionally aged students with the resources provided in the website. nontrad.sa.ucsb.edu/infoservices-student-parents

Disabled Students Program

The DSP staff works in an advisory capacity with a variety of campus departments to ensure that equal access is provided to students with disabilities. dsp.sa.ucsb.edu

Gaucha Underground Scholars (GUS) Program

GUS provide supports, assistance, and guidance to formerly incarcerated and system-impacted students, who are striving towards successful community and academic reintegration. undergroundscholars.ucsb.edu




UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014

admissions.ucsb.edu | admissions@ucsb.edu | (805) 893-2881

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