African American Resource & Cultural Center

RESOURCE GUIDE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” —Malcolm X
students through academic, cultural, and social support. With our low- and high-scale events targeted towards the needs of ABC students, our programming is inclusive to all allies. As well, the AARCC acknowledges the multicultural and multiracial identities so many of us hold and we intentionally work directly with all resource centers, American Indian Resource Center, Asian American/Pacific Islander Resource Center, Chicano Latino Resource Center, and Lionel Cantú Queer Resource Center. As the current director, I want to champion inclusivity and ensure you feel welcomed, loved, and supported. As you continue forward on the infinite quest for knowledge and truth, we are here for you, as needed. The African American Resource and Cultural Center is a student-oriented space and it can be your nucleus, your home away from home.

Congratulations on all you have accomplished thus far and I look forward to connecting with you!

Peace and Love,

Shonté Thomas—Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
Director, African American Resource & Cultural Center

Life is filled with challenges and opportunities, and college is no exception. I want you to know that we are here to support you every step of the way. Faculty and staff are dedicated to your success. Campuswide resources support student achievement inside and outside the classroom, including the African American Resource and Cultural Center; the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; the Dean of Students/Campus Life Office; the Colleges, Housing & Educational Services Diversity and Inclusion Programs; and the Cultural Arts and Diversity Resource Center.

I welcome you and encourage you to stop and say hello if you see me on campus. I look forward to hearing about your experience at UC Santa Cruz.

Sincerely,

George Blumenthal

Dear Students,

I encourage you to explore all that the University of California, Santa Cruz has to offer. We continue to see increased interest from California students and those from other states and countries seeking a university experience centered on student success and driven by breakthrough research and innovation that continues to gain national and international recognition.

Our founders envisioned UC Santa Cruz as a major research university that would offer students a personalized learning experience, with opportunities to work closely with leading faculty and get hands-on experience with research, scholarship, and creative expression. That vision was quickly realized, and tens of thousands of students have benefited.

One distinctly positive change that has taken place over the decades is the increasing diversification of our student body. Extra-curricular programs and organizations reflect student interests, from Rainbow Theater and the National Society of Black Engineers to Engaging Education, a student-initiated program that has had tremendous success reaching out to prospective high school students from diverse backgrounds.

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George Blumenthal
African American Resource & Cultural Center (AARCC), formerly known as the Office of African-American Student Life (AASL), was established in the academic year of 1990-91. After 25+ years of service, the AARCC remains committed to the retention and success of our students. The center provides a wide range of support programs and a welcoming space for students of the African diaspora, encouraging student participation in campus life, student organizations, academic excellence, and community service. Students will find a center that specializes in advocacy, advising, leadership development, and promotion of their achievements and educational goals.

We encourage all of our students to expand their horizons and take advantage of all of the resources available to them on the UCSC campus. We look forward to meeting all of you. Welcome to Santa Cruz!

Don’t forget to come visit us at the Center located above the Bay Tree Bookstore!

“AARCC MISSION & VISION

The mission of the African American Resource and Cultural Center is to provide support for students in the African/Black/Caribbean (ABC) community at the University of California, Santa Cruz. The history of the Center is steeped in UCSC tradition; we were the first ethnic resource center on campus after determined and dedicated students of color formed a circle around Hahn Student Services in peaceful protest and demanded that the administration recognize their need for support.

Since our founding in 1990, we have striven to create and foster an environment in which students of African/Black descent excel personally, professionally, and academically through our commitment to celebrating our culture and providing multifaceted support and resources to students.

As we progress, we maintain the same sense of determination and dedication that built the African American Resource and Cultural Center over two decades ago. As an underrepresented minority in the University of California system, we believe it is more imperative than ever to commit to the encouragement and enrichment of students in our community.

“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”

–Shirley Chisholm

OUR AARCC, OUR FAMILY!

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Dr. Byrd graduated from Agnes Scott College with a degree in Psychology and earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in Education and Psychology at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Byrd uses quantitative and qualitative research methods to explore how adolescents perceive interactions and teaching around race and culture and the implications for their identity and motivation. Her recent work includes a literature review of school racial climate and interviews with college students reflecting on their high school climates. She has also beta-tested a mobile app where college students can reflect on their high school climates. She has also conducted research on microaggressions. Her work is published in a number of journals, including the Journal of Youth and Adolescence, Journal of Black Psychology, Journal of Research on Adolescence, and the Journal of African American History: 1877 to the Present. Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Dr. Byrd has served as a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Educational Research, Journal of Black Psychology, and Journal of Youth and Adolescence. She has also served as a guest editor for a special issue of the Journal of African American History: 1877 to the Present. Dr. Byrd has presented her research at numerous conferences and has received several awards for her work, including the American Psychological Association’s DIVP Research Training Grant and the American Psychological Association’s Minority Fellowship Program.

Dr. Byrd has also been an active member of the American Psychological Association, serving on several committees and task forces. She has also been involved in several community organizations, including the National Association of Black Psychologists and the American Psychological Association’s Division of Ethnic Minority Psychology.

Dr. Byrd’s research has focused on the development of students within the apartment community. The apartments staff and community contain both College Nine and College Ten continuing and transfer students. Her work is published in a number of journals, including the Journal of Youth and Adolescence, Journal of Black Psychology, and Journal of Research on Adolescence. Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute of Mental Health.

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UC Santa Cruz has produced outstanding scholars and critical thinkers in all fields—science, engineering, the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Explore the campus website to read about alumni, including:

NWADIUTO “DT” AMAJOYI

Alumna NWADIUTO “DT” AMAJOYI—now pursuing an international law degree in London—pushed outside her comfort zone at UC Santa Cruz in search of growth.

As a little girl in Nigeria, NWADIUTO Amajoyi played happily with bottle caps and roly-poly bugs in the red sand of her grandmother’s garden.

Even with that inventive mind, Amajoyi (College Nine ’13, psychology) couldn’t have imagined the changes coming in her life, beginning with her family’s move to Southern California when “DT” (a nickname since childhood) was just 7 years old.

Twenty-six years later, she has written speeches for a senator, participated in the International Moot Court, and prepared case files for Ugandan inmates. These days she’s in London, pursuing an international law degree.

Amajoyi discovered teachers and mentors who encouraged her personal and academic growth. She found inspiration, solidarity, and support among fellow activists fighting for student rights. “I still remember my first protest in Quarry Plaza, the sound of our voices in unison as we sang words we deeply believed, for rights we so deeply thought we deserved,” she says. “This was the student movement, and I was hooked.”

While he applied to many schools, DACOURY first visited campus through our student-led Destination Higher Education (DHE) visitation program for admitted students. His decision was automatic after attending DHE—he knew this would be his home away from home for the next four years. He credits his smooth and successful transition to UCSC to the Summer Bridge Program offered through the Educational Opportunity Program. “Summer Bridge was VITAL to being mentally prepared to go with technology. You’ve got to be able to love what you do. If you’re trying to change something, every time you make a beat, you’ve got to be like, ‘I never made a beat before in my life.’ You have to constantly be on the search for new things. I just want to put myself in situations where I’m challenged. And I want to give artists something that they’ve never heard.”

He went on to share how he avoids repetition. “You can’t get too comfortable. You’ve got to be able to grow with technology. You’ve got to be able to love what you do. If you’re trying to change something, every time you make a beat, you’ve got to be like, ‘I never made a beat before in my life.’ You have to constantly be on the search for new things. I just want to put myself in situations where I’m challenged. And I want to give artists something that they’ve never heard.”

DACOURY NATCHÉ (AKA DJ DAHI)

Oakes College, American Studies, ’05

Audio Engineer

Throughout his college years, DACOURY NATCHÉ was deeply influenced by an on-campus outreach program, Destination Higher Education (DHE), led by African American students as part of Engaging Education’s (E2) Student-Initiated Outreach program. “It was an amazing weekend full of cultural pride and community,” she recalls. “The campus had a long way to go with its diversity numbers, but I thought, ‘This is a place where I can grow.’” And grow she did.

For instance, while struggling to attain U.S. citizenship during college—and discovering that many of her friends were undocumented—she organized a day of action supporting the ultimately successful passage of the California Dream Act.

Amajoyi’s extensive college involvement included serving as UC Santa Cruz student body president, Commissioner of Diversity, co-chair of the UC Student Association Council of Presidents, co-chair of the Engaging Education CARE Council, and a DHE board member.

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Almajoi praises the value of her UC Santa Cruz degree and the leadership skills she developed during college. But she also remembers her sense of isolation and offers candid suggestions for improvements, from requiring classes in cultural competency and ethnic studies to hiring additional professors of color.

After graduating, Almajoi acted as a California State Senate fellow before entering Pepperdine University School of Law. She also served legal internships with the Western Center on Law and Poverty, and with the Republic of Uganda’s Anti-Corruption Court. "I can’t see myself getting tired of service to other people," she says. "My education has given me knowledge, and my travel and experiences have given me wisdom and empathy for people and their struggles."

“Growing up in Nigeria, I knew what suffering was; I could see it all around me. But somehow people found a way to be happy, to love, and to hope,” she says. “It’s this resilience and hopefulness that has pushed me to pursue and achieve things I never would have thought possible for a little girl from my village.”

Dr. Keith Curry
American Studies, ’99

Dr. Keith Curry earned a Bachelor’s Degree in American Studies from the UC Santa Cruz and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from UC Irvine, and has served in a number of increasingly challenging positions as a postsecondary education administrator.

Dr. Curry was appointed to the position Chief Executive Officer of Compton Community College District effective July 1, 2013. In this position, Curry is responsible for overseeing all departments and functions of the District and serves as the secretary to the Board of Trustees. The CEO sets the budget and policies, manages and oversees senior management, sets goals and benchmarks, and on a daily basis must function as a team builder among management.

The CEO leads the direction of the campus while setting the tone and developing the institutional culture. Curry has taken a strong stance in the ability of the Compton Community College District to provide quality education to the students of this community and to provide an environment of educational excellence.

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Shonelle Blake grew up in Oakland and Berkeley, eventually making her way to UC Santa Cruz as a member of Oakes College. She graduated in 1992 with a B.A. in Economics and with Service Honors because of her outstanding community service to Oakes College and the UCSC campus community.

Shonelle has made a career working in entertainment, insurance, and real estate. Her work in Hollywood includes roles in several feature films, a co-founder of Kashke Productions, which produced a number of award-winning short film projects, a handful of commercials (including a MasterCard commercial with Mr. T), and two webseries. She was up for a Best Actress award in the LA WebFest, which is the largest webseries festival in the U.S.

Shonelle is a proud mom of teenage twins, Omari and Imam, and an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and performs around the country with the renowned PSALMS Choir. She is also the co-founder of the UCSC Black Alumni Association, which seeks to harness the collective energy and experience of UC Santa Cruz African-American Alumni for the benefit, support, and success of African-American students matriculating through UCSC.

Paul Simpson grew up in Oakland, CA prior to attending UCSC. His introduction to UCSC was through the EOP Summer Bridge program, which set the foundation for his success at UCSC. While at UCSC he was a member of the Men’s Basketball team, Black Men’s Alliance, NSBE, INROADS, and a tutor for local high school students in math. He earned a B.A. in Business Management Economics from UC Santa Cruz and has since won and earned a Master of Business Administration from UC Berkeley - Haas Business School.

Professionally, Paul Simpson has been an executive in the wireless consulting industry for 12+ years as the founder and CEO of SageTel International, LLC. SageTel is based in Newport Beach and provides comprehensive strategic consulting services for the major U.S. wireless carriers and telecommunication companies. Services include implementing new technologies, program management, developing go-to-market strategies, M&A integration support, mobile application development, and creating/implementing strategic initiatives.

He currently serves on the executive committee of the UCSC Alumni Association and is the President of The Foundation for Compton Community College. Additionally, he has been training and mentoring student athletes for over 15 years.

"I know I’m not self-made... I’ve developed into the person I am today due to the fact that people at some point in time created a public institution like UC Santa Cruz and programs like MESA, INROADS, EOP, and others. I’m a living example of how a degree from UCSC can positively change one’s life and the lives of others...."— as a UCSC alum it’s important to me to ensure that current and future students of the university have the same opportunities if not more than I had to succeed. I realize that a portion of my success is due to the fact that alumni of UCSC have been great stewards of the university and given back in numerous ways to help ensure its continued success. It’s important to me to reciprocate the same thing."

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Our undergraduate population currently consists of 4% of undergraduate students who have identified as African American or African American and another ethnicity. When including two or more ethnicities, we see there are 2% of undergraduates who only identify as African American. Two percent of graduate students have identified as either African American or African American and another ethnicity. When including two or more ethnicities, there are 2% who identify as only African American. The campus is actively seeking to recruit, retain, and graduate an increasing number of African American undergraduates and graduates.

My name is Oarteze Hunter. I’m 22 years old and I’m from South Central Los Angeles. I graduated from UCSC with a BS in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology (MCDB) from Porter College. I am now working on my PhD as a 1st year grad student also in MCD Biology. During my undergrad I was fortunate enough to be apart of multiple research and pre-med summer programs such as the Stanford Summer Research Program (2014) and the Traveler’s Summer Research Fellowship Program at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City (2015). I practice self-care by chillin with friends, cooking, and being outside in general. I love watching the sunset at West Cliff in Santa Cruz. I also love to dance and be the center of attention at parties. I’ve been living in Santa Cruz since I graduated high school in 2012 and now I’m a PhD student. Being connected to the various resources on campus such as the African-American Resource and Cultural Center (AARCC) and Student Health Outreach and Promotion (SHOP), where I volunteer as an HIV Peer Test Counselor and Educator for students on campus, has been an amazing and empowering experience. Now, I spend the majority of my time on campus in the lab conducting cutting edge research in the field of molecular biology next to supporting and caring faculty and I know you still have these resources with me to support me. I hope you find what you love to do at UCSC like I did. UCSC is a pretty great place to discover yourself and your passions.

Nicole Harris is a senior at UCSC majoring in Community Studies, emphasis in Economic Justice graduating in June of 2017. She had the opportunity to complete her field study at SF LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired researching the intersections of the blind community. She has a passion for arming individuals with tools needed to change their lives. It’s been five years since Nicole suffered severe trauma to her optic nerves, which changed her trajectory in life. She knew education was power and was willing to relearn everything. Attending Skyline Community College gave her several opportunities, including lobbying in Washington DC for student rights, teaching English in Guatemala, and most of all receiving one of SC Santa Cruz is Pister Scholarship. Transitioning from community college to UCSC did not come without challenges. “In the beginning, I had a rocky start, yet it was the uplifting words of people from the African American Resource and Cultural Center (AARCC) that helped me gain my footing and gave me the confidence to pursue graduate school. I have learned that I don’t have to be perfect, all I need to be is unapologetically myself meaning I will always support the under represented.” Nicole spends her time at UCSC giving back to her ABC community. Her fondest campus memories to date, consist of winning at casino night, singing along to Disney songs in the Ethnic Resource Centers’ lounge, and participating and engaging in discussions with many authors.

“At Santa Cruz, I learned that activist, feminist, academic, and scholar are not bad words, they embody who I am.”

Nicole has deep love for her family, especially her son, Aidan! Her family supports her with interdependence so she can live her dream. “At Santa Cruz, I learned that activist, feminist, academic, and scholar are not bad words, they embody who I am. I will continue to lift as I climb because we all will touch the sky.”
African/Black Student Alliance (A/BSA)
A/BSA is one of the oldest and largest student organizations on the UCSC campus, predating even the AARCC. A/BSA is committed to the recruitment and retention of African American students here at UCSC, through betterment of the entire African American community, including but not limited to those in our local Santa Cruz community. To contact the A/BSA, e-mail absa.slugs@gmail.com.

Destination Higher Education (DHE)
The African/Black Student Alliance’s program DHE introduces newly admitted students to the African/Black community and student life at UCSC. DHE provides personal, social, and academic workshops that focus on the Black Experience at UCSC and are presented by African/Black students at UCSC. If you are interested in attending, or if you have any questions, e-mail ucscdhe@gmail.com.

African American Theater Arts Troupe (ATTAT)
ATTAT is a student-based organization that came together under the leadership and direction of Donald Williams in 1991. ATTAT was formed as a vehicle to create unity, higher visibility, and understanding of the African American culture here at UCSC and the greater Santa Cruz community. For more information, visit cadrc.org/aatat.

African Student Union (ASU)
ASU is a student organization that strives to increase awareness about the multiple African cultures/identities, eliminate stereotypical discernment of Africa, and unite the African community through educational, cultural, and social service events. To contact the ASU, e-mail asuucsc1@gmail.com.

Beautiful Black Queer (BBQ)
BBQ is a student-run, student-initiated organization where black LGBTQ students have a space that is comfortable and allows them to relax, while also fostering a strong sense community.

Black Men’s Alliance (BMA)
BMA supports and strengthens the community of African/Black males on campus. Each year, the group hosts a variety of events and activities, including Jazz and Blues Night and the annual spring barbeque.

Black Sistahs United (BSU)
BSU is a student organization that retains and inspires change through volunteerism, sisterhood, and education of Black women. Contact: bsu.ladyslugs.ucsc@gmail.com

Men of Color Initiative
The Men of Color Program is an EOP-focused program currently designed to improve the retention and graduation rates of Black male students through the concerns of acclimation and equity for the Black community. To contact the this program, e-mail mdougla1@ucsc.edu.

National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
NSBE, with more than 29,900 members, is one of the largest student-governed organizations in the country. Founded in 1975, NSBE now includes more than 394 College, Pre-College, and Technical Professional/Alumni chapters in the U.S. and abroad.

For more information on the UCSC chapter, visit nsbe.soe.ucsc.edu.

Umoja
Umoja means unity in Swahili; Umoja is a student-initiated, student-run, needs-based program dedicated to keeping African/Black students at UCSC so they graduate having felt a sense of support from their university experience. Umoja connects students with the resources they need to be academically and socially balanced. For more information, visit engagingeducation.org/retention/umoja.
Martin Luther King, Jr Memorial Convocation
An affirmation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s mission and legacy, this event — established in 1984 — features a guest speaker and opens dialogue on current issues using a practical application to his peaceful approach to equality.

Black History Month
Each February, several events recognize the achievements and contributions of African Americans. Programs include receptions, mixers, dinners, documentary screenings, and speakers.

African Appreciation Day
Sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, this celebration promotes an awareness of African culture on campus through food, music, and dance.

Rainbow Theater
Established in 1994 with a mission to create unity, higher visibility, and understanding of the various cultures within our communities, Rainbow Theater has six productions in the fall and two productions in the spring and brings five professional productions to the community throughout the year.

cadrc.org/rainbow-theater

Community Day
The Sunday before Labor Day, the event features a cultural celebration of youth and community with great food, music, and activities in an atmosphere of friendship.

African Student Union (ASU) Cultural Show
The goal of the Annual ASU Cultural Show is to share the experience of the African Student Union and to help increase awareness about issues affecting the African Diaspora. Through African folklore, tales, and political history, students learn what it means to be African. The ASU cultural show is unique in that it explores the stories of immigrant students and their families through portrayal of their struggle in coming to America and finding their individual place in higher education. By exposing students to the personal experiences of the children of Africa, the show engages the community on a journey into the homes of students who have immigrated to America from countries of the African Diaspora. This show represents and gives light to the fun, beauty, and very real politics of the African continent.

cadrc.org/rainbow-theater

Black Academy
Black Academy is a residential program designed to orient, support, and guide Black students in their transition from high school to UCSC, as well as provide a general introduction to the people and resources that will help new students flourish and thrive as scholars. Through interactive and engaging workshops, activities, and presentations geared towards academic success and college readiness, students have the opportunity to build relationships with other students, staff, and faculty. After the program, students will have a better understanding of their new environment, have a built-in support system, and feel more adjusted to UCSC and the greater Santa Cruz community.

Black Grad
Black Grad is our annual celebration that is hosted by the AARCC and is sponsored by the campus as a way to honor the upcoming graduating class. This year-end celebration is inculcated with African diasporic culture, tradition, love, laughter, and fun. All students who have been impacted by the work that the AARCC is doing for the community are allowed to participate.
UC Santa Cruz combines the resources of a world class public research university with a distinctive undergraduate experience characterized by our residential college system. Each college is a vibrant living/learning community supported by faculty and staff who provide academic support, organize student activities, and sponsor events that enhance the intellectual and social life of the campus.

**Cowell College**
Cowell College is the founding college of UC Santa Cruz. Its theme, The Pursuit of Truth in the Company of Friends, represents its twin commitments to academic endeavor and supportive community. The Cowell College core course is Imagining Justice Past and Present.

**Stevenson College**
The theme of Stevenson College emphasizes the goals of both self-understanding and active participation in one's community to give students a greater understanding of themselves and their cultures, and to help them think globally. Stevenson's two-quarter core course is Self and Society.

**Explore the Rosa Parks African-American Theme House (R.PAATH)**
Rosa Parks African American Theme House is a student-initiated themed living option for all students whose interests span historical, popular, social, and economic issues of the African Diaspora. R.PAATH is located at Stevenson College. 
- R.PAATH is designed to intentionally create space for students to feel connected, safe, and supported in a community centered on the experiences of Black/African American peoples. This is a primary focal point for the staff supporting R.PAATH.
- Educational seminars, programs, dialogues, and speaker series are structured to encourage solidarity and unity among students from all cultural backgrounds.

**Crown College**
The theme of Science, Technology, and Society, explores the relationship of science and technology with the world around us, including both the positive and negative impacts of technology on our environment and social institutions. Crown's core course is Ethical Issues in Emerging Technologies.

**Merrill College**
The theme of Cultural Identities and Global Consciousness, helps students to understand the nature of cultural identity by examining the relationships between societies of the world and their struggles to preserve their cultures. The Merrill core course is Cultural Identities and Global Consciousness.

**Trans-Inclusive Housing**
Trans-Inclusive Housing is intended to create safer and supportive spaces to live for transgender and gender-nonconforming students, and their allies. Students may room together regardless of gender or legal gender.

**Porter College**
The theme of Communication, Ethics, and Power and Endures, manifests our belief that creativity is integral to all fields of study from art to physics to linguistics, and promotes an environment in which original thought, creative imagination, and personal and cultural differences are appreciated. The Porter core course is Writing Across the Arts.

**Kresge College**
Kresge's theme and core course, Power and Representation, is a course in the literature of individual and collective struggles for social justice, with an emphasis on dialogues about gender identity, anti-racism movements, documentation status, and immigrants' rights.

**Oakes College**
The theme of Communicating Diversity for a Just Society, prepares students to become active citizens and future leaders capable of communicating across differences to bring about a more egalitarian and just society. Oakes College's core course is Communicating Diversity for a Just Society.

**Rachel Carson College**
The theme of Environment and Society, embodies the college's concern for environmental issues within a social, political, scientific, and humanistic context. The Rachel Carson College core course is Environment and Society.

**College Nine**
The theme of International and Global Perspectives, recognizes the importance of cultural competency and focuses on issues such as economic globalization, environmental degradation, human rights, and international and ethnic conflicts. College Nine's core course is International and Global Issues.

**College Ten**
The theme of Social Justice and Community, focuses on the inequalities that exist in society, such as discrimination and poverty, and the role of community involvement in addressing social injustices. College Ten's core course is Social Justice and Community.
College-level courses can be challenging, but there are resources to support your academic success. Check out the Academic Resources Center (ARCenter). The ARCenter is a short walk away from the McHenry Library, the Music Center, and Theater Arts. Come by and visit us!

Learning Support Services offers the following programs to help students excel academically:

- Modified Supplemental Instruction (MSI)
- Tutoring (Subject and Writing)
- Drop-in Writing and Math Assistance

221 Academic Resources Center (ARCenter)
831.459.4333

Undergraduate Academic Advising
Each college has an academic advising team that can provide support in transitioning to the university, understanding university requirements and policies, exploring academic interests, and supporting your academic success. Program (major, minor, or “department”) advisers provide support for major and minor programs. They can help you understand major requirements, prerequisites, and how to plan courses for your major, and can advise you on the major’s qualification requirements (if any). They work closely with the faculty in your program, and can recommend both appropriate faculty mentors and educational opportunities within and related to your major.

Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP)
Offers academic and personal support designed to improve the retention and academic success for first-generation, low-income, or educationally disadvantaged college students. EOP serves to enhance undergraduate experiences by helping students acquire the skills to prepare for graduate programs, professional school, and future leadership roles.

121 Academic Resources Center (ARCenter)
831.459.2296

Libraries
Both McHenry Library and the Science and Engineering Library (also located on campus) offer student-centered hours and a variety of individual and group study spaces spread over five floors. For more information, visit library.ucsc.edu/services/quiet-study.

WRITING HELP!

Westside Writing Center provides tutoring services designed to support Oakes, Porter, and Rachel Carson College students in your academic pursuits. Day and evening tutoring appointments are available throughout the quarter in Oakes 111, on the first floor of the Oakes Academic Building.

Located inside the Kresge Study Center, Kresge’s Writing Center holds the Creative Writing Program archives. Writing tutoring is available at the center each quarter, and there are open hours for students who wish to use the computers, resources, or space for writing-related projects. Contact 831.459.4792 or kresgeprovostassistant@ucsc.edu.

Learning Support Services also offers Drop-in Writing Tutoring to all students. Visit http://lss.ucsc.edu/programs/index.html.

RESOURCE CENTERS

American Indian Resource Center
airc.ucsc.edu
Director: Dr. Rebecca Rosser, PhD rrosser@ucsc.edu

Disability Resource Center
drc.ucsc.edu
Director: Rick Gubash, MS rgubash@ucsc.edu

Lionel Cantú Queer Center
queer.ucsc.edu
Director: Travis Becker, MA trbecker@ucsc.edu

El Centro: Chicano Latino Resource Center
elcentro.ucsc.edu
Director: Dr. Judith Estrada, PhD judi@ucsc.edu

Asian American/Pacific Islander Resource Center
aapirc.ucsc.edu
Director: Nancy Kim, MA nikim@ucsc.edu

Women’s Center
womenscenter.ucsc.edu
Director: Vacant womenscenter@ucsc.edu
The University of California, Santa Cruz is committed to promoting and protecting an environment that values and supports every person in an atmosphere of civility, honesty, cooperation, professionalism, and fairness. UCSC expects that every campus member will practice these Principles of Community, established in 2001.

We strive to be:

• Diverse
• Just
• Open
• Disciplined
• Purposeful
• Celebrative
• Caring

[Link](http://diversity.ucsc.edu)

HATE BIAS RESOURCES

In the event you believe you have witnessed, or that you have been a target of, a hate- or bias-motivated incident on campus or while participating in a university-sponsored activity, you may bring the incident to the attention of the Hate-Bias Response Team.

To Report a Hate Crime
Online Hate Bias report forms
University Police Department
Emergencies
UCPD anonymous tip line (voice mail only)

See Say Do Something

Preventing violence on campus depends on UCSC community members identifying and communicating behaviors of concern—early identification of concerns allows administrators and staff to provide resources to students in distress to minimize harm to self or others. You can help by being aware of your surroundings on campus and reporting any unusual activity from people. We are all responsible for safety. If you see something, say and do something about it—report any concerning behavior and suspicious activity.

[Link](http://diversity.ucsc.edu/about/principles-community.html)

THE OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

The Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion advances the university’s teaching, research, and service mission and commitment to excellence by working collaboratively with others throughout the institution to promote a campus climate that values diversity, equity, and inclusion, and is free of bias and harassment.

Office initiatives and activities are designed to cultivate a climate in which all students, staff, and faculty are treated fairly and able to thrive and succeed; and everyone including current affiliates, alumni, supporters, and community members is welcomed.

[Link](http://diversity.ucsc.edu)
GETTING AROUND CAMPUS

CHOOSE TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING SERVICES (TAPS) transit buses (shuttles) to get from one place to another on campus when walking isn’t an option. No need to show your student ID on campus shuttles.

CHOOSE METRO (SCMTD) buses to go to OFF-CAMPUS destinations. Have your student ID card with a current quarter sticker (or Temporary Bus Pass) ready to show the driver (or pay a $2 fare if no ID). Note: Metro policy prevents drivers from allowing items over 5 feet in length (including surfboards).

During the fall, winter, and spring quarters UCSC Campus Transit operates four on-campus routes: The Loop, Upper Campus, East Night Core, and West Night Core. Campus shuttles are free! For the most up to date information and summer schedule, visit taps.ucsc.edu.

Buses are equipped with front-loading bike racks that carry two bikes at a time. Bikes are not allowed inside buses. Bikes are allowed on Loop buses only. Bikes can be loaded and unloaded at all stops along the Loop route. Note: Cyclists are solely responsible for any property damage or injury caused by improper bicycle rack use. Cyclists assume all risks of loss and damage to their bicycles by using bicycle racks.

The UCSC Bike Library offers free use of a bike for a quarter. Applicants must submit a 500-to-700-word essay which says why you need a bike, what will you use the bike for, and how will you contribute to the bike community. Visit bikelibrary.weebly.com/index.html for details.

Accessibility: All campus transit buses are lift-equipped and accessible to disabled passengers.

Contact Taps email: taps@ucsc.edu
Web: taps.ucsc.edu
Information Phone: 831.459.2390
Shuttle Lost & Found: 831.459.3228
GETTING OFF CAMPUS

Ride the Santa Cruz Metro buses! They’re FREE with your Student ID. Showing a valid UCSC Student ID card provides students unlimited rides on Santa Cruz Metro buses. For the most up-to-date route information, visit scmtd.com/en/routes/schedules

TRAVELING IN THE BAY AREA

Going to San Jose? Catch the Highway 17 Express.

Highway 17 Express buses travel between the Santa Cruz METRO bus station (downtown Santa Cruz) and the San Jose Diridon Train Station, providing connecting service to Amtrak Capitol Corridor and Coast Starlight trains, CalTrain, and VTA buses and light rail.

From San Jose to Peninsula Cities (including San Francisco)

At the San Jose Diridon station take a Northbound Line/San Francisco Caltrain to get to any of these peninsula cities: Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Redwood City, San Carlos, Belmont, Hillsdale, San Mateo, Burlingame, Millbrae, San Bruno, South San Francisco, and San Francisco. The Caltrain fare chart is available at caltrain.com/Fares/farechart.html. The Caltrain system map is available at caltrain.com/stations/systemmap.html.

Other modes of transportation often used by students, staff, and faculty to get around the Bay Area, including the airport: amtrak.com, lyft.com, santacruzshuttles.com, www.uber.com, zipcar.com
UCSC employs over 4,000 students in part-time positions such as lifeguards, research assistants, tutors, programmers, tour guides, and more! The UC Santa Cruz Career Center is a one-stop resource center. Services include:
- part-time employment both on and off campus
- career advising and workshops
- a career resource library
- computer databases of internships, alumni network, and part time and summer job listings
- job and graduate school fairs
- on-campus recruitment for professional employment

Bay Tree Building, Third Floor, room 305
831.459.4420
career-center@ucsc.edu
careers.ucsc.edu

The Career Advice Network is a database of hundreds of alumni who have volunteered to be advisors for students and recent graduates. Alumni advisors create a professional profile, which can be set up in under five minutes by importing your LinkedIn profile, and become a part of a live, searchable database, accessible to students and recent graduates who have signed up as advisees. According to LinkedIn, of our 43,000 alumni in the San Francisco Bay Area, some of the top places of employment are: Apple, Google, Cisco, Genentech, Stanford University, and UC Berkeley.

For Thompson, those two experiences could have been crushing blows. Instead they drove him toward what he is today. Akira earned his master’s degree from UC Santa Cruz in 2015 in Games and Playable Media. He heads his own indie game company and has appeared on the 2011 Forbes list of “30 under 30.” He is creating live action games that force people to examine culture in ways that are both entertaining and enlightening.

For a full list of Santa Cruz resources, visit santacruz.org.

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War and recession hit Akira Thompson hard. First came a stint in the Army, where Thompson drove a five-ton truck through the dangerous landscape of Iraq’s Sunni Triangle. Then, it was the collapse of the U.S. economy, which forced the Illinois native from a promising tech job into minimum-wage employment.

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Being away from the comfort of home can be challenging and scary, so we want to highlight a few resources to support your varying needs. Please note, references to non-UCSC products, services, or organizations do not imply AARCC or university endorsement of such products, services, or organizations. For a full list of Santa Cruz resources, visit santacruz.org.

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“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

—Malcolm X