2016/2017 admission guide

First-Year Students from the United States (outside California)
WORLDWIDE RECOGNITION

• 1st worldwide for research influence, tied with MIT (2014, Times Higher Education World University Rankings)
• 1st worldwide for research impact in molecular biology and genetics (2008, Science Watch)
• 1st nationally for research impact in physics (2007, Science Watch)
• 2nd nationally and eighth overall for universities under 50 years old (2015, Times Higher Education)

LEADER IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

In 2013, President Barack Obama presented UC Santa Cruz astronomer Sandra Faber with the National Medal of Science for her pioneering research on the formation and evolution of galaxies (see photo at right).

ucsc.edu/about/achievements

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

• Intensive Programs of Study
• Opportunities for Undergraduate Research in Cutting-Edge Fields in the Arts, Engineering, Humanities, Physical and Biological Sciences, and Social Sciences ugr.uscsc.edu (Dolphin Research at UCSC’s Long Marine Lab Pictured Above)
• Field Study and Internships in Nearby Silicon Valley and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
• International and National Honors Societies Such as Phi Beta Kappa and the Golden Key International Honour Society
• First-Year Honors Program honors.ucsc.edu

A Global Leader in Education & Research

Part of the renowned University of California system that includes UC Berkeley and UCLA, UC Santa Cruz is known for the worldwide impact of its research and teaching and its commitment to undergraduate education.
A Location Like No Other

Rarely will you find a location as inspiring as Santa Cruz, where opportunities and convenience are combined with magnificent natural beauty. For a virtual tour of UCSC with panoramic photos, see admissions.ucsc.edu/#virtualtour

ADVANTAGES TO UC SANTA CRUZ LOCATION

• A spectacular campus featuring redwood forests, panoramic views of the Monterey Bay, and open meadows
• The nearest UC campus to Silicon Valley, a worldwide center of technological innovation (less than 1 hour by car)
• 1.5 hours by car from San Francisco and less than an hour’s drive from San Jose International Airport; about 1 mile from the ocean
• Next to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, with unique opportunities to study marine life in diverse ecosystems such as kelp forests
• Over 300 sunny days a year

CALIFORNIA: THE GOLDEN STATE

• A hub of the arts, commerce, agriculture, research, and new ideas
• Home to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Hollywood, Disneyland, and other famous places
Academic Life at UCSC

Students can choose from 65 majors, 38 minors, and 52 academic concentrations in the Arts, Humanities, Engineering, Physical and Biological Sciences, and Social Sciences. First-year students can apply as “undeclared” and determine their major later as UCSC students.
Qualifying for the University of California

• Complete a minimum of 15 college-preparatory courses, with at least 11 finished prior to the beginning of your senior year. The 15 courses are:
  a. History/social science, 2 years
  b. English, 4 years
  c. Mathematics, 3 years
  d. Laboratory science, 2 years
  e. Language other than English, 2 years
  f. Visual and performing arts, 1 year
  g. College-preparatory elective, 1 year (chosen from the subjects listed above or another course approved by the university)

• Earn a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.40 or better in these courses with no grade lower than a C.

• Meet the examination requirement by taking the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT no later than December of the senior year.

For more information, visit: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman and admissions.ucsc.edu/apply/freshman.html.

Selection by UC Santa Cruz

As a selective campus, UC Santa Cruz is unable to offer admission to all UC-qualified applicants. UCSC offers admission to freshman applicants according to the selection policy described on admissions.ucsc.edu/apply/freshman.html. Professionally-trained Admissions readers conduct an in-depth review of your academic and personal achievements. The 14 factors we consider are:

• Grade-Point Average (GPA)
• Test Scores
• Courses Completed/Planned
• Honors Courses
• Eligibility in the Local Context
• Quality of Senior-Year Program of Study
• Educational Opportunities in California High Schools
• Performance in Academic Subject Areas
• Achievements in Special Projects
• Improvement in Academic Performance
• Special Talents, Achievements, and Awards
• Participation in Educational Preparation Programs
• Academic Accomplishment within Life Experiences
• Geographic Location
Student Life at UCSC

Come live and learn with us in a rigorous, yet caring academic environment that supports your success!

GET INVOLVED! SOME OF OUR 150+ STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- African American Theater Arts Troupe
- African/Black Student Alliance
- Asian/Pacific Islander Student Alliance
- Cosplay Club
- Education for Sustainable Living Program (ESLP)
- Everett Program (formerly Global Information Internship Program)
- Filipino Student Association
- Greek Life (26 Fraternities and Sororities)
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
- Mock Trial at UCSC
- Model United Nations at UCSC
- Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan (MEChA)
- Queer Student Union and Allies
- Sports Clubs
- Student Alliance of North American Indians (SANAI)
- Student Environmental Center (SEC)
- University Economics Association (UEA)
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HIGHLIGHTS FOR OUT-OF-STATE FROSH

Housing & Campus Life
- A residential-college affiliation at one of 10 UCSC colleges, providing smaller communities of living and learning, advising, and a writing-intensive core seminar
- A two-year campus housing guarantee—you will have a room waiting for you when you arrive on campus in the fall
- Free access to campus shuttles and buses to get around campus and town

Support
- Opportunities for academic support, such as advising, tutoring, and Modified Supplemental Instruction

Health & Safety
- A commitment to campus safety, with police and fire stations right on campus
- The Student Health Center on campus, providing medical, counseling, and psychological services

Sports & Recreation
- Intercollegiate athletics and a world-famous recreation program
- NCAA Division III teams in men’s/women’s basketball, cross-country, soccer, swimming/diving, tennis, and volleyball; women’s golf and track

admissions.ucsc.edu/why-ucsc/organizations.html

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goslugs.com

"I absolutely love UCSC. I can’t imagine going anywhere else. There are so many wonderful things about this school. The location is spectacular, but the personality of the school is what really sets it apart from other schools. I’ve never met so many unique and interesting people who are all so passionate about the world.

“Coming from out of state, people often ask why I chose UCSC. I’ve been flying to California since I was about five, and on a few trips with my dad to Santa Cruz I fell in love with the area. I applied to five of the UCs and had a difficult time deciding between them. From what I found on the Internet, Santa Cruz seemed like the best fit for me. The personality of the school and the town itself really drew me in.”

Advice for new students: “Don’t be afraid! Take lots of chances, join clubs, and be brave! No one judges you as hard as you judge yourself, so try to relax.”

admissions.sa.ucsc.edu/studentprofile

KYRA McCLELLAND
Major: Marine biology
Hometown: Mooresville, NC
High School: Lake Norman High School

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New out-of-state frosh top five home states, fall 2014
- Washington
- New York
- Illinois
- Texas
- Colorado

Undergraduate Ethnicities
UC Santa Cruz seeks to enroll and graduate a student body of diverse cultural, racial, geographical, and socioeconomic backgrounds. In fall 2014, the ethnic composition of undergraduates was African American, 4.0%; Native American, 1.1%; Asian American/Pacific Islander, 25.7%; Chicano/Latino, 30.8%; Euro-American, 34.6%; international, 2.2%; not stated, 1.6%.

Admitted frosh fall 2015 profile
(percentages of all admits whose scores fell in the ranges below)
- 4.0 or higher GPA: 40.7%
- 3.49 or lower GPA: 8.2%
- 3.5 to 3.99 GPA: 51.1%
- Mean GPA: 3.88

ACT Scores
- 27 or higher: 62.0%
- 22-26: 29.6%
- 21 or lower: 8.4%

Comp.: 278

Engr. w/ Writing*: 26.5

Reading*: 28.0

Math*: 27.8

Writing*: 608.6

SAT Scores
- 1800 or higher: 55.6%
- 1500-1799: 36.5%
- 1500 or lower: 7.9%

Total*: 1846.8

Engl. w/Writing*: 599

Crit. Reading*: 639.1

Mean*: 608.6

Class size:
- Lecture classes are broken up into smaller discussion sections, with more individual attention for students.
- 64% of undergraduate courses have fewer than 30 students; 76% have fewer than 50.

Student/faculty ratio: 20 to 1

Undergraduate research: over 70% of undergraduates conduct research during their UCSC careers.
Paying for a UCSC Education

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<th>ON CAMPUS</th>
<th>OFF CAMPUS</th>
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<td>Tuition and Fees*</td>
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<td>$13,482</td>
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<td>Food and Housing</td>
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<td>Books and Supplies</td>
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<td>Personal Expenses</td>
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*Tuition and fees are subject to change. For updated information, see financialaid.ucsc.edu/cost.shtml

**Campus health insurance is mandatory. The campus medical health insurance charge will be waived for students who provide proof of insurance.

Our Undergraduate Dean’s Scholarships and Awards range from $12,000 to $30,000, split over four years and applied to non-resident tuition. Students are awarded based on academic achievement, as well as financial resources.
After Graduation

RECENT ALUMNI & THEIR CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Brittany Alba (neuroscience, ’15), two-year fellowship at UC Berkeley’s Destination College Advising Corps, in preparation to become a teacher.

Kristoffer Hellén (history, ’13), winner of the UCSC Steck Award for the best senior thesis of 2013, graduate student at the University of Indiana, studying Russian History.

SOME WELL-KNOWN ALUMNI

Maya Rudolph (art,’95), actress and comedian, former cast member of Saturday Night Live whose recent film credits include Bridesmaids (2011) and Grown Ups 2 (2013).

Dr. M. Sanjayan (biology Ph.D.,’97), executive vice president and senior scientist for Conservation International, host of the new ground-breaking PBS nature series EARTH A New Wild.

THE SLUG CONNECTION

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admissions.ucsc.edu/prospect

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admissions.ucsc.edu/apply/out-of-state-students
831.502.7253

E-mail
outofstateadmissions@ucsc.edu
admissions@ucsc.edu

Campus Tours
admissions.ucsc.edu/
campustours

Campus Address
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California 95064

Virtual Tour
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Produced by: UCSC Office of Admissions

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