The Colleges at UCSC

Communities of Learning

Live, Learn, Thrive....At UC Santa Cruz!
Our Communities of Learning

The colleges at UC Santa Cruz create the smaller learning communities and supportive environment that characterize the UC Santa Cruz experience.
Each college has its own theme that transcends a specific academic discipline.

Every college community includes students with diverse backgrounds and academic goals.

College affiliation is independent of major.
Each college offers a distinctive first-year core course that initiates UCSC’s liberal arts education, provides academic support, organizes student activities, and sponsors events in addition to housing students in small-scale residential communities.
COWELL COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1965

“THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH IN THE COMPANY OF FRIENDS”
COWELL COLLEGE

The Cowell core course, *Imagining Justice Past and Present*, is based on classical and modern texts dealing with issues of justice and stress cross-cultural perspectives and human values.
COWELL COLLEGE

Educational Enrichment

• The Eloise Pickard Smith Art Gallery offers paid internships for students.

• Cowell Press: for students interested in traditional print and book making

• Additional enhancement courses including: Leading Social Change; Service Learning; and, Brain, Mind, Consciousness

Themed Housing

• Diversity & Social Justice

• Leadership & Service

• LGBTQIA+
STEWENSON COLLEGE

FOUNDED:1966

“SELF AND SOCIETY”
STEVENVSON COLLEGE

THE STEVENSON CORE COURSE, SELF AND SOCIETY, LINKS THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT TO GIVE STUDENTS GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THEMSELVES AND HELP THEM THINK GLOBALLY.
STEVENSON COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

• Junior Fellows Program
• Writing Assistants Program
• Rainbow Theatre: UCSC’s multicultural theatre arts troupe celebrating diversity and giving voice to all people (open to all students).

THEMED HOUSING

• Rosa Parks African American Theme House (R.PAATH).
• Diversity and Social Justice
• LGBTQIA+
CROWN COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1967

“SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY”
CROWN COLLEGE

The Crown core course, Academic Literacy and Ethos: Ethical and Societal Implications of Emerging Technologies, presents emerging technologies and explores the relationship of science and technology with the world around us.
CROWN COLLEGE

**Educational Enrichment**

- Strong ties to entrepreneurship and innovation
- Science / Public Affairs Tables
- Digital Theater Workshop

**Themed Housing**

- Gaming/Computer Game Design
- Science & Engineering Learning Communities
- Outdoor Pursuits
MERRILL COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1968

“CULTURAL IDENTITIES AND GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS”
The Merrill core course, Academic Literacy and Ethos: Reading Ourselves, Reading the World, focuses on the effects of cultural and economic differences on relationships between diverse communities.
MERRILL COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

• Field Study & Classroom Connection courses feature observations of and internships in local organizations and schools.
• Careers in Public Service course features alumni sharing career experience.
• Pottery Co-op is UCSC’s oldest student run co-op, providing education and practice in pottery-making.

THEMED HOUSING

• Science and Engineering Learning Community
• LGBTQIA+ Floor
• Trans-inclusive housing
PORTER COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1969

“LIFE IS SHORT, ART ENDURES”
PORTER COLLEGE

THE PORTER core course, ARTS OF READING, teaches foundational concepts for intellectual exploration and personal development within an academic community. It also investigates the contribution the arts and humanities make to a good life, a just society, and a flourishing world.
PORTER COLLEGE

EducatioNaL Enrichment

• JB Hall Gallery & Bridge Gallery: for Porter students to exhibit their artwork
• Specialized digital media computer lab
• The College Scholars Program
• Grants and scholarships supporting student projects, collaborations with faculty, and study abroad
• The Mary Porter Sesnon Gallery & Session Underground Gallery
• Open Mic Nights and Makers Space

Themed Housing

• Gaming Community
• LGBTQIA+
• Substance Free
• Transfer Community: academically and socially supportive environment offering special programs designed especially for new transfer students.
KRESGE COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1971

“POWER AND REPRESENTATION”
Kresge College

The Kresge core course, *power and representation*, explores the relationships between individuals and their communities.
KRESGE COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

• Center for journalism and creative writing
• Student run: Photography, Music, Natural Food and Garden Co-op

HOUSING

• All students at Kresge live in apartments
• Ecovillage
• Writers House
OAKES COLLEGE

FOUNDED: 1972

“COMMUNICATING DIVERSITY FOR A JUST SOCIETY”
OAKES COLLEGE

THE OAKES CORE COURSE, COMMUNICATING DIVERSITY FOR A JUST SOCIETY, EMPHASIZES THE INTELLECTUAL, CULTURAL, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL THEMES THAT HAVE SHAPED OAKES COLLEGE.

DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS “AMPLIFY THEIR VOICE.”
OAKES COLLEGE

Educational Enrichment

- Scientist in Residence Program
- Oakes Service-Learning Program
- College Math Academy (smaller Math 3 class, connected to the Oakes theme)

Themed Housing

- Multicultural Themed Housing
- Science Community

Each residence is named after an inspirational figure from the arts, government, politics, literature and public advocacy.
Rachel Carson College

The RCC core course, *environment and society*, deepens students’ understanding of the vital connection between contemporary social organization and environmental change.
Rachel Carson College

**Educational Enrichment**

- History of commitment to environmentalism, in the spirit of Rachel Carson.
- Quarterly service learning and garden internships for academic credit.
- Minor in Sustainability Studies

**Housing Themes**

- Women in science, engineering, and math
- Sustainability
- Social Justice
- And more!
COLLEGE NINE

FOUNDED: 2000

“INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES”
COLLEGE NINE

THE COLLEGE NINE CORE COURSE, ACADEMIC LITERACY AND ETHOS: INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES, HONES KEY ACADEMIC SKILLS (E.G., CRITICAL THINKING, METACOGNITION, ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHERS ACROSS DIFFERENCE, AND SELF-EFFICACY) WHILE DISCUSSING ISSUES SUCH AS GLOBALIZATION, CLIMATE CHANGE, MIGRATION WHICH INFORM GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP.
COLLEGE NINE

Educational Enrichment

- CLNI 85: Global Action: class focused on current international events and ways to take action
- (H)ACER: Apprenticeship in Community Engaged Research
  - PRAXIS: arranges local volunteer opportunities
  - ASB: Alternative Spring Break Program
- EAP: Students encouraged to study abroad
- Intercultural Community Weekend Retreat

Themed Housing

- iFloor & International Living Center: offers students opportunities to live with members from the UCSC international community

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA CRUZ
COLLEGE TEN

FOUNDED: 2002

“SOCIAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY”
COLLEGE TEN

The college ten core course, *University Discourse: Social Justice and Community*, focuses on issues such as discrimination, poverty, social injustice, and community engagement.
COLLEGE TEN

Educational Enrichment

- Terry Freitas Cafe: students enjoy music and more at this student run café
- (H)ACER: Apprenticeship in Community Engaged Research
  - PRAXIS: Arranges Local Volunteer Opportunities
  - ASB: Alternative Spring Break Program
- Practical Activism Conference
- Multicultural Community Weekend

Themed Housing

- Rumi’s Field: a non-violent communication living and learning community