

# 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.

-  @ucsbadmissions
-  @ucsbadmissions
-  @ucsb4me
-  @ucsantabarbara
-  @ucsblife
-  @ucsantabarbara

Scan the QR code to visit the official UCSB Communities website!



Visit: [admissions.ucsb.edu](https://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](https://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](https://eop.sa.ucsb.edu)

## MultiCultural Center (MCC)

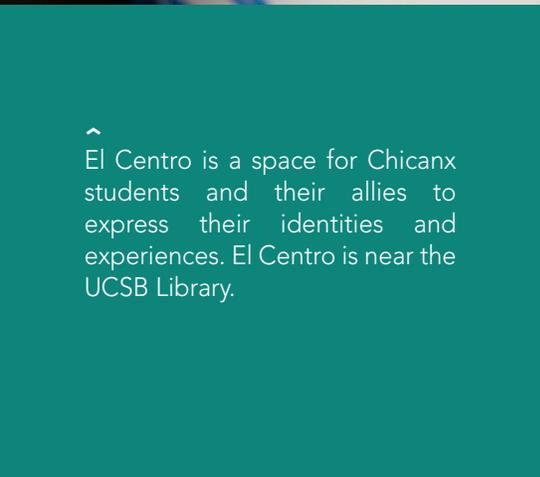
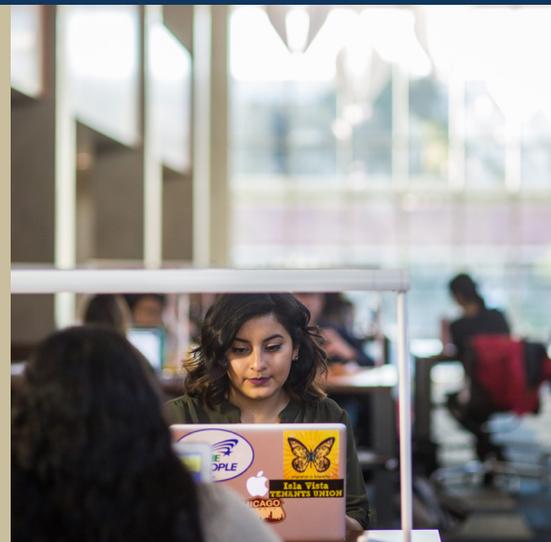
The UCSB MultiCultural Center presents lectures, films, discussions, readings, art exhibitions, and performances to increase cultural awareness. [mcc.sa.ucsb.edu](https://mcc.sa.ucsb.edu)

## 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](https://ondas.ucsb.edu)



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.



^ 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](https://guides.library.ucsb.edu/zines)

# 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](http://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](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers)

### Academic Programs

Department of Black Studies | [blackstudies.ucsb.edu](http://blackstudies.ucsb.edu)

Center for Black Studies Research | [cbsr.ucsb.edu](http://cbsr.ucsb.edu)

## African diasporic Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit [seal.sa.ucsb.edu](http://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!



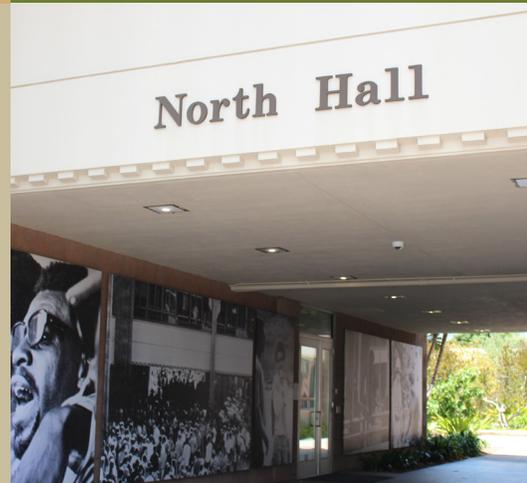
Each year, the campus hosts the Black Graduation ceremony and celebration. About 86% of recent graduates have either full-time or part-time positions after graduation.



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](http://housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities)



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](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers)

### Academic Programs

American Indian and Indigenous Studies Minor | [religion.ucsb.edu](http://religion.ucsb.edu)

Native American Religions M.A./Ph.D. | [religion.ucsb.edu](http://religion.ucsb.edu)

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit [seal.sa.ucsb.edu](http://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!



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](http://housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities)



Students get together to honor Indigenous Peoples' Day.

# 06

## 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](http://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](http://eac.ucsb.edu)

### Academic Programs

**Asian American Studies, B.A.** | [asamst.ucsb.edu](http://asamst.ucsb.edu)

**East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies** | [eastasian.ucsb.edu](http://eastasian.ucsb.edu)

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit [seal.sa.ucsb.edu](http://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 Communities site!



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



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](http://housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities)



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



# 07

## 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](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers)

### Academic Programs

Department of Chicana/o Studies | [chicst.ucsb.edu](http://chicst.ucsb.edu)

Department of Latin American & Iberian Studies | [spanport.ucsb.edu](http://spanport.ucsb.edu)

Department of Spanish & Portuguese | [www.lais.ucsb.edu](http://www.lais.ucsb.edu)

Chicano Studies Institute | [csi.ucsb.edu](http://csi.ucsb.edu)

Linguistics - Spanish Emphasis, B.A. | [linguistics.ucsb.edu](http://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.*

## Chicanx/Latinx Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit [seal.sa.ucsb.edu](http://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!



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.



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](http://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](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu/cultural-centers)

### Academic Programs

Middle East Studies, B.A. | [religion.ucsb.edu](http://religion.ucsb.edu)

Iranian Studies, Minor | [religion.ucsb.edu](http://religion.ucsb.edu)

Jewish Studies, Minor | [religion.ucsb.edu](http://religion.ucsb.edu)

Center for Middle East Studies (CMES) | [cmes.ucsb.edu](http://cmes.ucsb.edu)

Center for Sikh and Punjab Studies | [punjab.global.ucsb.edu](http://punjab.global.ucsb.edu)

## MENASA Student Orgs

UCSB has over 500+ campus organizations. For a complete list, visit [seal.sa.ucsb.edu](http://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!



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](http://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](http://mee.music.ucsb.edu)



# 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](http://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

## 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!



More than 60 donors have supported the Guardian Scholars program.

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



# 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](http://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](http://femst.ucsb.edu/undergrad/degree#lgbtq)

### RCSGD Events

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

## LGBTQIA+ Student Orgs

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



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](http://housing.ucsb.edu/living-learning-communities)



^ 3,000 visitors explore the RCSGD each year.



The RCSGD celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2019.

# 11

## 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](http://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](https://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](http://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](http://milsci.ucsb.edu)

## Partners & Resources

VA Educational Benefits & Financial Aid | [finaid.ucsb.edu/veterans](http://finaid.ucsb.edu/veterans)

Office of Admissions | [admissions.ucsb.edu](http://admissions.ucsb.edu)

University Housing | [veterans.sa.ucsb.edu/housing](http://veterans.sa.ucsb.edu/housing)

Transfer Student Center | [transfercenter.ucsb.edu](http://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](http://admissions.ucsb.edu) | 805-893-2881

Join our mailing list: [admissions.ucsb.edu/mailling-list](http://admissions.ucsb.edu/mailling-list)  
Visit campus: [admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits](http://admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits)