Class of 2009 — Features and Spotlights

UC Merced is in the midst of a landmark academic year. Opening to freshman students in 2005 as the University of California's 10th campus — and the first to be built in the 21st century — UC Merced is proud to celebrate the graduation year of its **first full senior class**.

The Class of 2009 is a class of true pioneers. They came to UC Merced focused on its future and potential. They immediately went to work, creating a student government to shape campus policy, campus clubs to enhance social interaction and cultivating a culture of social responsibility and civic engagement.

2009 Commencement

Because of these students -- and the transfers before them -- **UC Merced has a thriving campus community of more than 2,700 students** who actively participate in close to 100 clubs and assist our top-notch faculty in ground-breaking research projects.

We salute the Class of 2009 for all they have done and continue to do for UC Merced, its future and the surrounding community.

Mark your calendars for **May 16**, when the entire campus celebrates **commencement in honor of those earning bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees**.

Injury Leads Student to Pursue True Calling

Senior Captures First-Ever Campus Math Prize

Returning Student One of First UC Merced Students Accepted to Medical School

Human Biology Major One of the First UC Merced Students Accepted to Medical School

ASUCM President Proud to be a Bobcat

UC Merced Students Light the Way with Senior Challenge Idea

Smaller Proves to be Better for Poli Sci Senior

UC Merced Senior Digs Deep into Poet's Life

Senior Week Helps Graduates Prepare for Future

Senior Writing Project Focuses on Campus History

Trip to China Offers Context to Senior's Studies

Senior Earth Systems Science Major Immersed in Water Research

Political Science Student Relishes Summer in Yosemite

NEXT STEPS

Members of UC Merced's Class of 2009 have been accepted to the following universities to pursue advanced degrees:

- California Northstate School of Pharmacy
- Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Pacific School of Graduate of Psychology
- School of Allied Health Sciences at Texas Tech University
- Touro University College of Pharmacy
- UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine
- UC Riverside School of Engineering
- UCSF School of Medicine
- UCSF School of Pharmacy
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of Colorado, Denver
- University of Maryland
- University of Oklahoma
- University of San Francisco
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Western University of Health Sciences