WHY UC?

WHY UC MERCED?

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, AND THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE UC AND OUR CAMPUS AS YOU CONSIDER THE NEXT STEPS IN YOUR LIFE'S JOURNEY OF LEARNING.

Though a young campus, UC Merced has a great deal to offer. In this publication you will learn why attaining an education in the world-renowned University of California system is vital to your future success.

You will also discover how by attending UC Merced in particular, you will have access to all the benefits and experiences of a UC education but in a uniquely personalized and collaborative setting.

From our distinctive interdisciplinary approach to education that will help prepare you for the many options that lie before you, to the classes taught by professors who are respected experts in their fields and eager to help you succeed, you'll have opportunities here at UC Merced that you wouldn't have on larger campuses.

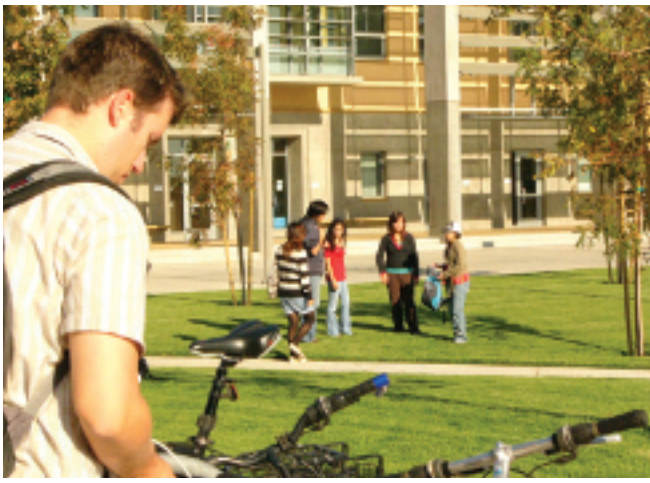
One of the best things we can offer you is our intimate setting and the chance to be part of a tightly-knit community of people who are here for the same reasons you are – to learn, to grow, to create relationships that last a lifetime and to begin building their exciting future full of limitless possibilities.

As you read through this brochure and campus Web sites, please give us a call. Our staff members are here to answer your questions. You may be surprised to find that a person picks up the phone at UC Merced, not an automated message system that requires you to navigate a complicated menu only to hear a vague answer.

Thank you again for considering UC Merced. Just think — an outstanding University of California education in a friendly, supportive setting. What a perfect combination for your success!

Steve Kang

STEVE KANG
Chancellor



Cover photos from left to right: UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, UC San Diego, UC Davis, UC Riverside, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine, UC San Francisco and UC Merced.

A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE UC:

- The UC was established in 1868 with just 10 faculty members and 40 students.
- It is the world's premier public research university system and a major economic engine in the state of California.
- There are more than 214,000 students in the UC system.
- UC campuses have more than 170,000 faculty and staff members.
- More than 1.5 million alumni use the knowledge they gained at UC to live, work and contribute around the world.
- In addition to Merced, the UC has 9 campuses: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz.
- Each campus offers stimulating learning environments and unmatched educational and research opportunities.
- UC campuses generate a wide range of benefits and services that touch the lives of Californians every day. For example, as one of the state's largest health care systems and the largest single provider of certain specialty services and medical procedures (including emergency medicine and trauma), it positively impacts Californians' health and quality of life.
- A UC education provides students with excellent preparation for service careers that impact society and the state; they take advantage of pre-professional programs and graduate with degrees in a wide variety of academic areas.
- The UC is a leading provider of talent, industry knowledge and applied research to all of California's key industry clusters (groups of related businesses that are most critical to the state's economic prosperity and growth): aerospace, agriculture, bioscience, computers and semiconductors, information technology, telecommunications and digital media/ entertainment.

THE UC

Take a few minutes to learn more about the venerable, world renowned University of California system. When you want more information, visit **www.ucop.edu** for direct links to the Web sites for all 10 UC campuses.

A UNIVERSITY STEEPED IN HISTORY

The California education system sprang from the isolated geography and pioneering culture of the state during the 19th century. With no longstanding tradition of private colleges and universities, Californians became active and enthusiastic builders of public institutions.

Today, students can choose among the vast network of community colleges, California State University campuses, private colleges or the first multi-campus research university – the University of California – all with their own missions and purposes.

"Because we are brand new, the room to grow and begin lasting traditions is amazing. I'm proud to be a student here and couldn't imagine myself anywhere else."

ASHLEY NAND
Modesto, CA – UC Merced Class of 2009

OUR MISSION: RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATION

AT UC, WE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO HELPING OUR STUDENTS, OUR STATE, OUR SOCIETY AND THE WORLD.

UC students can learn about the world around them through countless research opportunities at ideal locations like the three UC-managed U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories at Berkeley, Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos; five medical centers comprising one of the largest health care systems in California; four law schools; a statewide division of agriculture and natural resources, and the largest veterinary school in the nation.

These resources have facilitated important advances, putting the UC at the forefront of the quest for new knowledge:

- UC has been the leader in patent development for the past 12 years. UC researchers create an average of three new inventions each day, fueling business innovation and California's economic competitiveness.
- Notable UC patents include the hepatitis-B vaccine, Vitamin E, Vitamin K, treatments for aneurysms, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), inner ear implants, the nicotine patch, aids for the learning disabled, a non-contact respiratory monitor for the prevention of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), compact fluorescent light bulbs, and a wide variety of new types of fruits and vegetables.
- Our scholars have amassed 50 Nobel Prizes.
- The University of California has generated thousands of California jobs and billions of dollars in revenues.

To read the University of California mission statement, visit **www.universityofcalifornia.edu/aboutuc/mission.html**

"This campus is more than just a place to learn. It's a place to find out who you really are. This is your campus and your voice will be heard."

SANJEEV CHAHAL
Hayward, CA – UC Merced Class of 2009

EARNING A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

An undergraduate degree from the UC opens doors. The more than 700 majors at UC campuses offer something for everyone, and each campus offers myriad opportunities to stretch and grow as lifelong learners.

UC undergraduate students have unparalleled possibilities on their home campuses and can take advantage of one of the world's most well-respected learning institutions.

But they can also choose from an array of special programs that will enrich their learning journeys and their lives by taking them to other campuses and even other countries.

- Study Abroad gives students the chance to live and learn in one of more than 35 countries.
- UC in D.C. or UC in Sacramento encourages students to immerse themselves in government and policy in our nation's capital or the state's capital.
- Thousands of internship programs allow students to gain valuable on-the-job experience.
- The Intercampus Visitor Program promotes course enrollment offerings at campuses throughout the UC system.

That's just the beginning. Visit the University of California and see for yourself why it is one of the greatest centers of academic life worldwide. See why former UC President Robert Gordon Sproul once exhorted the people of California, "We have given you a university to match our mountains. Treasure it."

We do.

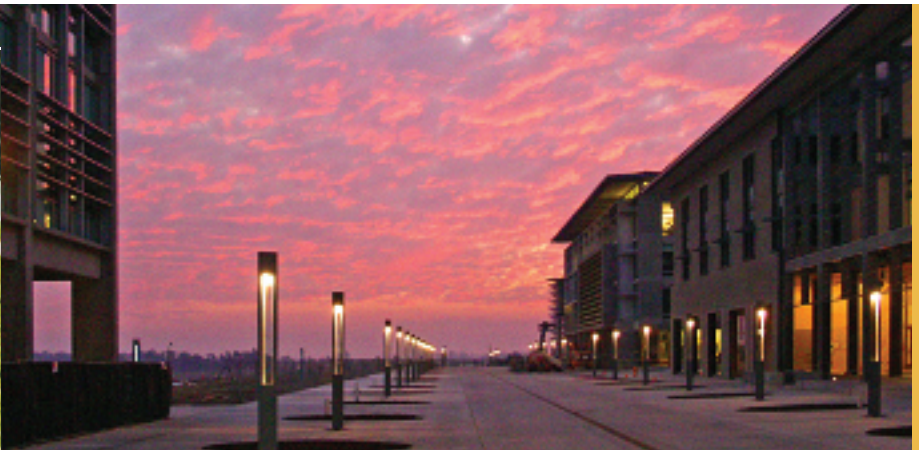
LIFE AFTER THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE

UC students graduate at higher rates when compared to other elite public universities throughout the country, and our graduate students can choose from master's and doctoral degrees in more than 600 departments across the 10 UC campuses.

Our graduate students work with world-renowned faculty and access superb libraries and laboratories to earn advanced degrees such as Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), and Juris Doctor (J.D.)

The chances are excellent that your local doctor, lawyer, teacher, accountant, colleague or other professionals you come into contact with are UC graduates.

To learn more about graduate and professional education visit **www.ucop.edu/gps/welcome.html**.



"One of the best things about being a UC Merced student is the vast array of opportunities available to all students; it's so easy to get involved in anything and everything."

ANNE BRADY
Manhattan Beach, CA – UC Merced Class of 2009

UC MERCED

As the UC's newest campus, the first built in 40 years, UC Merced has all the benefits of a small, private university, backed by the tradition and excellence of the UC system.

UC Merced opened in September 2005 with about 850 students and 55 founding faculty members. We've grown to nearly 2,000 students and almost 100 faculty members in two short years.

What makes UC Merced special?

- Small class sizes (15:1 student to faculty ratio);
- Brand new facilities;
- The chance to, as undergraduates, participate in research usually reserved for graduate students at other campuses;
- Lots and lots of access to your professors;
- A campus community where people really know each other and really care about each other's success;
- The latest technology, like our digital library that offers access to the largest research/academic library in the world;
- Remarkable leadership opportunities;
- A once-in-a-lifetime chance to shape a university and its community, from sports to campus clubs and student government, and make history.

We want you to be part of us!

BEING A UC MERCED BOBCAT MEANS:

- Achieving academic excellence while interacting with world-class faculty and engaging in research that is cutting edge.
- Learning in and outside of the classrooms.
- Living on, studying at and being part of a green campus with an Environmental Stewardship Program.
- Having access to state-of-the-art technology.
- Taking part in special programs like Service Learning, the Science and Math Initiative, and the Yosemite Leadership Program.

MAJORS AND MINORS AT UC MERCED – FALL 2007

MAJORS

- Applied Mathematical Sciences, B.S.
- Bioengineering, B.S.
- Biological Sciences, B.S.
- Chemical Sciences, B.S.
- Cognitive Science, B.A. and B.S.
- Computer Science and Engineering, B.S.
- Economics, B.A.
- Earth Systems Science, B.S.
- Environmental Engineering, B.S.
- History, B.A.
- Literatures and Cultures, B.A.
- Management, B.S.
- Materials Science and Engineering, B.S.
- Mechanical Engineering, B.S.
- Physics, B.S.
- Political Science, B.A.
- Psychology, B.A.

MINORS

- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Arts
- Cognitive Science
- Economics
- History
- Management
- Natural Science Education
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Services Science
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Writing

GRADUATE DEGREES

Degrees of M.A. or M.S. and Ph.D.

Available in the following emphases:

- Applied Mathematics
- Biological Engineering and Small-Scale Technologies
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Environmental Systems
- Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics
- Physics and Chemistry
- Quantitative and Systems Biology
- Social and Cognitive Sciences
- World Cultures

PLANNED MAJORS

- Anthropology, B.A.
- Art, B.A.
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Cell and Developmental Biology, B.S.
- Chemical Engineering, B.S.
- Civil Engineering, B.S.
- Electrical Engineering, B.S.
- Engineering Economics and Management, B.S.
- Integrative Biology, B.S.
- International Communications, B.A.
- Law and Society, B.A.
- Microbiology and Immunology, B.S.
- Museum Studies, B.A.
- Philosophy, B.A.
- Public Policy, B.A.
- Sociology, B.A.
- Spanish Language and Cultures, B.A.

OUR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

UC Merced has one overarching goal in mind: Excellence.

We have three schools, the School of Engineering, the School of Natural Sciences and the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts.

Our ever-growing list of academic programs is being developed by world-class researchers. Each semester, UC Merced adds more majors. For example, in the 2006-2007 academic year, we added four new majors – economics, history, literatures and cultures, and political science – and new minors – anthropology, management, natural sciences education, physics, political science and sociology.

"UC Merced provided me with a unique and private education experience. I can honestly say that my professors care about my education and take time out of their schedules to meet with me if I have any questions. UC Merced is for students who are motivated and who want to become leaders in society."

ARLETTE ALONSO
Mountain View, CA – UC Merced Class of 2009

MAKING IT HAPPEN

UC MERCED ATTRACTS FACULTY MEMBERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD AT THE TOP OF THEIR FIELDS. They are invigorated by the rare opportunity to build a new university, shape an innovative and interdisciplinary curriculum and work closely with diverse and exceptional students.

JUST SOME OF OUR ALL-STAR FACULTY MEMBERS:

Professor Roger Bales
(Ph.D., Caltech)
Uses tools like remote sensing and chemical analysis to study snow, water and climate in the Sierra – the source of most of California's water supply.

Professor Michael N. Dawson
(Ph.D., UCLA)
An evolutionary biologist and ecologist who studies jellyfish populations and how they might respond to environmental changes in the ocean like the long-term warming caused by global climate change.

Professor Robin DeLugan
(Ph.D., UC Berkeley)
Professor DeLugan and her colleague Professor Simón Weffer are undertaking a 10-year study to help the region's social service groups determine how to better understand and serve the diverse population.

Professor Marcos Garcia-Ojeda
(Ph.D., Stanford University)
A stem cell researcher whose goal is that someday, in addition to fighting HIV with anti-retroviral drugs, doctors will be able to strengthen the immune system using healthy cells created from blood marrow stem cells.

Professor Lara Kueppers
(Ph.D., UC Berkeley)
Examines the ecological effects of climate change and how ecosystems and the land surface influence the climate. She has been studying how area ecosystems and the plants that live in them are affected by - and in turn affect - climate change.

Professor Mónica Medina
(Ph.D., University of Miami)
A marine biologist, who specializes in the study of marine environments and the life forms that inhabit them. With increasing sea surface temperatures affecting the foundations of healthy coral reef environments, she uses genomic tools to understand the cellular aspects of coral health and predict the effects of global warming.

Professor Stephen Nicholson
(Ph.D., UC Davis)
A political scientist, who studies voters and voting patterns, learning the reasons why people choose the candidates and initiatives they do and looking at ways to improve the electoral system.

Professor Christopher Viney
(Ph.D., Cambridge University)
Studies materials science and engineering. Recently, he went to Africa with a National Geographic TV crew to study the natural antiseptic, water repellent sunscreen made by hippopotamuses' skin.

Professor Roland Winston
(Ph.D., University of Chicago)
Has helped establish at UC Merced the first and only designated solar research program in the UC system. His expertise in nonimaging optics has the potential to alleviate the world's pending energy crisis.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

When students are not in class or studying, they have a wealth of activities at their fingertips.

On campus, they can:

- Work out or take fitness classes at the new Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center;
- Join one of our growing number of sports teams such as baseball, volleyball, soccer, softball, badminton, and aquatics or participate in intramural athletics;
- Engage in exciting student life activities on and off campus;
- Attend one of the many events planned each year;
- Become a member of one of our 80 clubs and organizations or start their own;
- Run for student government and shape the direction of their school;
- Take advantage of movie series, speaker series and conferences made possible by Intercultural Programming;
- Reach out to the community through the "Kat Kares Volunteer Center".

The campus also offers off-campus activities such as day trips to the Bay Area and Yosemite National Park. There are even off-campus learning opportunities, like the unique Yosemite Leadership Program.

To learn more, visit **http://studentlife.ucmerced.edu**

"I came to this place to build a university and I was really excited to come here and be a part of this…The students come here and they're excited to be the first students at this university, so when it comes time to teach class, you have this incredible atmosphere and tone and positive energy going on in the classroom. It's been extremely fun and the best teaching experience I've had."

ARNOLD KIM
Associate Professor, School of Natural Sciences
Ph.D., University of Washington

IN AND AROUND MERCED

THE TOWN

Merced offers a variety of restaurants, retail stores, movie theaters, performance venues, museums and other entertainment. From Bellevue Bowl to the Merced Shakespeare Festival, Merced has something for just about everyone.

THE REGION

Merced is also "the gateway to Yosemite National Park", and its central location opens a number of doors:

- For outdoor enthusiasts, natural wonders, rivers, lakes, bike paths and hiking trails abound.
- For avid shoppers, Merced offers a plethora of retail choices, and Modesto, Fresno, Gilroy and San Francisco are within easy driving distance.
- For the environmentally conscious, the Central Valley is ideally situated for research about air quality, water contaminants, soil studies and more.

"UC Merced students are making a real difference in Yosemite every summer."

KATHY DIMONT
Branch Chief, Education Services
Yosemite National Park,
referencing students' contributions
through internships and the
Yosemite Leadership Program

VISIT UC MERCED

Come take a student-guided tour of the campus and find out about academics, housing and student life any weekday and selected Saturdays throughout the year. For more information and to make tour reservations, call (209) 228-4682 or (866) 270-7301 *(toll-free in California)*.

ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES TO UC MERCED

Fresno (one hour)
Modesto (45 minutes)
Sacramento (2 hours)
San Francisco (2.5 hours)
Yosemite (1.5 hours)
Los Angeles (4 hours)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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