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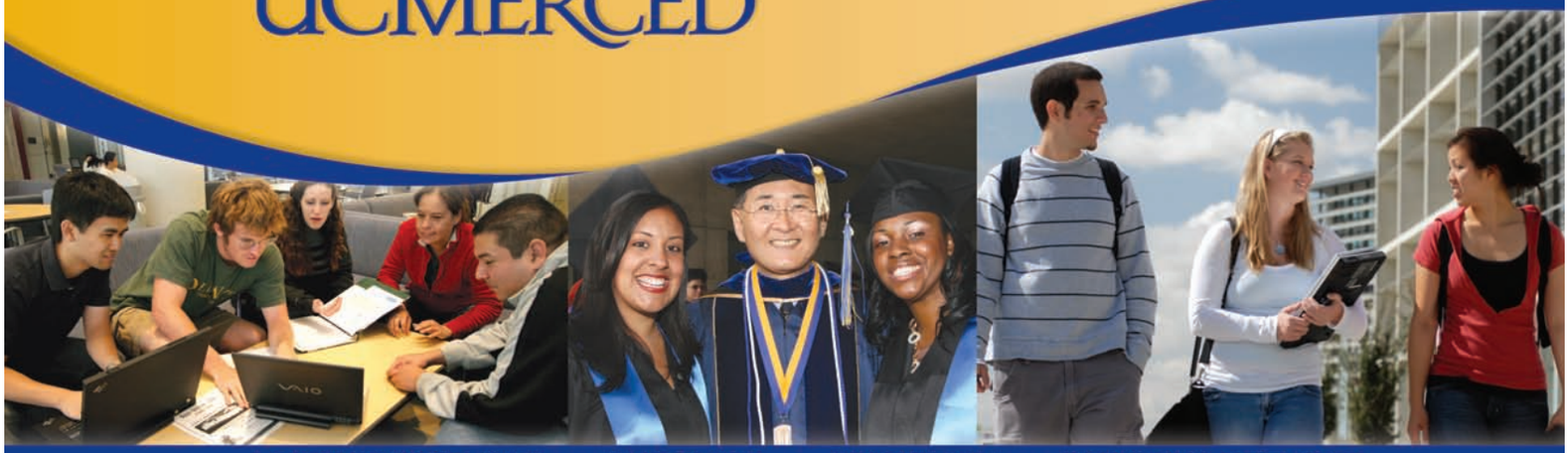
UCMERCED



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE • LEADERSHIP • INNOVATION • INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

FRESHMAN VIEWBOOK

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CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO UC MERCED, AND THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THE FIRST AMERICAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITY OF THE 21ST CENTURY FOR YOUR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES. AS A YOUNG CAMPUS, UC MERCED HAS A LOT TO OFFER.

Our unique **INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO EDUCATION** will help prepare you for the many options that lie before you, giving you a well-rounded learning experience that will carry you forward with critical-thinking skills, innovation and confidence.

Every class in each major and minor available to you (and our offerings are expanding each year) is taught by **PROFESSORS WHO ARE RESPECTED EXPERTS** in their fields and eager to help you succeed.

You'll have opportunities here that you wouldn't have on larger campuses, such as **WORKING CLOSELY WITH OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBERS BOTH IN CLASSROOMS AND ON RESEARCH THAT WILL HELP CHANGE THE WORLD,** from world cultures and history, cognitive science, management, alternative energy and stem cell exploration to nanotechnology, biotechnology and biomedical fields. Our research institutes feature curiosity-driven, pioneering investigation into a variety of topics that matter most now and in the future.

We are **LEADING THE WAY IN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP,** and working to shape the San Joaquin Valley for its future, as well as yours. For instance, we have forward-thinking internships available that take you into the heart of Yosemite National Park to learn more about the environment, conservation and ecological leadership.

However, 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 and to make relationships that last a lifetime.

Here at UC Merced, you have the opportunity to **FOSTER YOUR LEADERSHIP TALENTS AND SHINE AS AN OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF OUR CAMPUS COMMUNITY.** There are many paths to community service here, through clubs and organizations, events, and the Service Learning components of our courses.

I encourage you to jump right in and take part in the activities and organizations that interest you. Fulfill your needs outside the classroom, and lend your talents and expertise to help make our campus even stronger.

Thank you again for exploring UC Merced. After reading through this viewbook, be sure to contact us with additional questions you may have. **AND DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE CAMPUS IN PERSON.** I know you'll be impressed.

Steve Kang

STEVE KANG, Ph.D.
Chancellor

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INTRODUCING UC MERCED

As the University of California's newest campus, UC Merced offers all the benefits of a small, private university, backed by the 140-year-old tradition and excellence of the University of California system. UC Merced opened in September 2005 and is quickly gaining a reputation for its unique and outstanding academic opportunities.

What do our students say about UC Merced?

It's a place where:

- Friendly students, faculty and staff create a genuine sense of community with lots of personal interaction.
- Students can engage in academic and scientific research as early as their freshman year.
- People from different regions, cultures and ideas come together.
- You benefit from new academic and recreational buildings with the latest technologies.
- We are proud of our green campus – three of our buildings have achieved environmental certification.
- You can be a leader and leave a special legacy.

Campus Profile

University Type:
Research university, part of world-renowned UC system, nestled in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley

Semester or Quarter:
Semester system

Degrees Offered:
Baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees

Fall 2007 Male/Female Ratio:
53% Male/48% Female

Expected fall 2008 enrollment:
2,700

Inside:

Pages 4-5	Academics and Pre-Professional Programs	*Page 12*	Student Life
Pages 6-7	School of Engineering	*Page 13*	Housing
Pages 8-9	School of Natural Sciences	*Page 14*	Admissions – How to Apply
Pages 10-11	School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts	*Page 15*	Financial Aid and How to Visit Campus

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ACADEMICS AND OPPORTUNITIES

A University Founded on the Principles of Academic Excellence

- Invaluable one-on-one attention
- The prestige of a UC education with a small student-to-teacher ratio and a classroom environment that fosters individual success
- World-renowned faculty and scholars who make themselves accessible to you
- Come see for yourself why a common phrase among the UC Merced faculty is: "My door is always open"
- Extraordinary research opportunities early in your academic career
- A remarkable chance to participate in local, statewide and national internships
- A chance to study abroad in one of 35 countries through our Education Abroad Program (EAP) or anywhere else in the world
- National Park Service partnerships that allow you to travel to locations like Yosemite and study a variety of subjects

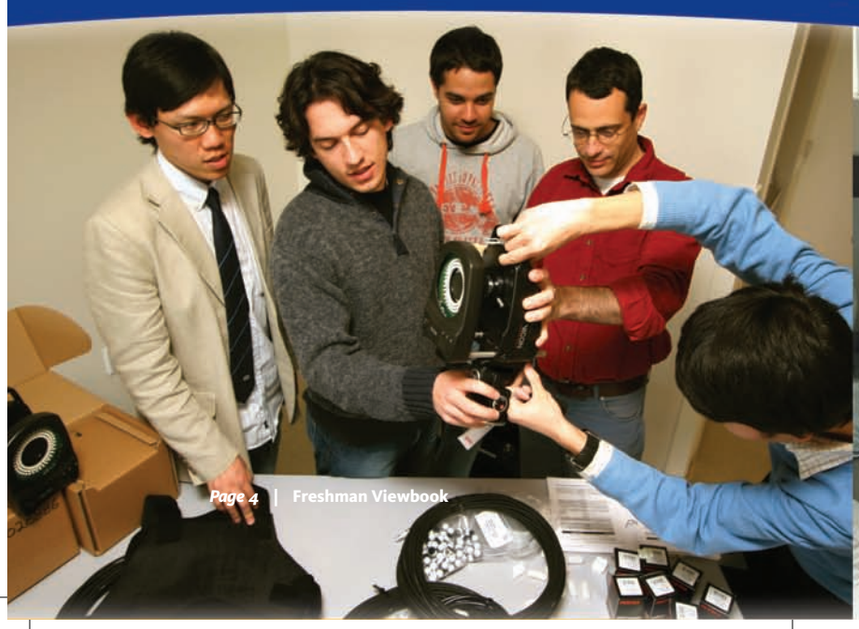
Academic Schools

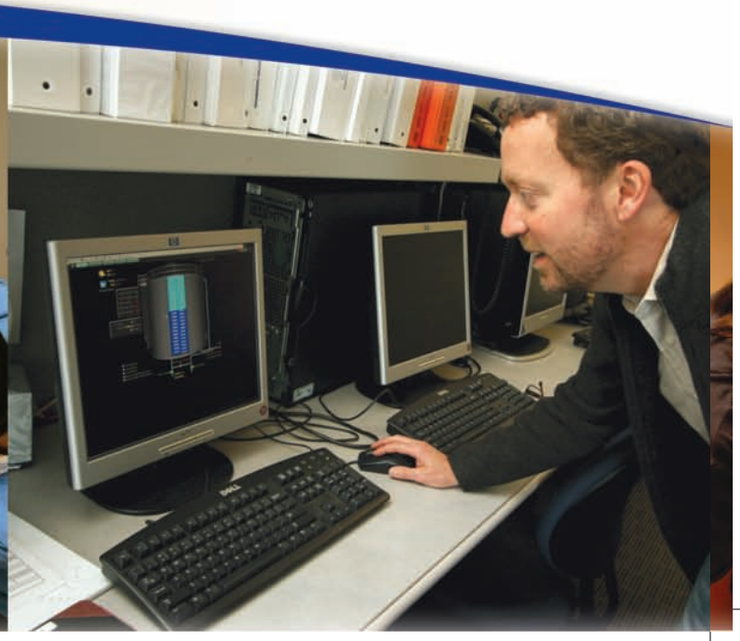
At UC Merced, you can benefit from unique interdisciplinary learning among three academic schools: Engineering; Natural Sciences; and Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts. Together, these schools facilitate an interactive classroom and research environment in a variety of courses, including computer science, biology, mathematics, literature and economics, just to name a few. For more information about these schools, visit the Academics link on our Web site: www.ucmerced.edu.

Research Institutes

The Sierra Nevada Research Institute operates two facilities that support research activities in the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada regions. The Environmental Analytical Laboratory (EAL) is a centralized facility for the analysis of a wide variety of environmental materials. The Wawona Field Station is the first curiosity-driven research institute in Yosemite National Park. Faculty, researchers and students in the Sierra Nevada Research Institute conduct basic and applied research on issues such as rapid population growth, competition for natural resources, air, water and soil pollution, climate change and competing land uses. UC Merced enables these students to use the San Joaquin Valley and the Sierra Nevada as their outdoor laboratory.

UC Merced also has a World Cultures Institute, the Merced Energy Research Institute and the Biomedical Sciences Research Institute, which forms the foundation for our planned medical school.





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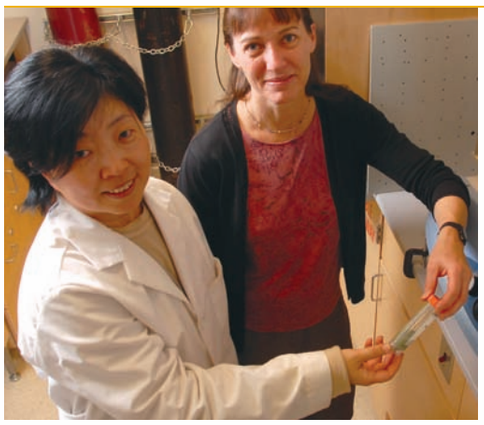
FUTURE PLANS

We have exciting plans in the works. New majors and minors are created regularly. We are developing a management school to open as early as 2009. We are also in the planning stages of a medical school, which is remarkable for a young campus. To read about the Medical Education Initiative, visit med.ucmerced.edu.



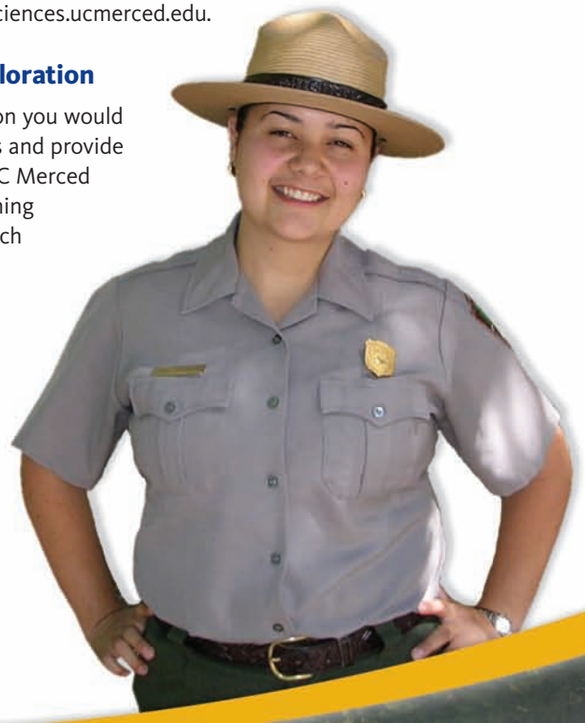
Pre-Professional Programs

Pre-med/health professions, pre-law, business preparation: Our advisors are available and ready to help prepare you for medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, law, business, management and other professions. Many of our UC Merced students who are interested in a medical or health profession belong to the Pre-Health Professional Club.

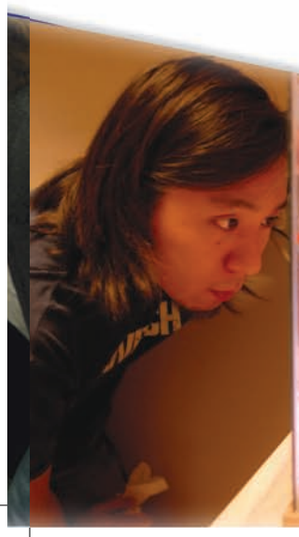
Teacher preparation: Take advantage of our Science and Math Initiative, designed to help students pursue credential programs in those subjects. For more information: naturalsciences.ucmerced.edu.

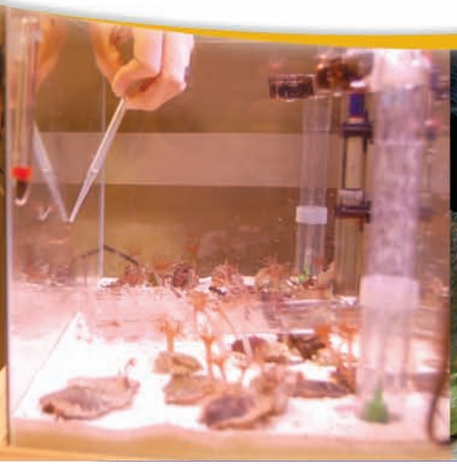
The Undeclared Student: Opening Doors for Exploration

If you come to UC Merced unsure of what academic direction you would like to pursue, we will support you in exploring your options and provide any advising you may need. Many incoming Bobcats start UC Merced without a major. Advisors in the Student Advising and Learning Center (SALC) are dedicated to helping students decide which major they would like to choose.



ENGINEERING STUDENT, JANET MELGOZA
YOSEMITE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM





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ENGINEERING

STUDENT PROFILE

ANLEY TEFERA

Year: Senior
Major: Bioengineering
Hometown: Logan, Utah

Activities/Interests:
Charter member of UC Merced National Society of Black Engineers

Plans after graduation:
Earn a doctoral degree in biomaterials.

My experience:
"It was my auntie who encouraged me to visit UC Merced, but it was the school's emphasis on research that caught my attention."

Degrees

- Bioengineering, B.S.
- Biological Engineering and Small-Scale Technologies, M.S., Ph.D.
- Computer Science and Engineering, B.S.
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, M.S., Ph.D.
- Environmental Engineering, B.S.
- Environmental Systems, M.S., Ph.D.
- Materials Science and Engineering, B.S.
- Mechanical Engineering, B.S.
- Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics, M.S., Ph.D.

To learn more about any of the above undergraduate majors or graduate degrees, visit eng.ucmerced.edu or graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu.

Planned Programs

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Economics and Management

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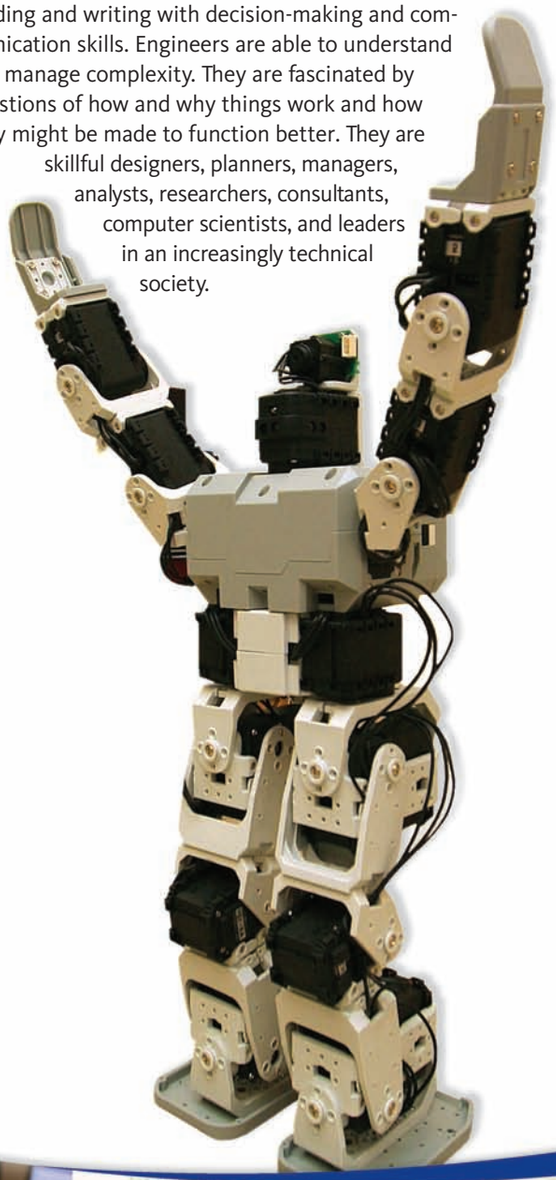
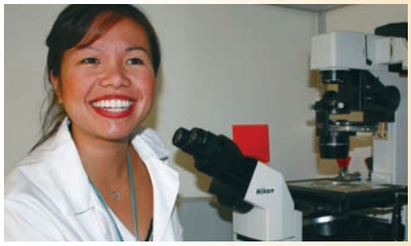
Careers and Opportunities

In the School of Engineering at UC Merced, each major is interdisciplinary and students receive an education that balances their knowledge of math, science, and critical reading and writing with decision-making and communication skills. Engineers are able to understand and manage complexity. They are fascinated by questions of how and why things work and how they might be made to function better. They are skillful designers, planners, managers, analysts, researchers, consultants, computer scientists, and leaders in an increasingly technical society.





FACULTY PROFILE

MICHELLE KHINE, Ph.D.
UC Berkeley

Professor Khine is one of three faculty members conducting stem cell research at UC Merced. A UC Berkeley graduate, she helped start a biotechnology company, Fluxion Biosciences, while working on her doctoral dissertation.

"The entrepreneurial spirit of a new campus was part of what attracted me to UC Merced," she says. "You have to have a vision to come here. There are no predefined roles, just lots of opportunities."

For more information:

School of Engineering
(209) 228-4411
Web site: eng.ucmerced.edu
E-mail: engineering@ucmerced.edu

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NATURAL SCIENCES

STUDENT PROFILE

ERICA NEUHAUS

Year: Junior
Major: Biology (Human Biology)
Hometown: San Jose, California

Activities/Interests:
Member of UC Merced Women's Volleyball team, Historical Society member, and resident assistant

Plans after graduation:
Attend medical school.

My experience:
"The first time I visited the campus, I fell in love with it, and I really enjoy the quality personal interaction between students and faculty/staff.

I am having a great experience being involved in the Science and Math Initiative, because I am able to be in an educational setting from the 'other side.' Having the opportunity to see how teachers can reach out to, and get in touch with students has been great."

Degrees

- Applied Mathematical Sciences, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
- Biological Sciences, B.S.
- Chemical Sciences, B.S.
- Earth Systems Science, B.S.
- Physics, B.S.
- Physics and Chemistry, Ph.D.
- Quantitative and Systems Biology, M.S., Ph.D.

To learn more about any of the above undergraduate majors or graduate degrees, visit naturalsciences.ucmerced.edu or graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu.

Minors

- Applied Mathematics
- Natural Science Education
- Physics

Planned Programs

- Biochemistry
- Microbiology and Immunology
- Cell and Developmental Biology

For more information:

School of Natural Sciences
(209) 228-4309
Web site: naturalsciences.ucmerced.edu
E-mail: naturalsciences@ucmerced.edu

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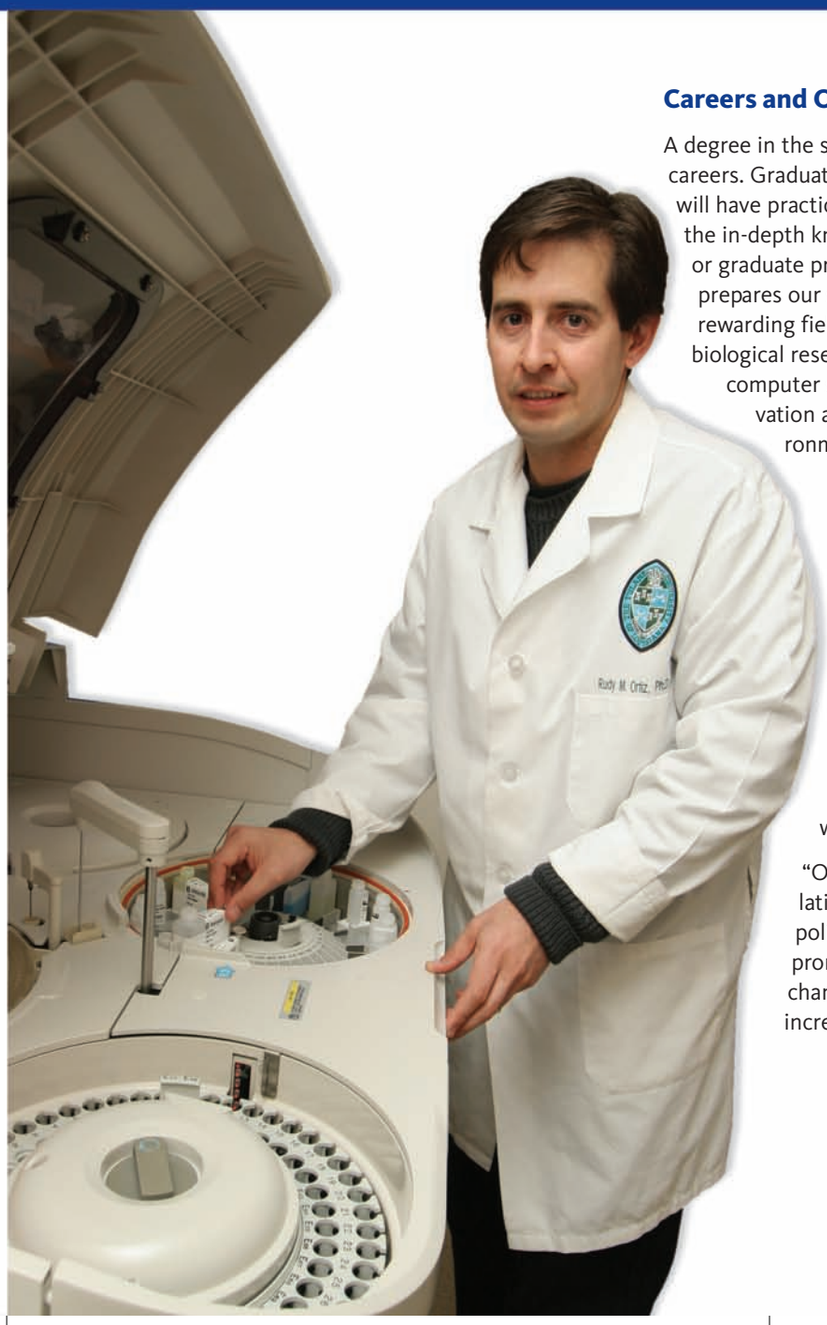

Careers and Opportunities

A degree in the sciences opens the door to a vast array of exciting careers. Graduates from the UC Merced School of Natural Sciences will have practical skills to enter the high-tech job market, as well as the in-depth knowledge needed to succeed in professional schools or graduate programs. The Natural Sciences curriculum thoroughly prepares our students for careers in a number of important and rewarding fields, including medicine, dentistry, basic and applied biological research, veterinary medicine, nursing, management, computer science, teaching, biotechnology, health care conservation and management, law, engineering, economics, environmental sciences, policy, and business.

FACULTY PROFILE

RUDY ORTIZ, Ph.D.
UC Santa Cruz

Professor Ortiz's research addresses both clinical and basic science questions regarding electrolyte and water regulation in a variety of animal models including seals and dolphins. His research led him to investigate the link between diabetes and obesity with hypertension.

"Our goal is to use the data to help guide regional legislation aimed at establishing good nutrition and health policies for San Joaquin Valley residents in an effort to promote awareness, intervention and environmental change as recommended for national remedies to the increasing obesity epidemic."

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SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND ARTS (SSHA)

Degrees

- Anthropology, B.A.
- Cognitive Science, B.A. and B.S.
- Economics, B.A.
- History, B.A.
- Literatures and Cultures, B.A.
- Management, B.S.
- Political Science, B.A.
- Psychology, B.A.
- Social and Cognitive Sciences, M.A., Ph.D.
- World Cultures, M.A., Ph.D.

To learn more about any of the above undergraduate majors or graduate degrees, visit ssha.ucmerced.edu or graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu.

Minors

- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Arts
- Cognitive Science
- Economics
- History
- Literatures and Cultures
- Management
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Services Science
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Writing

Planned Programs

- Art
- International Communications
- Law and Society
- Museum Studies
- Philosophy
- Sociology
- Spanish Language and Cultures

Careers and Opportunities

Graduates of the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts (SSHA) are uniquely positioned to pursue graduate study or careers in a variety of fields. A SSHA major provides you with a firm foundation to do just about anything. You can be an advertising executive, book critic, consultant, diplomat, economic forecaster, FBI agent, financial analyst, journalist, lawyer, manager, multimedia designer, museum coordinator, writer, physician, political lobbyist, newscaster, real estate professional, social worker, teacher or professor, and more.

For more information:

School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts
(209) 228-7742
Web site: ssha.ucmerced.edu
E-mail: ssha@ucmerced.edu

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STUDENT PROFILE

SANJEEV CHAHAL

Year: Senior
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Hayward, California

Activities/Interests:
Dance – he's a founding member of Dance Coalition (DCo) which also led to other dance organizations, Theater – he got involved in a local production of "Guys and Dolls", and he's also a UC Merced senior tour guide

Plans after graduation:
Attend graduate school and study within education (administration or teacher's credential) – he wants to continue in a position that allows him to help get students motivated to go to college.

My experience:
"Being a UC Merced student is unique because everything is brand new. The experience of being at a brand-new campus is one of a kind. I was attracted to UC Merced because I wanted to take that risk and think outside of the box, I didn't want a traditional college experience."

FACULTY PROFILE

KATIE WINDER, Ph.D.
The John Hopkins University

Professor Winder's research interests lie in labor economics and applied econometrics. She is primarily concerned with the employment and wages of women and how these are determined by fertility decisions, access to child care, and government and firm policy.

"One of the things that attracted me to UC Merced was the prospect of working with students who, by choosing a brand-new university, have shown themselves to be adventurous and enthusiastic about new opportunities."

STUDENT LIFE

What's there to do on campus?

- Be an athlete on one of UC Merced's sports teams (including baseball, lacrosse, cheerleading, volleyball, soccer, softball, badminton, archery, aquatics and ultimate Frisbee), organize the sport of your choice, or participate in intramural athletics.
- Get fit and have fun at the Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center. Check out recreation.ucmerced.edu for more information.
- Join clubs and organizations (our students have already formed 80 of them) and even create your own. Visit studentlife.ucmerced.edu to learn more.
- Serve on UC Merced's student government and help shape the direction of your school.
- Participate in student life activities and events like movie nights, guest lectures, student concerts, and socials.
- Get involved in the community. Become a mentor for elementary school children or volunteer at a local hospital.
- Boost your resume and experience by working as an assistant in a variety of places: a laboratory, the library, food services, housing, a classroom, or an administrative office.

What about off-campus?

- Catch CatTracks (UC Merced's shuttle system) that will take you just about anywhere in the city.
- Hang out downtown, enjoy a coffee or great meal, check out the current exhibit at the Multicultural Arts Center or watch a movie at the Main Place Stadium Cinema.
- Check out the Merced Shakespeare Festival, held outdoors in Applegate Park each summer (mercedshakespearefest.org) or the various productions at Playhouse Merced throughout the year. (www.playhousemerced.com).
- Enjoy the plethora of delicious choices offered by our multicultural community, ranging from traditional American to exotic Thai cuisine.
- Walk, ride your bike or drive to Lake Yosemite, adjacent to the UC Merced campus, and rent personal watercraft and paddleboats, have picnics or barbecues or go sailing.
- Take day trips to the beach, the mountains, San Francisco and Yosemite National Park.
- Go hiking, fishing, white-water rafting, kayaking, snowboarding, or skiing – we have lots of lakes, rivers and forests nearby, as well as ski resorts and beaches.

For more information:

Student Life
(209) 228-5433
Web site: studentlife.ucmerced.edu
E-mail: studentlife@ucmerced.edu

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GUARANTEED HOUSING

UC Merced guarantees housing to all incoming freshmen and transfer students who meet the required deadlines stated on our Web site: housing.ucmerced.edu.

About our housing:

The Sierra Terraces
Sierra Terraces is home to the majority of freshmen living on campus. This brand-new, two-story residence hall offers community living, with two students to a bedroom. Each two-bedroom suite shares a private bathroom. Triple rooms are available at a lower cost.

The Valley Terraces
These beautiful residence halls accommodate continuing and transfer students, as well as nontraditional freshmen. Each apartment-style suite, shared by four or six students, includes a living room, bathroom and two or three double bedrooms.

The Terrace Center
Located at the heart of the community, the Terrace Center provides sophisticated laundry facilities complete with a unique Internet notification system; the mailroom and housing office; a comfortable study lounge; a computer room; and The Den, where residents can watch a large-screen TV, play ping-pong, pool, air hockey and other games. Movie nights, dances and other special events take place in the Terrace Center's California Room. The newly expanded Yablokoff-Wallace Dining Center offers a variety of contemporary restaurant-style choices: pizza, sandwiches, grilled items, vegetarian specials, salads, home-cooked meals and much more.

Off-campus housing

The growing Merced community offers a variety of off-campus housing options. Visit our Web site at housing.ucmerced.edu for more information and a list of many of the rental properties in Merced, your rights and responsibilities as a tenant, what to consider when looking for a compatible roommate and much more.

ADMISSIONS

How to Apply

Apply to the University of California online at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

When to Apply

You can start working on the online application Oct. 1. The fall priority filing period is Nov. 1 through 30. The spring priority filing period is July 1 through 31.

Application Fees

The $60 application fee entitles you to apply to one UC campus. The fee for international students is $70. Fee waivers are available to students who qualify. To find out if you qualify for a fee waiver, visit admissions.ucmerced.edu.

Reporting Test Scores

If you apply as a freshman, you must take the ACT Assessment plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test and two SAT Subject Tests. For test dates and information, visit admissions.ucmerced.edu.

AT A GLANCE: PATHS TO UC ADMISSION

Statewide Eligibility (Freshman)*

- High School diploma
- GPA of 3.0 or above (Nonresident: 3.4)

15 UC-approved courses:

- History/Social Science – 2 years
- English – 4 years
- Mathematics – 3 years
- Laboratory Science – 2 years
- Language other than English – 2 years
- VPA (Visual and Performing Arts) – 1 year
- Elective – 1 year

- SAT Reasoning Test or ACT plus Writing and 2 SAT Subject Tests

Local Eligibility (Freshman)**

- GPA of 3.0 or above
- Must be designated in top 4% of participating high school

11 UC-approved courses by end of junior year:

- History/Social Science – 1 year
- English – 3 years
- Mathematics – 2 years
- Laboratory Science – 1 year
- Language other than English – 1 year
- Other "a-g" courses from among the remaining 7 required for eligibility in statewide context – 3 years

Community College Junior-Level Transfer

- GPA of 2.4 or above (Nonresident: 2.8)

60 semester (90 quarter) transferable units, including:

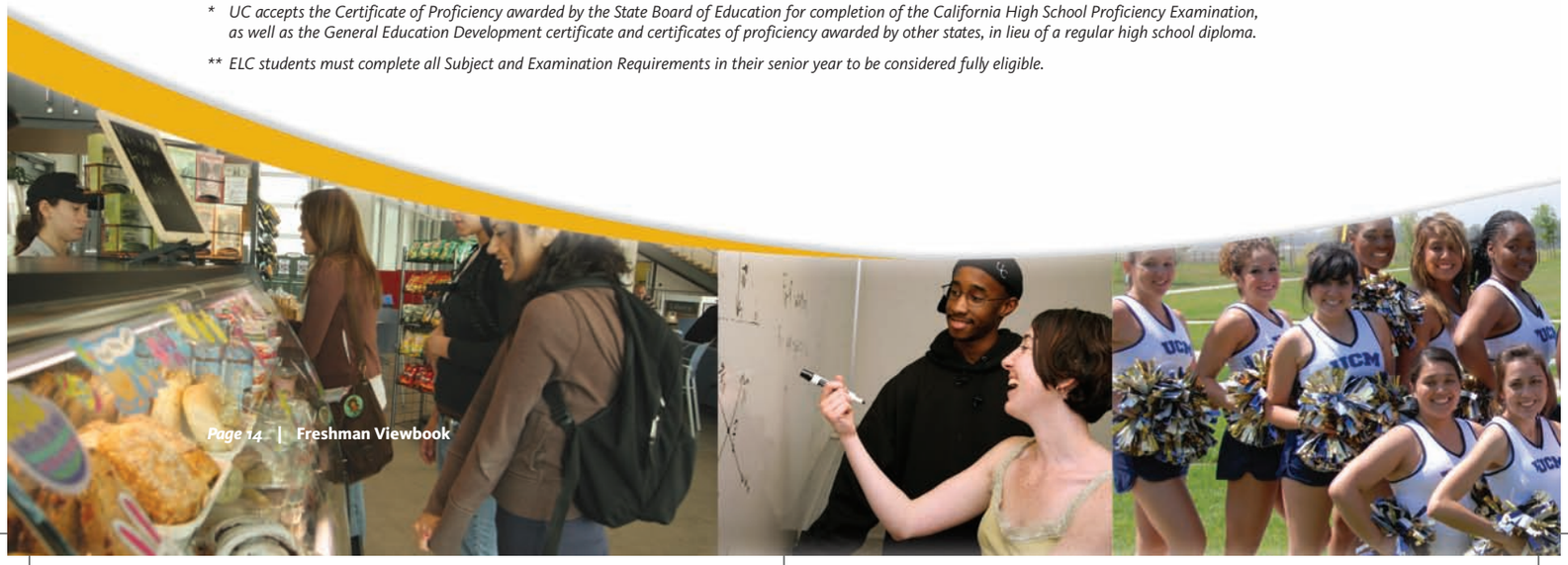
- English composition – 2 courses
- Mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning – 1 course
- 4 courses from at least 2 of these subject areas: arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, physical and biological sciences

- No examination requirement

For more information about applying to UC Merced, including additional admissions requirements and pathways, please visit www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply or admissions.ucmerced.edu.

* *UC accepts the Certificate of Proficiency awarded by the State Board of Education for completion of the California High School Proficiency Examination, as well as the General Education Development certificate and certificates of proficiency awarded by other states, in lieu of a regular high school diploma.*

** *ELC students must complete all Subject and Examination Requirements in their senior year to be considered fully eligible.*



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FINANCIAL AID

How to Apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships at UC Merced

UC Merced is firmly committed to making a college education affordable for all students, regardless of their families' financial situations. With financial aid and scholarships, the opportunity to attend UC Merced may be more affordable than you think. We encourage all students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Remember:

- The FAFSA is available online beginning Jan. 1 of each year and should be submitted by March 2.
- The UC Merced FAFSA School Code is 041271.

For questions and assistance:
Visit our Web site at financialaid.ucmerced.edu,
e-mail finaid@ucmerced.edu or
call us at (209) 228-4AID (4243).

COME SEE US

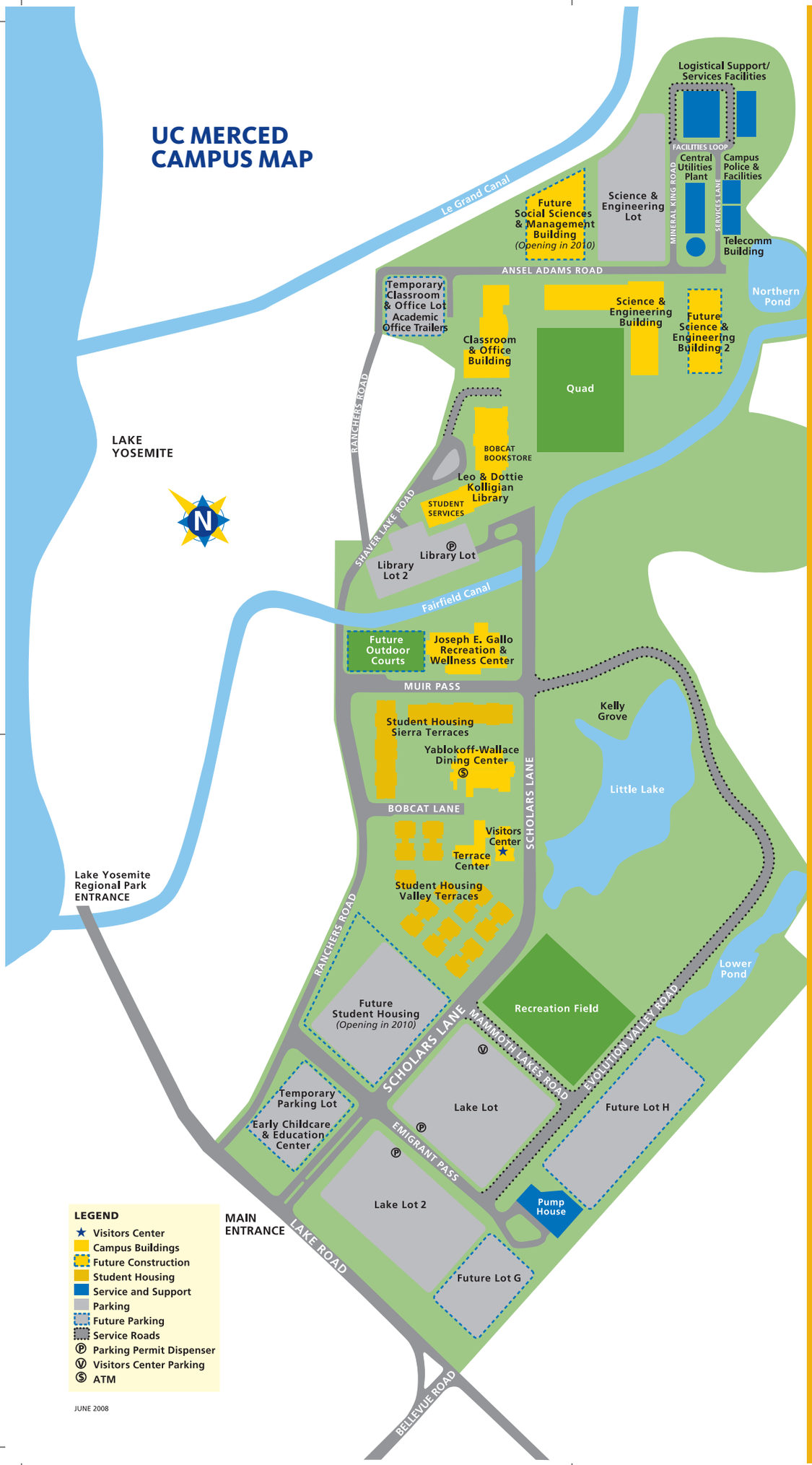
Come visit UC Merced to find out what makes our campus so special. Call us to arrange a guided tour of campus any weekday and on most Saturdays throughout the year. Visiting UC Merced will give you firsthand knowledge of our academics, housing and student life.

For more information:
Web site: tours.ucmerced.edu
E-mail: tours@ucmerced.edu
(209) 228-6316 or (866) 270-7301 *(toll-free in California)*

Estimated travel times to UC Merced:

- FRESNO 1 hour
- LOS ANGELES 4 hours
- MODESTO 45 minutes
- SACRAMENTO 2 hours
- SAN FRANCISCO 2.5 hours
- YOSEMITE 1.5 hours

UC MERCED CAMPUS MAP



QUESTIONS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP:

Admissions
(209) CAT-GO-UC (228-4682)
(866) 270-7301 (toll-free in California)
admissions.ucmerced.edu
admissions@ucmerced.edu

Financial Aid
(209) CAT-4AID (228-4243)
financialaid.ucmerced.edu
finaid@ucmerced.edu

Health Care and Disability Services
(209) 228-6996
health@ucmerced.edu
disabilityservices@ucmerced.edu

Registrar
(209) 228-2734
registrar.ucmerced.edu
registrar@ucmerced.edu

School of Engineering
(209) 228-4411
engineering.ucmerced.edu
engineering@ucmerced.edu

School of Natural Sciences
(209) 228-4309
naturalsciences.ucmerced.edu
naturalsciences@ucmerced.edu

School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts
(209) 228-7742
ssha.ucmerced.edu
ssha@ucmerced.edu

Student Housing
(209) CAT-HOME (228-4663)
housing.ucmerced.edu
housing@ucmerced.edu

Student Life
(209) 228-5433
studentlife.ucmerced.edu
studentlife@ucmerced.edu

Students First Center
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