

# UC SANTA CRUZ



2009-10

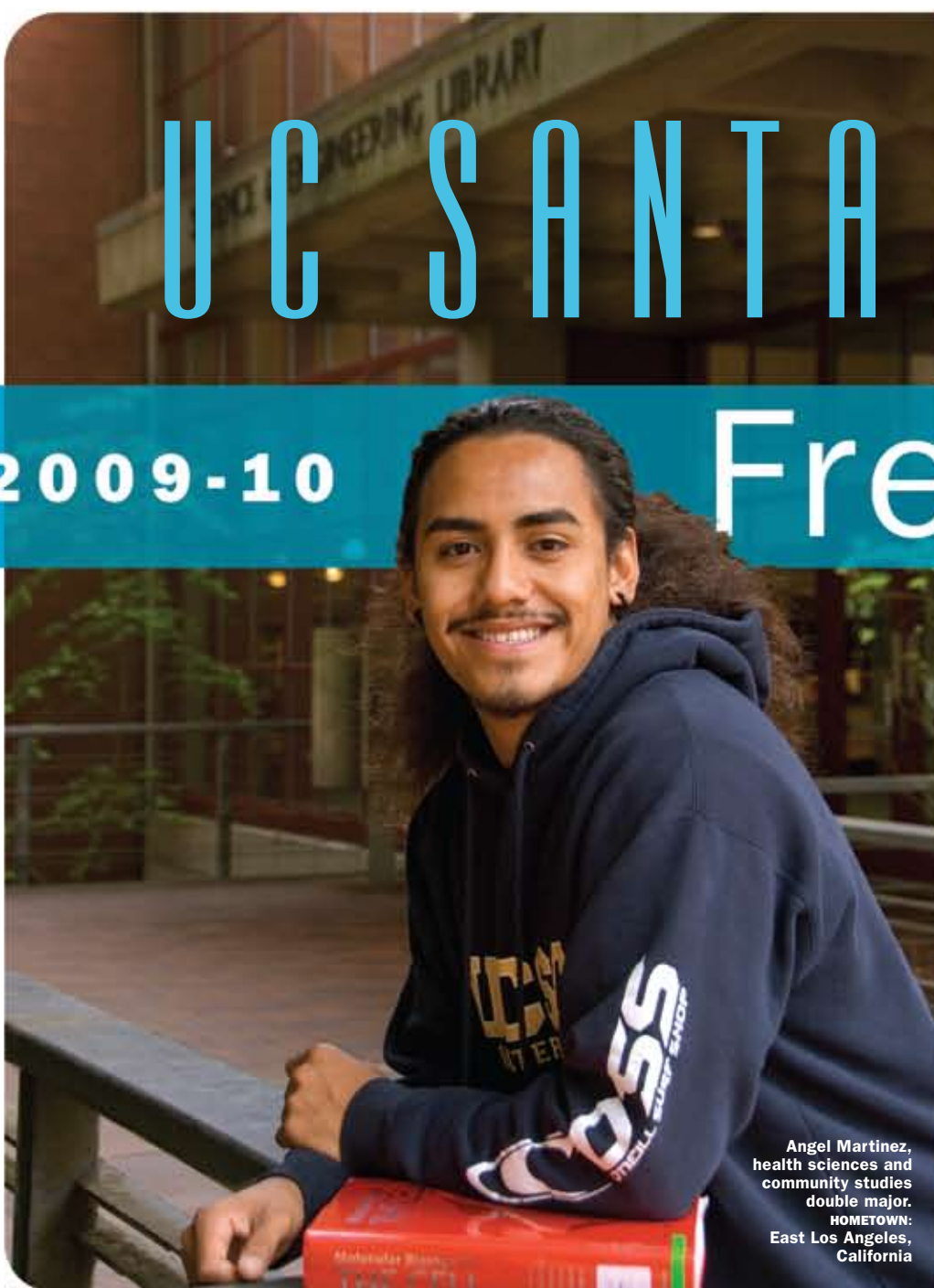
## Freshman

### Admission & Selection

The admission and selection process for first-year students at UC Santa Cruz reflects the academic rigor and preparation needed for admission to a major research institution. This publication describes the two phases of the admission and selection process: establishing eligibility to the University of California and selection by UC Santa Cruz. The pathways to achieving UC eligibility are described inside. However, meeting these minimum requirements for the university does not guarantee admission to UC Santa Cruz. Students are encouraged to achieve well beyond these minimum requirements to enhance their chances for selection.



Angel Martinez,  
health sciences and  
community studies  
double major.  
HOMETOWN:  
East Los Angeles,  
California



# Eligibility for Admission

First-year students can establish eligibility to the University of California by one of three methods. Refer to the following web site for more information about UC eligibility: [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman).



## Selection Policy for UC Santa Cruz

The faculty of the University of California, Santa Cruz, wishes to clearly articulate the freshman selection policy it plans to use for the fall 2009 quarter. Listed below are the 14 UC-approved criteria that a campus may consider in selecting students for admission.

UC Santa Cruz will calculate a score on all UC-eligible freshman applicants. For each of the 14 criteria, a specific point total is noted. A total of 10,000 points is possible. Applicants who achieve higher overall scores will be admitted within the context of the campus enrollment goals.

### Grade-point average (GPA)

Recognizing the connection between university success and high school GPA, the faculty will award up to 4,400 points in this area. The GPA is calculated on all

### Eligibility in the statewide context

> **Complete the required college preparatory courses (grades of C or higher are required), commonly called the “a–g” course pattern.**

- History/Social Science, two years
- English, four years
- Mathematics, three years (four years recommended)
- Laboratory Science, two years (three years recommended)
- Language Other than English, two years in one language other than English (three years recommended)
- Visual and Performing Arts (VPA), one year
- College Preparatory Electives, one year

If you attend a California high school, you can view which courses satisfy the “a–g” requirements through the following web site: [www.ucop.edu/doorways](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways). If you attend a high school outside of California, you can still refer to the Doorways web site for information about courses that meet the “a–g” requirement.

> **Establish an acceptable grade-point average (GPA).**

California residents need a minimum GPA of 3.00. Nonresidents of California need a minimum GPA of 3.40. The GPA is only calculated on courses meeting the “a–g” requirements in the 10th, the 11th, and, if completed, the 12th grade. See the UC Eligibility Index chart on the back cover for further information.

> **Complete the Examination Requirement no later than December of your senior year.**

“a–g” courses taken in the 10th and 11th grades, with an extra grade point awarded for an approved honors course in which a grade of C or higher is earned. The maximum GPA computed is 4.40.

### Test scores

The UC-required examinations are a strong predictor of university success. The faculty will award up to 2,400 points from the following: the best score from the ACT plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test (single sitting), and two SAT Subject Tests in two different areas chosen from the following: history, literature, mathematics (Level 2 only), science, or language other than English.

### Courses completed/planned

The faculty values students who have challenged themselves by taking more than the minimum subject requirements and will award up to 200 points in this area. Courses meeting UC’s “a–g” requirements will be considered, including those in mathematics and languages other than English taken during seventh and/or eighth grades.

### Honors courses

Students who have taken or plan to take more rigorous senior-year course work, as defined by a UC-honors designation, will be awarded up to 200 points by the faculty. Courses approved for UC-honors include Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, UC-transferable college courses, and UC-approved honors courses (California high schools only).

### Eligibility in the local context

The faculty wishes to reward top academic excellence of California students who are identified as ELC by awarding them 200 points. These students are evaluated in the summer before their senior year and are determined by UC to be in the top 4 percent of their high school class.

### Quality of senior-year program of study

The quality of the senior-year program is of utmost importance to the faculty, and students may be awarded up to 200 points for their senior-year program of study. The total number of courses planned, as well as the number of honors courses planned, is taken into consideration. (Refer to previous criterion, “Honors Courses,” above.)

1. *The ACT Assessment plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test.* The scores you report for each section of the SAT (critical reading, mathematics, and writing) must be from the same sitting.
2. *Two SAT Subject Tests in two different subject areas.* Choose from history, literature, mathematics (Level 2 only), science, or language other than English.

## Eligibility in the local context

### > California residents only

If you have been determined to be in the top 4 percent of your high school class (as determined by UC), then you are designated as ELC and are eligible. If you are eligible through ELC, the university will notify you at the beginning of your senior year. You must then apply to UC in November and complete the Examination Requirement and the remaining courses in the Subject

Requirement. ELC students who complete these requirements are guaranteed a place at one of UC's undergraduate campuses, though not necessarily at their campus of choice.

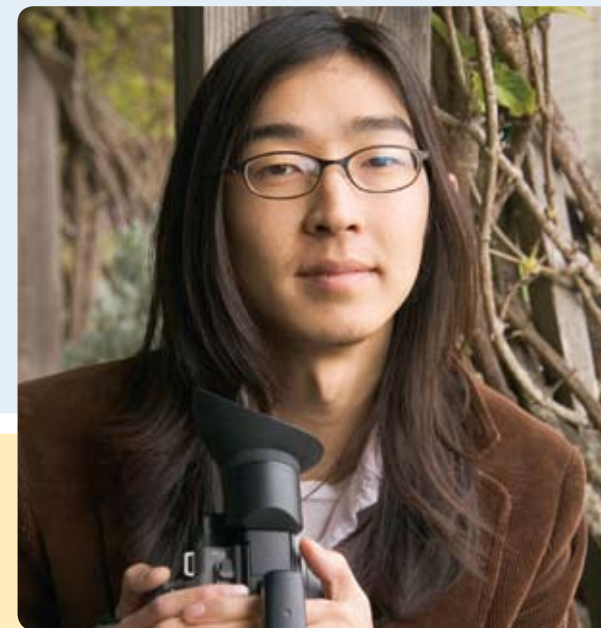
### Eligibility by examination alone

You must satisfy the same examination requirement as described in “Eligibility in the Statewide Context,” above, but your test score total must meet a specific threshold. To qualify this way, you must achieve a minimum UC Score Total—calculated according to the Eligibility Index instructions—of 410 (425 for non-residents). In addition, you must earn a minimum UC Score of 63 on each component of the ACT or SAT Reasoning Test and on each SAT Subject Test.

You may not use an SAT Subject Test to meet these requirements if you have completed a transferable college course in that subject with a grade of C or better.

### > UC Eligibility Index

To compute your “UC Score,” visit the following web site: [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/scholarshipreq](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/scholarshipreq).



## Academic opportunities in California high schools

The faculty understands that not all high schools in California can offer students the same academic opportunities and will award up to 400 points for those students attending lower-performing California high schools as measured by the state's Academic Performance Index (API). (400 point maximum between this criterion and the last criterion, “Geographic Location,” below.)

### Performance in academic subject areas

Students who have demonstrated outstanding performance in one or more of the “a–g” subject areas may be awarded up to 250 points by the faculty. Top academic performance sustained throughout a student's high school career will receive consideration in this area.

### Achievements in special projects

The faculty wishes to acknowledge achievement in special projects by awarding up to 250 points. Students will be reviewed for outstanding or exceptional achievement in one or more special projects related to an academic field of study, not necessarily confined to the “a–g” subject areas. Programs and/or projects outside the classroom in the “a–g” subject areas will also be considered under this criterion.

## Improvement in academic performance

The faculty will award up to 100 points for recent improvement in academic performance. Students showing improvement in grades from their sophomore year to their junior year by at least one full grade point will be given consideration in this area. Only courses in the “a–g” subject areas will be calculated for this purpose.

### Special talents, achievements, and awards

The faculty values students who have shown the promise to contribute to the intellectual vitality of the campus and will consider awarding up to 500 points in this area. Students who have earned significant recognition (e.g., at the state, national, or international level) in a particular field (including but not limited to visual and performing arts, written communication, student government, athletic endeavors, community service, etc.), or demonstrated exceptional leadership potential, will be considered under this criterion.

### Participation in educational preparation programs

The faculty supports the efforts of many precollegiate educational programs and the students whom those programs serve. Up to 200 points may be awarded for those students who have participated and persisted in certain Educational Preparation Programs, and for those

students who have demonstrated academic accomplishment within those programs. (Refer to the list on page 12 of the University of California application.)

### Academic accomplishment within life experiences

The faculty will award up to 700 points for those students who have demonstrated academic achievement while also having dealt with significant life issues. Life experiences include but are not limited to disability, low family income, first generation to attend college, need to work, and other special circumstances.

### Geographic location

The faculty wishes to promote geographic diversity within the student body and will award up to 100 points to help achieve that diversity. Certain geographic regions where applicants live or attend school will be considered under this criterion. (400 point maximum between this criterion and the criterion “Academic Opportunities in California High Schools,” above.)

## Admission by Exception

Admission by Exception is granted to a very small percentage of applicants who do not meet UC-eligibility requirements. Such factors as academic accomplishments in light of your life experiences and/or special circumstances, socio-economic background, special talents and/or achievements, contributions to the community, and the quality of your personal statement are taken into consideration.

**Office of Admissions**  
[admissions.ucsc.edu](http://admissions.ucsc.edu)  
[admissions@ucsc.edu](mailto:admissions@ucsc.edu)  
 (831) 459-4008

**Campus Tours**  
[admissions.ucsc.edu/campustours](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/campustours)  
[visits@ucsc.edu](mailto:visits@ucsc.edu)  
 (831) 459-4008

**Financial Aid**  
[www2.ucsc.edu/fin-aid](http://www2.ucsc.edu/fin-aid)  
[fin\\_aid@ucsc.edu](mailto:fin_aid@ucsc.edu)  
 (831) 459-2963

**Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP)**  
[www2.ucsc.edu/eop](http://www2.ucsc.edu/eop)  
 (831) 459-2296

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**  
[www2.ucsc.edu/drc](http://www2.ucsc.edu/drc)  
[drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu)  
 Voice: (831) 459-2089  
 TTY: (831) 459-4806

**Housing Office**  
[housing.ucsc.edu](http://housing.ucsc.edu)  
[housing@ucsc.edu](mailto:housing@ucsc.edu)  
 (831) 459-2394

**Parent Guide**  
[parents.ucsc.edu](http://parents.ucsc.edu)

**UCSC Home Page**  
[ucsc.edu](http://ucsc.edu)

## UC Eligibility Index

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS	"a-g" GPA	UC Score Total
	Minimum GPA = 3.00	
	under 3.00 ineligible	
	3.00 – 3.04	223
	3.05 – 3.09	210
	3.10 – 3.14	198
	3.15 – 3.19	187
	3.20 – 3.24	175
	3.25 – 3.29	165
	3.30 – 3.34	157
	3.35 – 3.39	152
	3.40 – 3.44	147
	3.45 and above	143
NON-CA RESIDENTS	Minimum GPA = 3.40	
	3.40 – 3.44	147
	3.45 and above	143

## Test Score Translation Table

ACT Score	SAT Score	UC Score	ACT Score	SAT Score	UC Score
36	800	100		490	48
	790	98	20	480	47
35	780	97		470	45
	770	95	19	460	43
34	760	93		450	42
	750	92	18	440	40
33	740	90		430	38
	730	88	17	420	37
32	720	87		410	35
	710	85	16	400	33
31	700	83		390	32
	690	82	15	380	30
30	680	80		370	28
	670	78	14	360	27
29	660	77		350	25
	650	75	13	340	23
28	640	73		330	22
	630	72	12	320	20
27	620	70		310	18
	610	68	11	300	17
26	600	67		290	15
	590	65	10	280	13
25	580	63		270	12
	570	62	9	260	10
24	560	60		250	8
	550	58	8	240	7
23	540	57		230	5
	530	55	7	220	3
22	520	53		210	2
	510	52	1–6	200	0
21	500	50			



## Related Information

**Application filing period** *Fall quarter:* November 1–30

### Applying for admission

You may apply to UC Santa Cruz online by filling out the University of California application: [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply).

Paper applications are only available as a PDF through the UC Office of the President admissions web site (see URL above). Applicants who do not have web access or are unable to download and print an application may call the UC Santa Cruz Office of Admissions, (831) 459-4008, and a printed copy of the application will be mailed to them. Both applications, electronic and paper, explain the filing process, fees, and all information you must submit with your application.

### Admission to majors in the Jack Baskin School of Engineering

While all freshman applicants are considered for admission to the UC Santa Cruz campus under the selection criteria previously described, acceptance into an engineering major is based on high school grade point average, courses completed in mathematics and sciences, scores on standardized tests, and/or the personal statement. Details on the admission process for the Jack Baskin School of Engineering can be found at [www.soe.ucsc.edu/admissions](http://www.soe.ucsc.edu/admissions).

### Campus tours

Student-led campus tours are offered year-round on weekdays and selected Saturdays. Reservations are required and may be made online at [admissions.ucsc.edu/campustours](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/campustours).