

UCLA

Freshmen, start your engines.



Before people arrive here, they have this idea that UCLA is the goal, the destination. Then they discover it's the point of departure, that the real voyage has just begun.

UCLA's strength is its size. It's part of our DNA, part of our promise. Imagine: 5,000 courses, 3,800 faculty. 130 undergraduate majors, and 109 academic departments. Yet beyond this astonishing array of choices, there is even more. Advanced inquiry begins your first day on campus: opportunities for student research that start right away; year-long learning communities that connect freshmen with distinguished faculty through Freshman Clusters; the concentrated focus of the small-class experience in *Fiat Lux* Freshman Seminars; Honors Collegium courses taught by faculty from a wide range of disciplines; and civic engagement opportunities in courses that combine study with work in the community.

Five ways to excel at UCLA from Day One.

Freshman Clusters

www.clusters.ucla.edu

Great minds don't always think alike. But they often think together in Freshman Clusters, an exciting way to begin your undergraduate experience. This innovative program involves you in a stimulating multidisciplinary exploration of a challenging and timely topic. Clusters are year-long learning communities that connect freshmen with distinguished UCLA faculty, introduce them to interdisciplinary teaching, and help strengthen skills necessary in a research university. The ten Clusters for the 2009-2010 academic year are:

- The Global Environment: A Multidisciplinary Perspective
- Interracial Dynamics in American Society and Culture
- The History of Modern Thought
- Work, Labor, and Social Justice in the United States
- America in the Sixties: Politics, Society, and Culture, 1954-1974
- Evolution of the Cosmos and Life
- Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia
- Frontiers in Human Aging: Biomedical, Social, and Policy Perspectives
- Sex: From Biology to Gendered Society
- Never ending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth

Fiat Lux Freshman Seminars

www.fiatlux.ucla.edu

Fiat Lux? It means, "Let there be light." *Fiat Lux* Freshmen Seminars use the phrase to provide a valuable forum for students and faculty to engage in critical thinking together. *Fiat Lux* offers some 200 seminars each year that funnel the talents and expertise of the faculty at a premier research university into a small classroom setting. Each seminar enrolls 15-20 students. So think fast. Some recent seminars include:

- Meeting Your Favorite Contemporary Writers
- Great American Movies, 1967-74: The "New Hollywood"
- Birth of the Comic Strip
- Medicine in Arts and Humanities
- Hip-Hop as Universal Language
- Peace, Nonviolence and the Law
- Serendipity in Science
- Space Weather: Impacts of Social Activity on Earth

Honors Collegium

www.honors.ucla.edu/hc/home.html

If you're drawn to the idea of working on common problems and possibilities, consider the Honors Collegium. It creates a community atmosphere in small, interdisciplinary courses that involve extensive interaction between faculty and students. Open to all students, Collegium courses are taught by faculty representing a wide range of disciplines on campus. Here's a snapshot of the more than 70 Collegium courses offered each year:

- Immigrants and the American Dream
- Music and Society
- Genetic Engineering in Medicine, Agriculture, and Law
- Psychology of Fear
- African Americans and Africa in Perspective
- International Flash Points
- Lincoln and American Political Tradition

Center for Community Learning

www.communitylearning.ucla.edu

Did you know that UCLA undergraduates participate in meaningful work in the diverse communities of Los Angeles—and earn academic credit in the process? You can earn credit through service learning courses, community-based research, and academic credit-bearing internships. UCLA is a national leader in civic engagement, and community involvement is a cornerstone of your undergraduate education. It starts at the Center for Community Learning—with faculty offering courses that connect UCLA with community partners. There's something for everyone: tutoring, research with community agencies, or work with civic organizations or corporations. AmeriCorps programs also offer scholarships. Or you can minor in Civic Engagement, or participate in internships at local, state, and national organizations, or conduct research on public policy.

Undergraduate Research

www.ugresearch.ucla.edu

Welcome to one of the nation's top research universities and your chance to do your own meaningful research. Each year, thousands of students participate in discoveries at UCLA. Many students create important, publishable work in close collaboration with senior faculty—often as early as their freshman year. Imagine creating new knowledge working one-on-one with top faculty by enrolling in seminars, research tutorials, and departmental honors programs. Two undergraduate Research Centers—one for Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, and one for the Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics—help undergraduates identify faculty mentors from all campus areas.

HERE. NOW.

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