

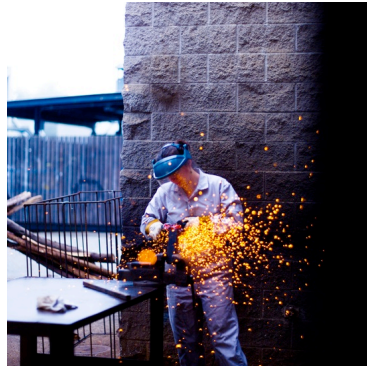
# Welcome to the University of California, Santa Cruz!

**Undergraduate Research (UR)** is done in every department at UCSC.

Examples include:

- Critical analysis of primary or secondary sources
- Design
- Scientific investigations in social, physical, and biological sciences
- Creative projects or activities
- Performance arts

Participating in UR gives you the opportunity to put your coursework to use and to be actively involved in your own education.



# How to Prepare for UR

- Get good grades.
  - Many programs have a GPA requirement.
  - Take advantage of support programs, like Learning Support Services. See the link below to Academic Support.
  - Study in groups.
- Go to office hours regularly.
  - Ask questions about the class or the instructor's research or career path.
  - You need to build relationships so that you can learn about opportunities and get good reference letters.
- Find professors who are doing research that interests you and talk to them now.
  - Look at department webpages to learn about professors' research topics.
  - Email the professors or go to office hours and ask the professors about their research and what they look for in an undergraduate research assistant.
- Take advantage of campus services.
  - Meet with your the adviser for your major and your college adviser.
  - Visit the Career Center. They can help you choose a major.
- Start researching summer opportunities the previous fall and winter. Many summer programs have application deadlines November-February.
  - You need time to learn about the program and prepare your application.
  - Summer mentors can provide references letters.
- Join a student organization.
  - Clubs provide a community of like-minded peers.
  - You can learn about many research opportunities from friends.

For more information, visit the

**UCSC Undergraduate Research Opportunities website: [UGR.UE.UCSC.EDU](https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu)**

*With links to:*

- Academic Support: [https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/Academic\\_Support](https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/Academic_Support)
- Frequently Asked Questions: <https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/FAQ>
- How to Email a Professor [https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/email\\_examples](https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/email_examples)
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Database: <https://ugr.ue.ucsc.edu/database>