

UCLA



Academic Majors

EXPLORING YOUR
INTERESTS, SHAPING
YOUR FUTURE

Saul Lincoln,
Microbiology, Immunology
and Molecular Genetics



Deciding Your Major

COLLEGE IS A TIME OF DISCOVERY AND SELF-DISCOVERY — and deciding on your major involves both. Look inward to gauge your interests, academic strengths and personal goals. But don't stop there. UCLA provides the rare opportunity to explore all the new subject areas and learning experiences only a research university in an innovative global city can offer.



This booklet will introduce you to broad subject areas at UCLA. You'll see some familiar fields of study — and some new ones. You can pursue more than one interest: Choose a double major or minor. For instance, one recent graduate paired business economics with Chinese to prepare for global business. Another majored in African American studies and minored in accounting; he was hired as a bank financial analyst before graduation.

EXPLORING NEW FIELDS

As early as Orientation, your advisor or counselor can help you choose Fiat Lux seminars, Clusters and survey courses that will introduce you to new academic fields. With 10-week fall, winter and spring quarters, you have a lot of flexibility to sample new subject areas.

If you're a transfer student, you must declare a major when you apply, but you may be able to add a minor later. Be sure to consult our Transfer Admission Guide for detailed information.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

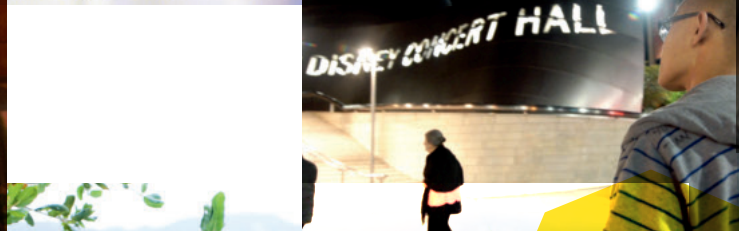
UCLA is a research powerhouse, averaging \$1 billion in research funding annually. So it's no surprise that more than half of UCLA students graduate with some kind of research experience. And not all research happens in labs: Social science and humanities students do original research as well, from analyzing the costs and benefits of DNA databases to identifying the influences of Victorian Gothic literature on online games.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

From Silicon Beach to Hollywood, Los Angeles is a great place to get an internship and translate your academic interests into career skills. Student organizations offer another important way to shape your UCLA experience. Volunteering for groups like Mobile Clinic, L.A. Hacks or Bruin Consulting helps you explore your interests and build a robust résumé. And for entrepreneurial skills, there's the Startup UCLA curriculum.

STUDY ABROAD

Many UCLA students earn course credit outside the U.S. UCLA offers 100+ programs in more than 40 countries. Financial aid can help make study abroad affordable.



Interested in the way things work

If you have a talent for numbers or you like to take things apart — with your hands or in your imagination — you may find your major in the **PHYSICAL SCIENCES** or **ENGINEERING**.



SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

The physical sciences are known for rigorous measurement and testing of hypotheses and theories. Students learn to handle big data as easily as lab equipment. Engineering is even more hands on, with an emphasis on practical problem-solving.

SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

Physical sciences and engineering graduates are in demand. So many employers recruit our students that UCLA's Engineering and Technical Fair, a two-day event, is repeated twice a year. Some graduates end up in surprising places. The team that created the algorithm for the snow in Disney's *Frozen* and the water in *Moana* included both an alumnus and a professor of applied mathematics.



Bioengineering Prof. Andrea Kasko focuses on the design of new materials for biomedical use.

VALUE ADDED

DESALINATION. Engineers at UCLA invented the first practical way to convert saltwater to drinking water in 1959. Today, UCLA researchers are using nanotechnology to improve the membranes that filter the water and sensors to make water treatment plants self-regulating. A cross-disciplinary Grand Challenges team of all-star faculty is committed to making Los Angeles 100 percent sustainable in energy, water and biodiversity by 2050.

SUPER-SIZED TELESCOPES. UCLA faculty and researchers use the Keck I and II telescopes on Mauna Kea, Hawaii; they are designing instruments for the next-generation Thirty Meter Telescope.

INFINITY AND BEYOND. Faculty are involved with many NASA missions, from Dawn to Mars 2020 to the Europa Mission. Undergraduate students designed, built and launched the ELFIN satellite to conduct research into space weather, which powers the Northern Lights.



The Student Creativity Center in Engineering

Here's a sampling of majors.
See pages 14–15 for a complete list.

- Biochemistry
- Electrical Engineering
- Computer Science
- Applied Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering

These majors are of growing interest:

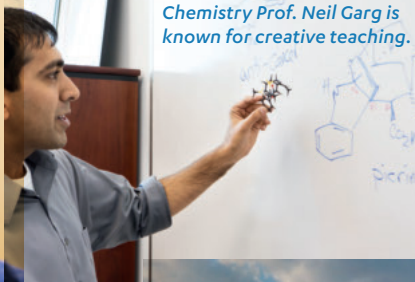
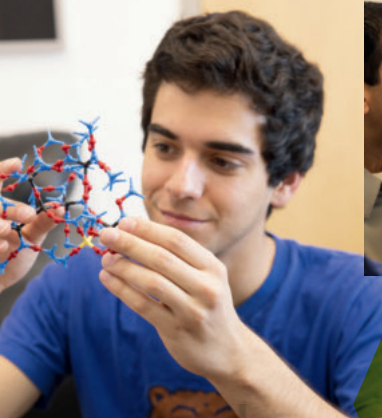
- Statistics
- Physics
- Mathematics/Economics
- Engineering Geology

A few of the intriguing minors in this area.
See page 15 for a complete list.

- Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences
- Biomedical Research
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Geochemistry



Astronomer and TED star
Prof. Andrea Ghez



Chemistry Prof. Neil Garg is known for creative teaching.



The Concrete Lab is a research and instructional space for Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Comet expert Prof. David Jewitt takes students on a field trip to Kitt Peak Observatory.

Prof. Tracy Johnson, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology, focuses on how cells alter gene regulation.

Fascinated by life, from single cells to the human body

If you like to explore the secrets of living organisms or you think you might have a talent for healing, you may find your calling in the **LIFE SCIENCES** or **NURSING**.



SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

All life sciences and nursing majors learn critical thinking, analytical skills, research strategies and laboratory skills. Depending on your major and course choices, you may develop ease in data mapping or acquire specific clinical skills.

SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

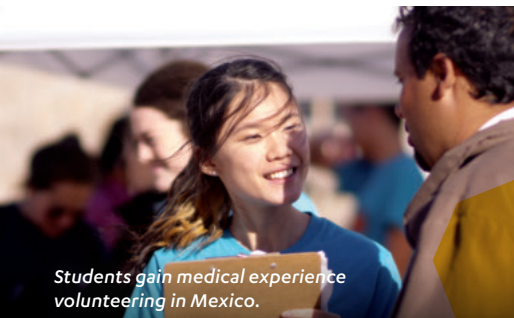
Life sciences majors find jobs in research labs, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals or genetic counseling. Many go on to graduate study in neuroscience, medicine, dentistry and other health-related professions.

VALUE ADDED

HOSPITAL. UCLA's health science schools are on the main campus — and so is Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, ranked the No. 4 hospital in the U.S. That's where our nursing students do their clinical immersion. Even more students are involved at the hospital as volunteers and researchers, especially in the biomedical research minor. And our medical school faculty teaches courses in the undergraduate neuroscience program.

BRAIN RESEARCH. More than 50 years ago, UCLA became a leader in the then-new field of brain research. That's one reason we identify psychology as a life science, not a social science: Our approach is grounded in neurobiology. UCLA's graduate program in clinical psychology is ranked first in the U.S.

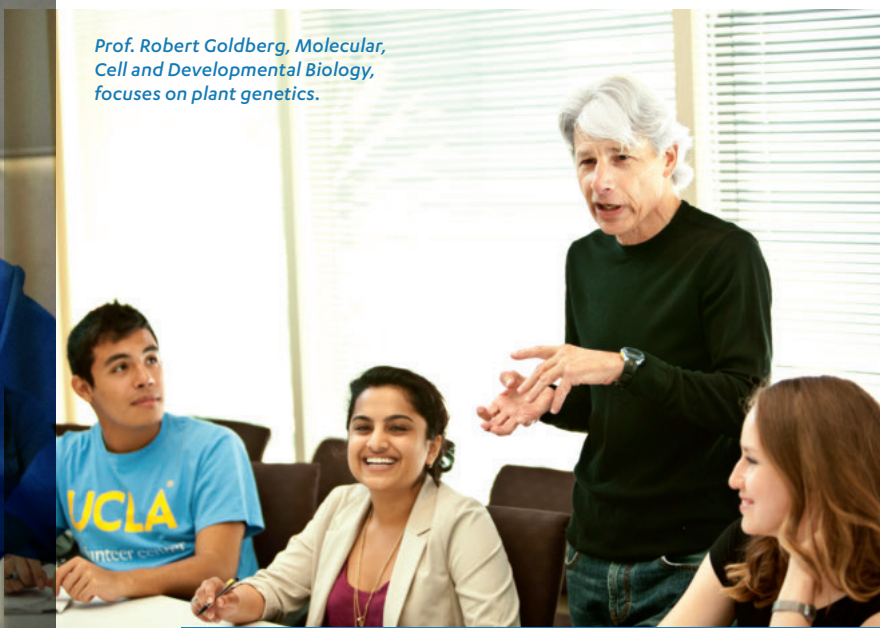
ECOLOGY. There's an extensive botanical garden right on campus, an urban refuge for biodiversity. Further afield is the University of California's Stunt Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Reserve, used for research and internships. Ongoing studies focus on how flora and fauna have recovered from a 1993 fire.



Students gain medical experience volunteering in Mexico.



Prof. Robert Goldberg, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology, focuses on plant genetics.



*Here's a sampling of majors.
See pages 14–15 for a complete list.*

- Biology
- Psychology
- Psychobiology
- Physiological Science
- Nursing

These majors are of growing interest:

- Cognitive Science
- Neuroscience
- Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology
- Human Biology and Society

*A few of the intriguing minors in this area.
See page 15 for a complete list.*

- Applied Developmental Psychology
- Biomedical Research
- Conservation Biology
- Evolutionary Medicine

Prof. Amy Rowat, Integrative Biology and Physiology, teaches a course in Science & Food.

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center is ranked No. 4 in the nation.



Nursing students in the simulation lab



Student organic garden



Intrigued by people and the institutions they create

Perhaps you have a flair for business or politics. Or maybe you like understanding how institutions work — and why they don't. You may find your focus in the **SOCIAL SCIENCES OR PUBLIC AFFAIRS**.



Darnell Hunt, dean of the Division of Social Sciences in the UCLA College, authors a much-quoted study on Hollywood diversity.

SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

Social science majors learn research and writing skills, creative thinking and problem-solving. Some areas — notably economics — stress quantitative skills as well.

SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

Social science majors bring their skills to business, consulting and government. Some students pursue professional degrees in law, public policy or management.



Study pods in the Charles E. Young Research Library

VALUE ADDED

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE. Founded in 1958, the International Institute is the central hub for global and area studies at UCLA, with more than 25 centers and programs promoting multidisciplinary research. Both a major and minor in global studies are offered.

QUARTER IN WASHINGTON. The University of California D.C. Center houses more than 270 students in a high-rise a short walk from the White House. UCLA students can do the Quarter in Washington program in fall, winter or spring — completing an internship and an original research project.

FIELD STUDY. Los Angeles offers many opportunities for research. But our students pursue field study all over the world: geography students in Thailand, anthropology students in Ghana and Bali, political science students in Sacramento. The Lemelson Anthropological Honors Program is only one of the field study programs in Social Sciences.

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS. The Luskin School offers a public affairs major as well as a minor in urban and regional studies. The Law School welcomes undergraduate volunteers to its moot court program. The Anderson School has a minor in accounting and courses for the entrepreneurship minor.



Prof. Lynn Vavreck, Political Science, studies presidential elections.

Here's a sampling of majors.
See pages 14–15 for a complete list.

- Business Economics
- Political Science
- Economics
- Sociology
- History
- Public Affairs



Erica Henderson (International Development) and Melanie Mah (Psychology) participate in Quarter in Washington.

These majors are of growing interest:

- African American Studies
- American Indian Studies
- Asian American Studies
- Chicana and Chicano Studies
- Communication Studies
- Gender Studies



A few of the intriguing minors in this area.
See page 15 for a complete list.

- Civic Engagement
- Entrepreneurship



Prof. Ananya Roy, Urban Planning, Social Welfare and Geography, researches poverty and inequality.



Logan Linnane (Geography and Political Science) does fieldwork in Thailand.



Prof. Tim Groeling, Communication Studies, focuses on political communication and new media.

Lover of the arts, literature and culture

Perhaps your passion is theater or painting. Or maybe you are thrilled by literature or language as a reader or a writer. You may find your major in **MUSIC**, the **ARTS** or the **HUMANITIES**.



SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

At UCLA, performing and visual arts majors get a liberal arts background as well as specialized skills. Humanities majors hone their writing and research skills in English and in other languages. Digital humanities adds new dimensions: for example, mapping the cultural, architectural and urban history of a city space.

SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

Music major Sophia James wowed audiences on *American Idol*'s 18th season. She'll soon be the latest in a long line of singers, actors and artists with degrees from UCLA. Humanities majors embrace a wide range of careers, from business and academia to digital media content creation.

VALUE ADDED

HAMMER. With a focus on emerging artists and an extensive permanent collection of prints and drawings, the Hammer Museum is a rich resource for art and humanities students alike. The annual Poetry Series includes readings by prize-winning UCLA student poets.

FOWLER. This cultural history museum explores global arts and cultures with an emphasis on works from Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Americas — past and present. Here, world arts and cultures majors take courses in Textiles of the World. Paid student interns help develop and implement school, family and public programs.

FILM AND TELEVISION ARCHIVE. In the U.S., UCLA's archive is second in size only to the Library of Congress. But it's not just for film buffs. It's a rich cultural history resource that includes the Hearst Metrotone News collection, with 27 million feet of newsreel footage from 1914 through 1968. Undergraduates can view holdings for research papers or capstone projects.

Ostin Music Center



Design | Media Arts students explore "form" in a studio class.



Prof. Rebeca Méndez teaches design.



Grammy Award winner Jesús Guzmán teaches Music of Mexico (Ethnomusicology).



The design/production sequence in Theater includes costume design.



Prof. Steve Loza, Ethnomusicology, is a composer and author.



Here's a sampling of majors.
See pages 14–15 for a complete list.

- English
- Philosophy
- Theater
- Art History
- Music
- Design | Media Arts

These majors are of growing interest:

- Ethnomusicology
- Linguistics

A few of the intriguing minors in this area.
See page 15 for a complete list.

- Digital Humanities
- Film, Television and Digital Media
- Visual and Performing Arts Education

Shaping your UCLA experience

These brief profiles show the many paths alumni follow to successful careers. Choosing a major is just one step. Explore your interests using all of the available resources at UCLA: undergraduate research, internships, student groups, study abroad and student jobs.



JESSICA WILLISON B.A. '13 AND ANN WANG B.A. '13

MAJORED in communication studies (Willison) and international development (Wang), UCLA College

NOW co-founders of socially conscious start-up Enrou, an online marketplace

BEFORE UCLA, went to high school together in the Inland Empire

AT UCLA, Willison did an editorial internship at fashion publication Refinery29; Wang worked in the Alumni Scholarships Program and at the Volunteer Center.

AFTER GRADUATION, they completed a 10-week StartUp UCLA course for entrepreneurial students and recent graduates. That prepared them to compete at the Forbes Under 30 Summit, where they won the “\$400,000 Pressure Cooker” pitch competition to fund their business venture. Winners of the UCLA Alumni Award for Recent Graduate Achievement.



MICHAEL REYES B.A. '14

MAJORED in English, minored in French and Francophone studies, UCLA College

NOW holds a Ph.D. in comparative literature

from the University of Texas, Austin, where he focused on Caribbean literature and African diaspora studies

BEFORE UCLA, left a violent public high school for Mexico. Finished school there, improved Spanish skills. Returned to the U.S. and obtained a G.E.D.

AT UCLA, entered as a transfer from Citrus College. Through the Civic Engagement program, interned at a literary agency. As a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, wrote an honors thesis exploring the theme of deserted islands as locations for producing social critique in literatures of the 12th and 18th centuries.

DREW Z. GREENBERG B.A. '93

MAJORED in political science, UCLA College

NOW writer and co-executive producer of the ABC series *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*

BEFORE UCLA, read voraciously and wrote as a hobby; interested in medicine

AT UCLA, involved in peer counseling and as a Student Health Advocate. Most important lesson: learned to appreciate diversity while working on staff at the residence halls.

AFTER GRADUATION, took the MCAT but never went to medical school. Instead, earned a law degree and switched to the entertainment industry. Began to write for television: *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *The O.C.*, *Dexter* and *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*.





ANDREW CAMPION B.A. '93

MAJORED in economics, UCLA College

NOW Chief Operating Officer, Nike, Inc. He's also on the board of directors for Starbucks and the LA 2028 Olympic & Paralympic Games.

BEFORE UCLA, grew up in Whittier, California, and graduated from Whittier Christian High School

AT UCLA, became a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, played intramural volleyball and basketball, and went to nearly every football and basketball game

AFTER GRADUATION, earned a law degree and LLM in taxation. Worked about 11 years at The Walt Disney Company, where he held leadership roles in strategic planning, mergers and acquisitions, financial and operational planning, investor relations and tax. Earned his M.B.A. from UCLA Anderson in 2003, while at Disney. Joined Nike, Inc. in 2007.



**LISA D. CAGNOLATTI
B.S. '83**

MAJORED in chemical engineering, Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science

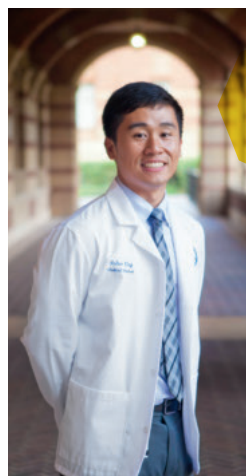
NOW Executive in Residence, ASU

W.P. Carey School of Business. Active in the community: board member, YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix, International Black Women's Public Policy Institute and National College Resources Foundation.

BEFORE UCLA, a star student in math and chemistry at Inglewood High School. Discovered engineering through a UCLA program.

AT UCLA, a member of the National Society of Blacks in Engineering and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority; lived and worked at Sproul Hall; interned with IBM and Proctor and Gamble

AFTER GRADUATION, earned an MBA from Pepperdine University. Started as a team manager at Proctor and Gamble, moved to Southern California Gas Company as an energy sales engineer. Worked her way up the corporate ladder.



NOLAN UNG B.S. '13

MAJORED in biochemistry, UCLA College

NOW a graduate of David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, currently in the residency program in psychiatry at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

BEFORE UCLA, public school student in the Inland Empire

AT UCLA, his undergraduate experience included doing health education in Tibet, working on the brain atlas, being a research assistant in a lab investigating diabetes and a research fellow in neurosurgery.

AFTER GRADUATION, earned a full-tuition UCLA Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship to medical school



CARMEN ARGOTE B.A. '04

MAJORED in art, School of the Arts and Architecture

NOW an artist exhibiting in group and solo shows including *As Above, So Below* at New York City's New Museum in 2019

BEFORE UCLA, grew up in the Pico-Union neighborhood of L.A. with her parents and sister

AT UCLA, entered as a transfer from Santa Monica College. Undergraduate work chosen for an exhibition in the Wight Gallery; also did a solo show.

AFTER GRADUATION, earned her M.F.A. from UCLA in 2007

Majors and Minors

UNDECIDED? YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY. About 1,500 students are “undeclared” at any given time, and many more change majors. Undeclared freshman applicants are welcome in Engineering and all divisions of the College of Letters and Science. The schools that do not consider undeclared applicants are Arts and Architecture; Music; Public Affairs; Theater, Film and Television; and Nursing.

Majors

College of Letters and Science

African American Studies
African and Middle Eastern Studies¹
American Indian Studies
American Literature and Culture
Ancient Near East and Egyptology
Anthropology
Arabic
Art History
Asian American Studies
Asian Humanities
Asian Languages and Linguistics
Asian Religions
Asian Studies¹
Astrophysics
Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences
Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences/
Mathematics
Biochemistry
Biology²
Biophysics
Business Economics^{1,2,3}
Central and East European Languages
and Cultures
Chemistry
Chemistry/Materials Science
Chicana and Chicano Studies
Chinese
Classical Civilization
Climate Science
Cognitive Science¹
Communication^{2,5}
Comparative Literature
Computational and Systems Biology¹
Earth and Environmental Science
Ecology, Behavior and Evolution²
Economics^{1,2,3}
Education and Social Transformation¹
Engineering Geology
English²
Environmental Science
European Studies¹

French
French and Linguistics
Gender Studies
Geography
Geography/Environmental Studies
Geology
Geophysics
German
Global Studies^{1,2}
Greek
Greek and Latin
History¹
Human Biology and Society^{1,2}
International Development Studies^{1,2}
Iranian Studies
Italian
Italian and Special Fields
Japanese
Jewish Studies
Korean
Labor Studies
Latin
Latin American Studies¹
Linguistics
Linguistics and Anthropology
Linguistics and Asian Languages
and Cultures
Linguistics and Computer Science
Linguistics and English
Linguistics and French
Linguistics and Italian
Linguistics and Philosophy
Linguistics and Psychology
Linguistics and Scandinavian Languages
Linguistics and Spanish
Linguistics, Applied
Marine Biology²
Mathematics¹
Mathematics, Applied¹
Mathematics/Applied Science¹
Mathematics, Data Theory¹

Mathematics/Economics²
Mathematics, Financial Actuarial²
Mathematics for Teaching¹
Mathematics of Computation¹
Microbiology, Immunology and
Molecular Genetics^{1,2}
Middle Eastern Studies
Molecular, Cell and Developmental
Biology²
Neuroscience²
Nordic Studies
Philosophy
Physics
Physiological Science²
Political Science^{1,2}
Portuguese and Brazilian Studies
Psychobiology^{1,2}
Psychology^{1,2}
Religion, Study of
Russian Language and Literature
Russian Studies
Scandinavian Languages and Cultures
Sociology^{1,2}
Spanish
Spanish and Community and Culture
Spanish and Linguistics
Spanish and Portuguese
Statistics¹
Individual Field of Concentration⁴
Undeclared Humanities⁶
Undeclared Life Sciences⁶
Undeclared Physical Sciences⁶
Undeclared Social Sciences⁶
**School of the Arts and
Architecture** (see pp. 10–11)
Architectural Studies⁵
Art
Dance
Design | Media Arts
World Arts and Cultures
Individual Field of Concentration⁴

Samueli School of Engineering

(see pp. 4–5)

Aerospace Engineering

Bioengineering

Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering

Computer Engineering

Computer Science

Computer Science and Engineering

Electrical Engineering

Materials Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Undeclared⁶

Herb Alpert School of Music

(see pp. 10–11)

Ethnomusicology

Global Jazz Studies

Music (Composition, Education,
Performance)

Music History and Industry

Musicology

Luskin School of Public Affairs

(see pp. 8–9)

Public Affairs*

School of Nursing (see pp. 6–7)

Nursing Prelicensure

School of Theater, Film and Television (see pp. 10–11)

Film and Television

Theater

Individual Field of Concentration⁴

- 1 Applicants are admitted to pre-major status until prerequisites are satisfactorily completed.
- 2 Transfer applicants should note that demand for this major significantly exceeds space available at the transfer level.
- 3 Transfer students who are admitted to a major outside the Department of Economics are not permitted to transfer into one of the economics majors.
- 4 Not open to entering students
- 5 Open to junior-level applicants only (60 semester/90 quarter units completed by transfer)
- 6 Only freshman-level applicants may apply as undeclared.

*Public Affairs is listed under the College of Letters and Science in the UC application. Applicants are admitted to pre-major status in the College of Letters and Science until prerequisites are completed.

Minors

Accounting

African American Studies

African and Middle Eastern Studies

African Studies

American Indian Studies

Ancient Near East and Egyptology

Anthropology

Applied Developmental Psychology

Arabic and Islamic Studies

Armenian Studies

Art History

Asian American Studies

Asian Humanities

Asian Languages

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

Bioinformatics

Biomedical Research

Central and East European Studies

Chicana and Chicano Studies

Classical Civilization

Cognitive Science

Community Engagement and
Social Change

Comparative Literature

Conservation Biology

Digital Humanities

Disability Studies

Earth and Environmental Science

East Asian Studies

Education Studies

English

Entrepreneurship

Environmental Engineering

Environmental Systems and Society

European Studies

Evolutionary Medicine

Film, Television and Digital Media

Food Studies

French

Gender Studies

Geochemistry

Geography

Geography/Environmental Studies

Geology

Geophysics and Planetary Physics

Geospatial Information Systems
and Technologies

German

Gerontology

Global Health

Global Studies

Greek

Hebrew and Jewish Studies

History

History of Science, Technology,
and Medicine

International Migration Studies

Iranian Studies

Israel Studies

Italian

Labor Studies

Latin

Latin American Studies

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
and Queer Studies

Linguistics

Literature and the Environment

Mathematical Biology

Mathematics

Mathematics for Teaching

Mexican Studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Musicology

Music Industry

Neuroscience

Philosophy

Pilipino Studies

Portuguese and Brazilian Studies

Professional Writing

Public Affairs

Public Health

Religion, Study of

Russian Language

Russian Literature

Russian Studies

Scandinavian

Science Education

Social Thought

Society and Genetics

South Asian Studies

Southeast Asian Studies

Spanish

Spanish Linguistics

Statistics

Structural Biology

Systems Biology

Theater

Urban and Regional Studies

Visual and Performing Arts Education

List of majors and minors accurate at time of printing. Please visit admission.ucla.edu/majors for the most up-to-date listings.



Steve Jaramillo, History

UCLA

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Tiffany Chiang,
Communication Studies

