A photograph of a modern university building with a concrete plaza in the foreground. Several students are walking around. A large, semi-transparent dark blue rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title and other text.

# STUDENT RESOURCE GUIDE

OFFICE OF THE  
DEAN OF STUDENTS



FALL 2018  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
MERCED

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THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS LINKS UPON CLICKING TEXT/PICTURES

# BRIGHT SUCCESS CENTER

Kolligian Library (KL) 230 | (209) 228-7252 | learning@ucmerced.edu

## MISSION

The mission of the Calvin E. Bright Success Center is to provide learning support, transition programs, and individualized interventions which empower UC Merced students to be successful in their academic and personal development. We provide opportunities and co-curricular experiences that aid students in enhancing their knowledge of university resources, academic and personal growth/ development, and advocacy and access. Through intentional collaborations and program delivery, we focus on overcoming barriers and celebrating academic milestones.

## SERVICES

The BSC focuses on three areas of success: Learning Support, Educational Equity and Access, and Transition Programs. Services and programs focus on supporting scholars in their academic success and helping them achieve their academic goals! Programs within the Bright Success Program include:

### Programs:

- Success Mentor Program
- Student Accessibility Services
- Fiat Lux
- Guardian Scholars
- Services for Undocumented Students
- Orientation
- High School Pathway Programs
- Transfer, Returning, and Veteran Programs (TRV)

- Peer Assisted Learning Support (PALS)
- Strengthening Talents and Exploring Pathways (STEP)

### Online and In-Person Workshops:

- Note Taking
- Effective Use of Office Hours
- Time Management
- Study Skills
- Much More!

## PALS

Peer Assisted Learning Support (PALS) is available for many subjects on campus, and it is free. We have learning support sessions, both small and large group, in various rooms, on different days and times.

## SUCCESS MENTOR PROGRAM

The Success Mentor Program empowers first-year students to make a successful transition to academic and social life at UC Merced through one-on-one mentoring with upper-division students and community initiatives.

## TRANSFER, RETURNING, VETERAN STUDENT SUPPORT

The Transfer, Returning, & Veteran (TRV) program is designed to support these specific underserved populations of students. We understand and value the unique experiences and perspectives non-traditional students bring to our vibrant campus community. The TRV mission is to celebrate the diversity of our students and to assist in the discovery of services available to UC Merced students. We accomplish our mission by offering peer mentoring, academic support services, and a community of engagement.

# OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Student Services Building (SSB) 310 | (209) 228-7950 | [undergradeducation@ucmerced.edu](mailto:undergradeducation@ucmerced.edu)

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES CENTER (UROC)

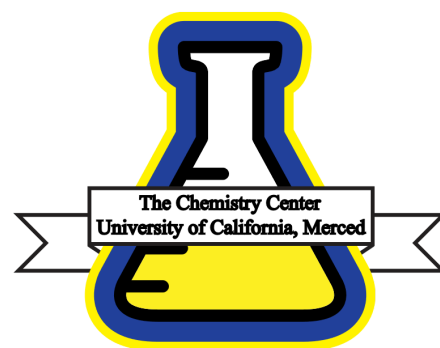
The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center (UROC) at UC Merced was established in Spring 2014, with a mission to encourage and facilitate faculty-mentored undergraduate research projects and creative activities across all schools and academic disciplines. Undergraduate research experiences provide numerous benefits to students, regardless of their future career choices. Students who engage in research or creative projects develop skills in critical analysis, problem solving, and communication, in addition to skills in understanding and applying research methods.

## LOANER LAPTOP PROGRAM

Need to borrow a University laptop during the Semester? The Office of Undergraduate education can help you. Students interested in this free program can submit an electronic form or stop by the Office of Undergraduate Education in SSB 310. Laptop loans will be given on a first come, first serve basis, availability is limited.

## BOBCAT ADVISING CENTER

The Bobcat Advising Center the academic advising home for all first year students in every major who enter UC Merced in Fall 2018 and after! The Bobcat Advising Center is also the academic advising home for all undeclared students in any class year. We are here to support you on your educational journey and help you reach your personal and academic goals. Attending UCM as a full-time student is a time commitment equivalent to more than a full-time job. While academic success is ultimately your responsibility—and classes and your related academic work should be a top priority—your Bobcat Advising Center advisor is a crucial part of your network of support. Academic advisors in the Bobcat Advising Center care about you as a whole person and will help you begin to build the academic foundation, experiences, networks, and connections that lead to your personal definition of success.



**STEM**  
RESOURCE CENTER  
UC MERCED

THE  
MATH  
CENTER  
UCMERCED



UC MERCED  
WRITING CENTER

# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

Granite Pass 163 | (209) 228-5433 | studentlife@ucmerced.edu

## MISSION

Guided by the principles of identity, integrity and involvement, the Office of Student Life at UC Merced implements innovative co-curricular student-centered programs and services that support the university's academic mission and connect students with resources and opportunities for social, intellectual and personal development. Highlighted below are five of the nine OSL areas.

## ASUCM

The Associated Students of the University of California, Merced (ASUCM) is the undergraduate student government of UC Merced and it derives its power from the UC Office of the President, UC Merced Office of the Chancellor and the ASUCM Constitution. Modeled after the United States Federal Government, the ASUCM consists of an executive, legislative and judicial branch. The mission of the ASUCM is to improve student life at UC Merced.

## FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

Fraternity or sorority membership is a good first step toward enjoying all the benefits college life has to offer. A fraternity/sorority is also a way to make the campus feel more like a home. With more than 12% of undergraduate students affiliated, fraternities and sororities collectively constitute one of the largest student groups on campus. Membership is about traditions, learning valuable lessons and establishing life-long friendships.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES

Through numerous programs, workshops and trainings—hosted and co-sponsored by Social Justice Initiatives—students have the opportunity to enhance their academic experience while learning a little more about themselves, others and the world along the way.

## CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

From culture and dance, to academics and community service, there are student clubs for every interest at UC Merced. With over 260 clubs and organizations on our campus, students have many options for exploring and cultivating their extracurricular passions and hobbies.

Additionally, students at UC Merced can form new clubs and organizations to satisfy their extracurricular and leadership interests.

## LGBTQ+ INITIATIVES

The purpose of LGBTQ+ Initiatives is to affirm the unique lives, identities and intersectionalities of our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans\*, Two-Spirit, Queer, Questioning, Asexual, Intersex, Pansexual, Omnisexual, same gender loving people and ally students, faculty and staff. We encourage a supportive and inclusive environment by providing education, outreach, and advocacy opportunities that assist our LGBTQ+ and ally students, faculty and staff to achieve excellence.

# HEALTH AND BASIC NEEDS

Location, phone number, and email address vary by department. Click text to visit website.



## HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services provides comprehensive medical, mental health and health promotion services to all registered UC Merced students. Services are designed to minimize the impact of illness, emotional distress and injury.

## CARE OFFICE

The Campus Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE) Office provides free, confidential and knowledgeable support for those impacted by sexual violence, dating/domestic violence and stalking.

## COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)

The mission of UC Merced Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is to support the mental health and well-being of our students. It is the intention of all CAPS staff to provide a safe, confidential atmosphere of acceptance and accessibility to professionals in the field of psychology. Services specialize in the unique needs of UC Merced students in an effort to promote their academic, personal and social development.

## HEALTH PROMOTION

The mission of the Health Promotion department is to provide students with the information and skills necessary to make healthy life choices, to create a campus and community environment that encourages such choices, and to connect students with appropriate resources on and off campus. The department will implement evidence-based primary prevention programs that utilize peer-to-peer education and inter-department collaboration. Such programs designed to improve student wellness will ultimately foster a more productive learning environment at UC Merced and prepare students for a healthier future after graduation.



## BASIC NEEDS

Basic Needs Security refers to the food, housing, and wellness security of our community. We understand that basic needs has a direct impact on the mental-emotional-physical health, wellness, academic performance, professional development, and holistic success of our students. The quality of life of our students has a major impact on their sense of belonging, persistence, graduation rate, and overall experience. Therefore, we refuse to accept hunger, malnourishment, and homelessness as part of our university. Through intentional programming, Basic Needs Security offers multiple options for students who are impacted by resource insecurity.

# STUDENTS FIRST CENTER

Kolligian Library (KL) 122 | (209) 228-7178 | [studentsfirst@ucmerced.edu](mailto:studentsfirst@ucmerced.edu)

## MISSION

From admissions to graduation, the staff in the Students First Center provides high quality guidance to UC Merced students, campus constituents and the public.

## ADMISSIONS

The Students First Center (SFC) oversees all aspects of undergraduate admission. Any questions that prospective or even current students have pertaining to admission can be answered at the SFC.



## FINANCIAL AID

Managing financial aid, the SFC is committed to the success of our students by providing financial aid and advising services that support student recruitment, retention, and timely degree completion, and ensures that a world-class education remains within reach for all eligible students who need financial assistance to achieve their educational goals. Please visit the financial aid web page or contact the SFC to learn more and address any inquires.

## OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Within the SFC, the Office of Registrar supports the mission of UC Merced by serving as the primary office of academic records. To that end, overseeing various processes and programs including: initial student registration through verification of degree conferral, academic calendar, transcript requests, and classroom scheduling.

## CONTACTING THE SFC

The SFC is easy to get in touch with! Students can go in-person, call, email, or even utilize online chat to speak with a SFC staff member.

## CHECKING IN

Why wait in line when you can go online? The SFC has launched a virtual check-in system in order to help you better plan your day. Use the new check-in tool to sign up for assistance at the SFC, prior to stopping by. Checking-in is simple! All you need is your name, student ID, and the topic you need help with. Come by once you receive a text letting you know it's your turn.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHECKLIST

Your personalized checklist in your [my.ucmerced.edu](https://my.ucmerced.edu) account is full of helpful information. Please click on this text to view a resource that will help you better understand your checklist.

# CENTER FOR CAREER & PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Student Services Building (SSB) 230 | (209) 228-7272 | careercenter@ucmerced.edu

## MISSION

Career development is a life-long process of exploration and decision-making. We, at the Center for Career & Professional Advancement (CCPA) at the University of California, Merced empower students and alumni to reach their full potential by offering services in career development, experiential education, employment and graduate school. Rather than focus solely on students' time as undergraduates, we are here to prepare students for life after college. Our philosophy centers around helping students develop the skills and mindset that will make their transition out of college successful, regardless of what their next step entails. We are a partner in each student's journey.

## CAREER COUNSELING

The Center for Career & Professional Advancement (CCPA) staff focus not the question, "What should I do with the rest of my life?" - but on helping you to find an answer to the question, "What do I want to do first (or next)?" By working with a career counselor, you will be successfully guided through the steps of the career planning process. The CCPA also provides multiple mediums and resources for students to find jobs and internships.

## RESUME AND COVER LETTER

A resume is a concise document intended for industry career searches. It is often the first impression an employer has of you. Experienced recruiters will only spend a few seconds reading it, so make sure it shines! Your cover letter makes the link between the qualifications in your resume and the requirements of the position. The CCPA's knowledgeable staff can help you polish both of these critical requirements to landing your desired job.

## INTERVIEW PREP

An interview is a way for a hiring manager to evaluate a prospective student or employee for a job, internship, or school admission. Interviews are an important aspect of the application process because it provides a two-way opportunity for the employer to consider and assess the candidate as well as the interviewee to grasp a better understanding of the organization, job, company, or school. With the help of an experienced interview coach and other resources available, the CCPA can assist in making you ready to perform stellar interviews.

## EXPLORING GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

There are many reasons why students may want to continue their education beyond their undergraduate experience. The CCPA can help you determine whether or not a graduate or professional school is the best option for you, and offer support during the application process if so.



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Click text to visit website.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY POLICE

HOUSING & RESIDENCE LIFE

TRANSPORTATION AND  
PARKING SERVICES



