

Online Education at the University of California

WHERE WE ARE TODAY:

The University of California has been actively engaged in providing online learning opportunities for students for decades. Individual faculty and UC departments began developing online classes as early as the mid-1990s, and today there are close to 3,400 courses. More are in development, both as supplements to in-person teaching and as standalone courses. In addition, UC has taken a leading role in developing evaluation software and other tools for measuring the effectiveness and quality of online instruction.

Type	Courses	Enrollments
Undergraduate courses	120	>11,100
Graduate-level courses	>63	1,100
Extension courses, for UC credit	96	7,167
Extension courses, not for UC credit	3,191	76,700
Massive open online courses (MOOCs), not for UC credit	18	>350,000

UC offers nearly 3,400 online courses to both UC and non-UC students.

- In 2012–13, approximately 12,000 UC students took for-credit online undergraduate and graduate classes.
- Another 80,000 students took online courses offered through UC extension programs, mainly targeted toward adult learners.

UC offers 120 online undergraduate courses for credit.

These are cutting-edge, academically rigorous courses for academic credit. Like our in-person classes, classes are offered by campuses primarily to their own students and are not routinely available system-wide.

UC offers five online advanced degree programs.

The programs include: a Master of Public Health and a Master of Advanced Studies in Integrated Circuits at UC Berkeley; a Master of Science in Engineering at UCLA and UC Riverside; and a Master of Advanced Studies in Criminology at UC Irvine. UC's top-ranked graduate and professional programs also offer online executive education and are exploring more online degree programs.

WHERE WE ARE GOING:

A new initiative will create dozens of new online undergraduate courses in high demand subjects that are available to any UC student on any UC campus.

The Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI), launched in early 2013, will significantly expand the number of online undergraduate courses offered during the regular academic year, at no additional cost to students. Using \$10 million in state funds dedicated to online education at UC, the initiative will fund high-quality online courses in high-demand subjects. UC is prioritizing online offerings that will ease enrollment bottlenecks and allow students to progress through their studies without delay.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

We are developing the infrastructure that will enable any UC student to find and enroll in technology-enhanced courses offered on any campus.

UC has launched an ambitious effort to tackle the academic and technological hurdles to cross-campus enrollment.

- UC is planning a database that will allow students to find online courses across the UC system.
- A pilot effort in spring 2014 will enable students at several UC campuses to enroll in select online courses at campuses other than their own. This effort will expand over several years to become a universitywide system that allows any UC student at any campus to enroll seamlessly in a wealth of online course offerings.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 25 undergraduate courses have been developed through UC Online Education, a systemwide program that creates multifaceted, academically rigorous classes with high interaction between students and instructors. At least one UCOE course has been offered at each of UC's nine undergraduate campuses.
- Individual campuses also are experimenting with uses of the unique online environment to enhance learning. At UCLA, for example, traditional academic departments have partnered with the school of Theater, Film and Television to create online summer session classes that use sophisticated filmmaking techniques to make classes engaging and support students' learning.
- In 2012, UC Berkeley joined Harvard and MIT as a lead partner in edX. UC Berkeley is supplying the technological innovation that enables very large enrollments that are typical in massive open online courses (MOOCs). UC Irvine, San Francisco and Santa Cruz have entered partnerships with Coursera to offer MOOCs.
- Earlier this year, UC Irvine broke new ground by posting free on YouTube the entire lecture series required for students majoring in undergraduate chemistry. UC Irvine's School of Physical Sciences is extending the project to other majors: mathematics, physics and astronomy, and earth system science.
- UC faculty have developed many classes based on a "hybrid" model that mixes multimedia online content with face-to-face interaction. UCSF offers a nursing degree that relies extensively on online education while also including traditional instruction. UC Davis has created the Provost Hybrid Course Award, now in its second year, to support development of four to six hybrid courses yearly.
- UC also is using online learning to advance K-12 education. Launched last fall, Scout provides cutting-edge honors and a-g courses for students and schools that lack access to such classes. More than 1,000 students have completed the courses, and another 1,000 are enrolled for the fall term.

MAINTAINING UC STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

UC will expand online offerings only in areas where online delivery is appropriate.

While the university is engaged in efforts to spur the development of high-quality online and hybrid courses, we reject the notion that a "one-size-fits-all" solution is appropriate for all lower-division gateway courses, or suitable for every public higher education institution in the state. As we move forward with online education, we are evaluating what is most effective and how to use the online environment to support and enhance students' learning experience.