A True American University Experience for International Students

SEMESTER AT CSUN

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Study in Los Angeles

AT California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

“CSUN is a great university to study at because it is such a diverse place. You will meet people from all over the world, with all backgrounds imaginable. And when you finish studying at CSUN, you will have friends not only in California, but all over the world!”

– Krister Bagnkop, Frederikshavn, Denmark
Why CSUN?

CSUN is one of the largest public universities in California, serving more than 40,000 students each year. CSUN has students that come from more than 90 countries and has decades of experience hosting international students. In 2013–2014, Open Doors ranked CSUN #1 among master’s universities in the U.S. in terms of the number of international students enrolled. Semester at CSUN students are given full access to campus facilities and services including: the fitness center, health center, library, tutoring services, student clubs and intramural sports.
What is Semester at CSUN?

Semester at CSUN (SAC) is a study abroad program that enables international students to enroll for one semester or one year. In all classes, SAC students are integrated with degree-seeking students.

Semester at CSUN provides:

» Access to university classes in a variety of departments

» Academic credits that may be transferred to your home university

» Academic advisement and registration assistance

» An official university transcript

Student Support

The SAC program focuses on personal attention to help each student succeed at CSUN and have a memorable and meaningful semester abroad. Each semester begins with an orientation program and a “Welcome to L.A.” tour. Students can rely on an expert team to provide guidance, not only on academics, but also on campus life, local events, transitioning to a new city and exploring America.

The university offers free tutoring services and training resources on writing, communication and conversation, subject-specific tutoring in business, mathematics, science and engineering, and resume writing – all of which are available to SAC students.
Academics

CSUN offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in more than 200 fields and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). A full list of accreditations can be found at www.csun.edu/catalog/about/accreditation.

“SAC is great in helping everyone – helping to improve our lives in college and to have the best experience that we could have!”

– Priscilla Magalhães
Fortaleza, Brazil

“CSUN is an amazing place to study in LA. The program is interesting, challenging and flexible and the people are extremely welcoming. I highly recommend it!”

– Anna Larsson
Stockholm, Sweden
“What I really liked about studying abroad was such a unique and amazing experience that taught me so much about myself and gave me an understanding of daily life in a different language.”

– Carla Felsenstein
Hamburg, Germany
### FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
- Apparel, Design, and Merchandising
- Consumer Affairs BS/MS
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education BS
- Family Studies BS/MS
- Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Science BS/MS

### HEALTH SCIENCE
- Health Administration BS/MS
- Health Education BS/MS
- Nursing BSN
- Public Health MPH
- Public Health Promotion BS

### KINESIOLOGY
- Adapted Physical Activity MS
- Applied Fitness BS
- Biomechanics MS
- Dance BS/MS
- Exercise Physiology MS
- Exercise Science BS
- General Studies BS
- Motor Behavior MS
- Pedagogy in Physical Education MS
- Physical Education BS
- Sport Studies MS

### PHYSICAL THERAPY
- Physical Therapy MPT

### TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT
- Tourism Management BS/MS
- Recreational Sports Management BS/MS

### COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

#### BIOCHEMISTRY
- Biochemistry BS/MS

#### BIOLOGY
- Biology BA/BS/MS
- Biotechnology/Medical Technology BS
- Cell & Molecular Biology BS
- Microbiology BS
- Marine Biology BS
- Environmental Biology BS

#### CHEMISTRY
- Chemistry BA/BS/MS

#### GEOLGY
- Environmental Geology BS
- Geology BS/MS
- Geophysics BS/MS
- Secondary Teaching BS

#### MATHEMATICS
- Applied Mathematical BS/MS
- Mathematics BA/BS/MS
- Secondary Teaching BS/MS
- Statistics BS

#### PHYSICS
- Astrophysics BS/MS
- Physics BA/BS/MS

### COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

#### AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
- African American Arts & Literature BA
- African American Social Sciences BA
- African and African American Cultural Studies BA

#### ANTHROPOLOGY
- Anthropology BA/MA
- Public Archaeology MA

#### GEOGRAPHY
- Geography BA/MA
- Geographic Information Science BA/MA

### HISTORY
- History BA/MA

#### POLITICAL SCIENCE
- Law and Society BA
- Politics and Government BA
- Public Policy and Management BA
- Political Science BA

#### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
- Public Sector Management and Leadership MPA

### COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

#### ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES
- Asian-American Studies BA

#### CENTRAL AMERICAN STUDIES
- Central American Studies BA

#### CHICANA AND CHICANO STUDIES
- Chicana and Chicano Studies BA/MA
- English
- Literature BA/MA
- Creative Writing BA/MA
- English Subject Matter BA
- Rhetoric and Composition Theory MA

#### FRENCH
- French Literature BA
- French Language & Culture BA

#### GENDER AND WOMEN’S STUDIES
- Gender and Women’s Studies BA

#### HUMANITIES
- Humanities BA/MA

#### LANGUAGES AND CULTURES
- Armenian BA
- Italian BA
- Japanese BA
- African-American Studies BA
- African American Social Sciences BA
- African and African American Cultural Studies BA
- Anthropology BA/MA
- Public Archaeology MA
- Geography BA/MA
- Geographical Information Science BA/MA

### CSUN College Distinctions

CSUN includes nine colleges, all of which have achieved national and regional recognition for the quality of their programs. Recognitions include:

- **David Nazarian College of Business and Economics**
  In 2014, “U.S. News & World Report” ranked CSUN’s Master of Business Administration (MBA) program among the nation’s best part-time MBA programs.

- **Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communications**
  In 2014, “The Hollywood Reporter” named CSUN among the “Top 25 Film & Music Schools in the U.S.”

- **College of Engineering and Computer Science**
  In 2014, CSUN was selected to host one of four White House-sponsored STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) workshops. The College of Engineering and Computer Science has also received wide recognition for its ongoing support of under-represented minorities in the fields of engineering and computer science.

*Accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
**Accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)*
Student Life

Visiting international students are welcomed as full members of the campus community with access to campus facilities, activities and student support services.

Facilities

» **University Student Union (USU)** – The USU is a busy town square with amenities for students: a bank, a ticket booth for discounted tickets and transit passes, a performance hall, a game room, a variety of food options and a wide range of events.

» **Student Recreation Center (SRC)** – The SRC is a 12,820 square meter, state-of-the-art, LEED certified facility for exercise and leisure activity. Students can sign up for fitness classes and join intramural sports teams.

» **Oviatt Library** – The resources and services offered by the Oviatt Library include research assistance, IT help, technology checkout, charging lockers, group study rooms, a creative media studio and free tutoring services at the Learning Resource Center.

» **Klotz Student Health Center** – Klotz Health Center provides board-certified physicians in family medicine, internal medicine, sports medicine, gynecology and a variety of other areas. Students may also access specialists in physical therapy, chiropractic services, massage therapy, optometry and dentistry.

» **Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC)** – The VPAC is an award-winning professional performance center, bringing the highest caliber of arts to the region. Student tickets are offered at a discounted rate.
Activities

There is always something to do at CSUN:

» More than 325 student clubs and organizations
» Lectures, symposiums and film screenings
» Movies, plays, concerts and special events
» Intramural and club sports
» Trips to popular destinations, such as the Grand Canyon, Yosemite National Park, Las Vegas and San Francisco

“What I really enjoyed about CSUN was the campus. The campus is very focused on student life and offers lots of things for students to do besides studying. This gives the campus a sense of community which was something I really enjoyed, and also why I spent many hours on campus even when I wasn’t in class.”

– Kenneth Jacobsen
Aalborg, Denmark
Housing and Transportation

Housing
Northridge is a “university town,” with many shops and restaurants within walking distance of campus. Many students live on campus in furnished, apartment-style units within a secure, gated environment. The student housing area includes laundry rooms, swimming pools, sports courts, a satellite student services office, a coffee shop and lounge areas for relaxing and studying. International student housing is available for SAC students on a first-come, first-served basis.

Transportation
CSUN is a short drive from the bright lights of Hollywood, Southern California’s world-famous beaches and many other popular attractions.

» Public Transportation
The campus is served by Metro bus lines and offers a free shuttle to connect to the nearest Metrolink train station. Students can travel to virtually any destination in the Los Angeles Metro-Rail system — and beyond.

» Short-Term Car Rental: Zipcar®
Zipcar® is a program that enables CSUN students to rent a car for as little as one hour or as much as seven days at a time. Zipcar® vehicles are conveniently parked in two locations on campus — near the University Student Union and in the student housing area.
FAQs

❯ Where is CSUN?
CSUN is located in the center of Northridge, a neighborhood in Los Angeles that is approximately 30 km from Santa Monica and Hollywood.

❯ When will I know my class schedule?
After you have been accepted, SAC program advisors will contact you with feedback on the course selections submitted with your application. Students usually receive a confirmed class schedule or plan of study approximately two or three weeks before the start of the semester.

❯ Am I guaranteed my choice of courses?
While no specific course selection can be guaranteed, we will do our best to enroll you in as many of your preferred courses as possible, based on your eligibility and course availability.

❯ Do you have scholarships?
Scholarships are not available to SAC students.

❯ Is the campus safe?
CSUN is located in a safe, residential neighborhood. CSUN has its own police department on campus that provides services to the university community 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

❯ Can I live off campus?
Many housing options are available within walking or biking distance, such as homestay families or apartments/houses for rent in Northridge and the surrounding neighborhoods. Some students prefer to live close to the beach or in another area of Los Angeles and drive to campus.

❯ Do I need a car?
A car is not necessary for students living on campus or in nearby neighborhoods. A wide range of restaurants and stores are within walking or biking distance. Many activities planned by student groups or the International Programs office include transportation. The CSUN Transit Station connects you to Metro bus lines and a free shuttle to the Metrolink train station. Zipcar® vehicles are also available on campus for short-term car rental. However, if you are planning to live farther from campus or travel beyond the L.A. area, having or renting a vehicle is recommended.

❯ What if I get sick?
CSUN is located near three major hospitals in case of a medical emergency. For non-emergencies, the Student Health Center is located on campus and provides services at little or no cost. The center is staffed with board-certified physicians, physical therapists, dentists, optometrists and more, and includes an on-site pharmacy.

❯ Where can I work out or play sports?
SAC students may purchase a membership to the Student Recreation Center that features: state-of-the-art weight and fitness zones, a rock climbing wall, a gymnasium, an indoor track, two outdoor swimming pools, and more. Members can participate in group exercise classes, as well as a variety of team sports through organized intramurals.

Program Requirements

All applicants must:

» Be at least 18 years old
» Have completed high school
» Have a 2.0 minimum grade point average for university courses (based on a 4.0 grading system) or equivalent
» Meet the English-language proficiency requirement for undergraduate students: TOEFL iBT = 61 or IELTS = 6.0 (contact the SAC program for country-specific equivalencies that are also accepted)

“...my English was not perfect, of course, so my friends helped me a lot with homework and taking notes. I met really good friends in class. Taking class in English is a really good experience.”

– Kaho Tonomura, Japan