

MIDDLE EASTERN

STUDENT EXPERIENCE



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UCRIVERSIDE



UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

900 University Ave. • 3106 Student Services Building
Riverside, CA 92521 • (951) 827-3411 • admissions@ucr.edu

WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU!

When you go to UC Riverside, you attend the first school in the United States to have an office dedicated to Middle Eastern student support. You're on a campus where nearly half of the students are minorities, half qualify as low-income, and more than half are the first in their families to go to college.

Doors open here. You can access leadership opportunities, conduct undergraduate research, ignite academic passions, and make remarkable contributions right away. You're at a school where students describe their administration as responsive, eager to listen, and open to discourse.

Here, you're part of the most talented, driven student body in the world — known for giving back and changing the world. We can't wait to meet you and help you do just that.



admissions.ucr.edu

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UC RIVERSIDE

“The UCR community has constantly empowered me and pushed me to hold myself to high expectations ...”



TAMARA MUSTAFA

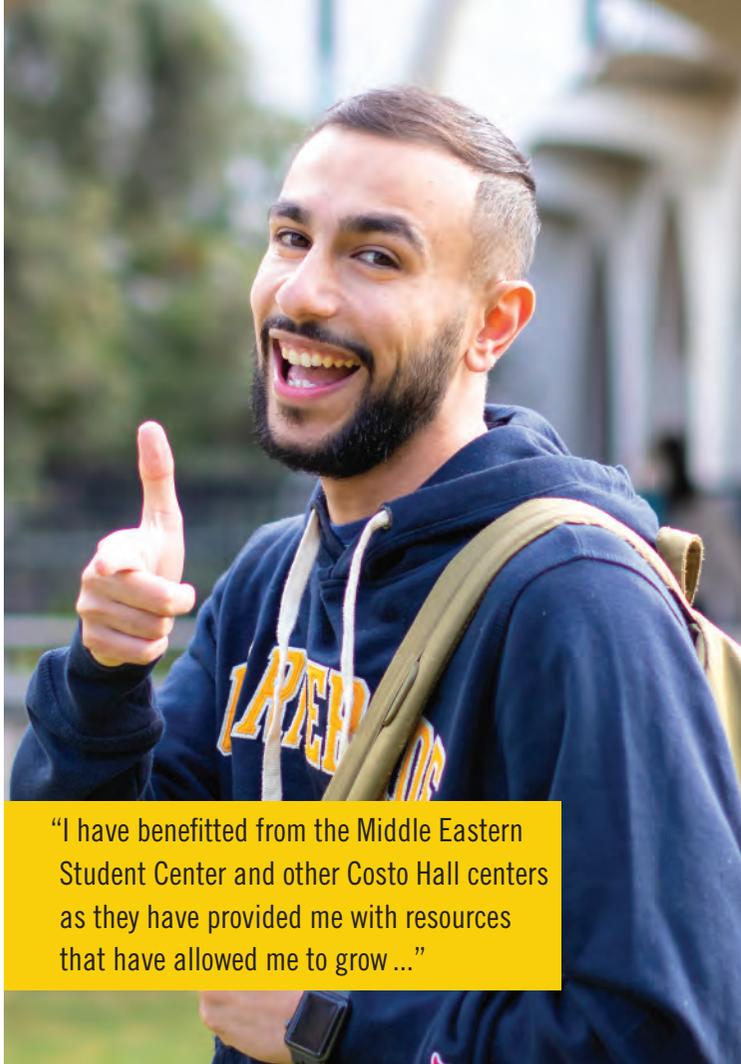
Senior, Bioengineering

My four years of involvement with student leaders, organizations, and the diverse Costo Hall Ethnic & Gender [Programs] offices has given me the tools and experiences to be an effective leader who takes initiative and has taught me to be persistent in whatever path I choose to pursue after graduation. The UCR community has constantly empowered me and pushed me to hold myself to high expectations and to pursue what I am passionate about, and I hope to apply these values in my future endeavors whether it is in academia or the professional world.

ALI ALSHAHER

Senior, Sociology

I chose UCR because of the opportunity to receive an education at the UC level while also being able to be represented by the diversity that the campus offers. I have benefitted from the Middle Eastern Student Center and other Costo Hall centers as they have provided me with resources that have allowed me to grow as a leader, as a student, and as a person. These centers have provided me with opportunities to connect with not only my culture, but also have provided me with perspectives that have challenged me into expanding my knowledge in all realms of life. The cultural and educational programming put on by these ethnic and gender offices have contributed most to my development at UCR.



“I have benefitted from the Middle Eastern Student Center and other Costo Hall centers as they have provided me with resources that have allowed me to grow ...”

“UC Riverside is a welcoming and diverse environment where I believe I can flourish as someone who is passionate about social justice and advocacy.”

Samia Alkam, Junior, Political Science and Education





FIRST IN THE NATION

In 2013, our students made history by developing the first Middle Eastern student center in the United States. Fourteen dedicated students worked with administration to create a space that would serve students with ties to the Middle East and North Africa. Today UCR's Middle Eastern Student Center (MESC) serves more than 20 student organizations, a large and diverse community of Middle Eastern students, and the entire UCR campus community as a whole. Born from students, MESC remains student-centered at its heart.



UCR is “recognized nationally as one of the few public research universities with no racial disparity in graduation rates.”

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WE RANK HIGH IN WHAT MATTERS.

#1 top performer on social mobility in the nation –
U.S. News & World Report 2020 Best Colleges

#2 in the nation for performance of students
receiving Pell Grants – *Washington Monthly 2019*
College Guide and Rankings

#12 best college for your money in the nation –
Money Magazine, 2019

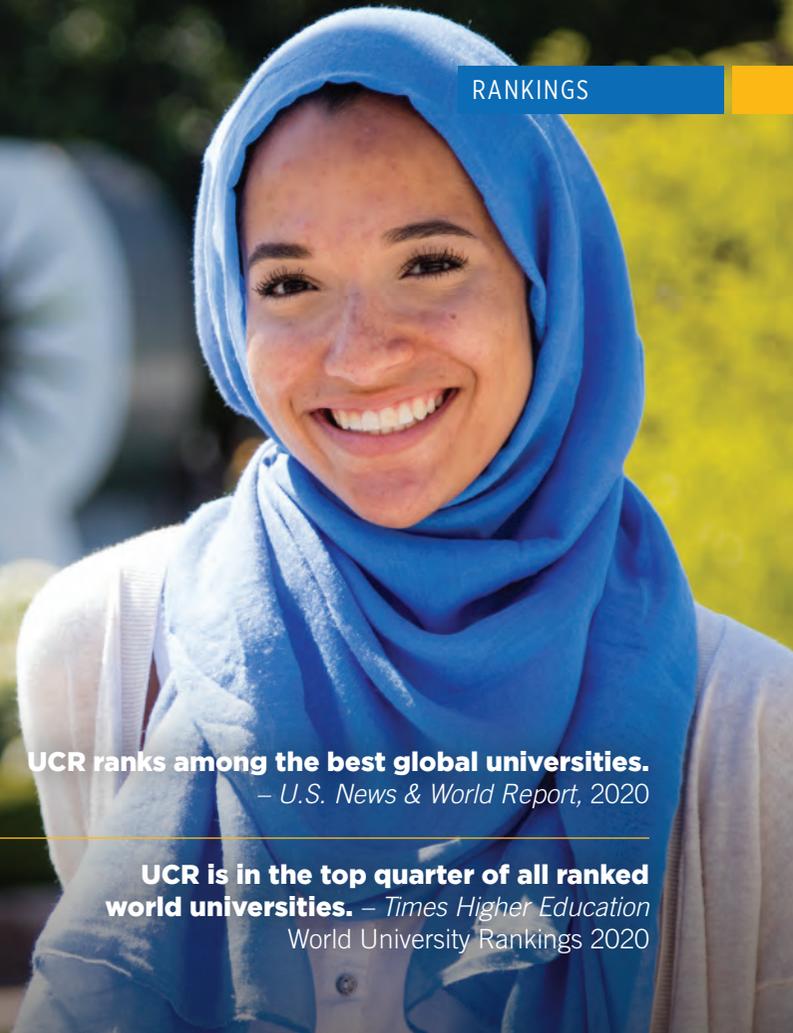
#27 best value college in America – *Forbes, 2019*

#28 best college for your money potential in
California – *PayScale 2019-20*
College Salary Report

#31 for sustainability practices in the nation
– *The Princeton Review 2019 Top 50 Green Colleges*

UCR ranks among the best global universities.
– *U.S. News & World Report, 2020*

**UCR is in the top quarter of all ranked
world universities.** – *Times Higher Education*
World University Rankings 2020



WORK CLOSELY WITH BRILLIANT FACULTY.



Reza Aslan

Professor of Creative Writing

Aslan is a renowned writer, commentator and scholar of religions. He wrote the No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller “Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth” and international best-seller “No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam.” He is a producer on “The Leftovers” and co-founded BoomGen Studios (the premiere brand for creative content from and about the Middle East).



Sherine Hafez

Professor and Department Chair of Gender and Sexuality Studies

Hafez’s engaging lectures explore gender, women’s activism, Muslim cultures, and Arab uprisings. In her book “The Terms of Empowerment: Islamic Women Activists in Egypt,” she questions the applicability of Western notions of empowerment to Islamic women’s activism. In “An Islam of Her Own: Reconsidering Religion And Secularism In Women’s Islamic Movements,” she challenges binary representations of women’s subjectivities in Islamic movements.



Reza Abbaschian

Director of Winston Chung Global Energy Center, Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and William R. Johnson, Jr. Professor

As former dean of the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering, Abbaschian was pivotal in connecting UCR to Winston Chung, who donated \$10 million to establish the Winston Chung Global Energy Center. As director of the center, Abbaschian helps UCR make global contributions to sustainability and energy storage innovation.



Laila Lalami

Professor of Creative Writing

Lalami wrote “The Moor’s Account,” which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. It made the longlist for the Man Booker Prize and won the American Book Award, Arab American Book Award, and Hurston/Wright Legacy Award (among other accolades). Her work appears in the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, the *New York Times*, and more. She writes the Between the Lines column for *The Nation* and is a critic-at-large for the *Los Angeles Times*.

UCR is among the top 11% of ranked world universities.
CENTER FOR WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS, 2019–20



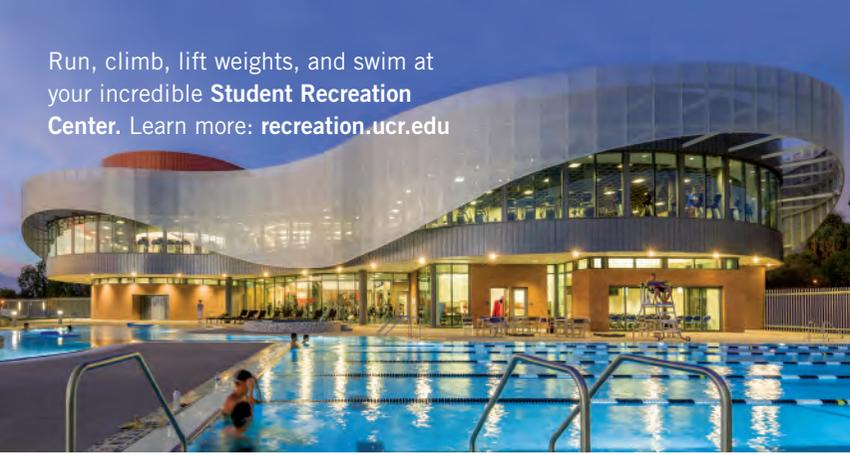


YOU CAN'T STUDY ALL THE TIME!

12

Ashkan Khosravi guards the goal with laser focus. When he graduated in 2016, he ranked first in UCR's career record books in goalkeeper wins and goals against average, and second in shutouts, saves and minutes played.

Run, climb, lift weights, and swim at your incredible **Student Recreation Center**. Learn more: recreation.ucr.edu



Packed events, big-time athletics, and crazy-fun concerts electrify student life at UCR. Learn more: rside.ucr.edu
gohighlanders.ucr.edu

A CAMPUS OF FIRSTS



1st professionally staffed Middle Eastern student resource center in the nation

1st public university in the nation to offer gender-neutral housing

1st UC campus to have a professionally staffed American Indian student resource center



1st UC campus to have a professionally staffed Black student resource center

1st campus in California to have a professionally staffed LGBT resource center

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Founded in 1954

Part of the prestigious University of California system

Located in Riverside, CA

Top 10 “Coolest Cities” in the U.S. (Forbes)

Top 10 “Fastest-Growing Economies” in the U.S. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

23,000+ students

1,200 park-like acres

277 sunny days per year

A group of people are silhouetted against a bright, golden sunset over the ocean. They are standing on a beach, and many have their arms raised in celebration. The water is shimmering with the reflected light of the sun.

HOUSING

LIVE IN PURE SUNSHINE.

When you live at UCR, you're within driving distance of the best beaches, mountains, deserts and cities in Southern California.

Explore UCR! Schedule a tour (or take a virtual one): visit.ucr.edu

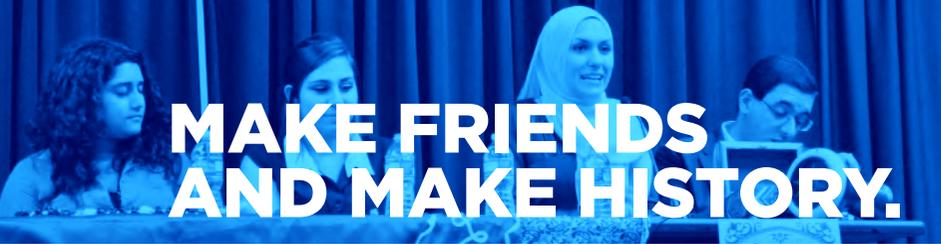


Live in the **Markaz** special-interest theme hall to connect with fellow Middle Eastern students and build unity within the community. Attend exclusive networking events, workshops, social functions, and cultural events. Additional theme halls and seamless living-learning communities are Stonewall, Gender-Inclusive, Únete a Mundo, PATH, Honors, CHASS, Engenuity, SiMS, and Pre-Business.

UCR Dining offers halal options and Ramadan to-go meals, too.



Learn more: housing.ucr.edu



MAKE FRIENDS AND MAKE HISTORY.



ORGANIZATIONS AND EVENTS

Middle Eastern Student Center (MESC) mesc.ucr.edu

As the first Middle Eastern student center in the nation, MESC is a place to unite in friendship, celebrate culture with the campus community, and find common ground. MESC will connect you to everything from leadership opportunities and student org programming support, to peer mentor programs and paid internships. MESC events include M.E. Week, the True Life Student Speaker Series, the MESC Gala, and more.

BE ACTIVE

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Afghan Student Association

Armenian Student Association

Coptic Orthodox Christian Club

*Empowered Arab Sisterhood
(Sorority)*

Hillel at UCR

Iranian Student Association

*Iranian Graduate Student
Association*

*Lebanese Social Club at UCR
Students Organized for Syria
Student for Justice In Palestine*

*Middle Eastern Student
Assembly (MESA)*

Muslim Student Association

BE SUPPORTED

SERVICES

MESC Mentors

*MESA's Women's Circle
and Men's Circle*

*MESC Community Garden
at the R'Garden*

*Professional/academic
conference funding*

*MENA-specialized
psychologist/counselor*

Halal meats

Ramadan to-go meals

Paid internships at MESC

BE PRESENT

EVENTS

Fall Mixer

MESCafé

Film & Speaker Series

True Life Student Speaker Series

M.E. Week

*Additional themed weeks: Syria
Week, Afghanistan Week, etc.*

*Cooking, calligraphy, Dabke, and
Attan workshops*

Syrian refugee awareness events

MESC Gala

“UCR and the Middle Eastern Student Center have provided me with an enriching and safe learning environment I can thrive in.”

Samia Alkam, Junior, Political Science and Education





le Eastern
ent Center

WE SEE YOU. WE HEAR YOU. WE SUPPORT YOU.

From our historic Ethnic & Gender Programs, to our forward-thinking Student Health & Wellness Services — you have a safety net at UCR. So many people are here for you, ready to be your advocates, your encouragers, your listeners, and your guides.

Ethnic & Gender Programs

African Student Programs	asp.ucr.edu
Asian Pacific Student Programs	apsp.ucr.edu
Chicano Student Programs	csp.ucr.edu
LGBT Resource Center	out.ucr.edu
Middle Eastern Student Center	mesc.ucr.edu
Native American Student Programs	nasp.ucr.edu
Undocumented Student Programs	usp.ucr.edu
Women's Resource Center	wrc.ucr.edu

More Student Support Services

Academic Resource Center (ARC)	arc.ucr.edu
Career Center	careers.ucr.edu
Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)	counseling.ucr.edu
Education Abroad	ea.ucr.edu
Highlander One-Stop Shop (HOSS)	hoss.ucr.edu
International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO)	internationalscholars.ucr.edu
New Student Programs	studentlife.ucr.edu/ welcome-new-highlanders
R'Pantry	go.ucr.edu/rpantry
Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC)	sdrc.ucr.edu
Student Health Services (SHS)	studenthealth.ucr.edu
Student Recreation Center (SRC)	recreation.ucr.edu
University Honors	honors.ucr.edu
Veterans Services	veterans.ucr.edu
The Well	well.ucr.edu

APPLYING IS EASY.

First-Year Students

Admission Requirements

- 15 completed “a-g” high school courses
- GPA of 3.0 or higher (3.4 out-of-state) in “a-g” (grades C or above)
- Scores from ACT with Writing, SAT or SAT with Essay. SAT Subject Tests are optional.
- Learn more about the “a-g” requirements at hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist.

Transfer Students

Admission Requirements

- 60 semester (90 quarter) transferable units with minimum 2.4 GPA (2.8 out-of-state). (Some majors require a higher GPA.) 14 semester (21 quarter) units may be Pass/Not Pass.
- Completed (with C's or better) **UC Seven Course Pattern**: two English, one math, four from two of: arts/humanities, social/behavioral science, physical/biological science. Classes must be transferable and at least three semester (four to five quarter) units. Use uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu to track your progress.

- Use assist.org to find out if your classes will transfer and see the prerequisites and minimum GPA for your major (all transferable coursework will be taken into account).
- Did you know that by meeting certain requirements you can guarantee your transfer admission to UCR?
Learn more: go.ucr.edu/tag

How to Apply (All Students)

1. Gather transcripts, test scores, income, Social Security number (if applicable), payment method, and activities and achievements notes.
2. Answer the personal insight questions.
3. Complete the UC application starting Aug 1. Submit it Nov. 1-30. You may apply to waive the \$70 fee.
4. Print your receipt and watch for an email about how to access your MyUCR admission portal account — the fastest way to check your admission status.

Learn more:
admissions.ucr.edu

TURN YOUR PASSION INTO YOUR PROFESSION.

Choose from more than 100 majors, four colleges, and three graduate schools — including the newest medical school in the UC system.

Find your program: admissions.ucr.edu/majors



WE CARE ABOUT YOUR DREAMS, NOT YOUR WALLET.

Every student, regardless of income, who dreams big and works hard should be able to graduate from the greatest public university system in the world. That's why we will do everything we can to help you pay for school.

Apply for financial aid no matter what.

Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year at fafsa.ed.gov by March 2 to qualify for aid. If you're an undocumented California resident, complete the California Dream Act Application at dream.csac.ca.gov by the March 2 deadline. If you attended high school or community college in California, make sure your school completes your Cal Grant GPA Verification Form so you can qualify for the Cal Grant.

It costs less than you think.

At UCR, about 91.2% of undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid, and about 70% of those who receive aid have their full fees covered by grants and/or scholarships — funds that don't need to be paid back! Visit go.ucr.edu/estimate to see what aid you could qualify for at UCR.

Tuition, Cost and Fees.

UCR's undergraduate tuition and fees are \$15,565* — nonresident students pay additional fees. See a breakdown of UCR's cost for all populations: admissions.ucr.edu/cost

**Tuition, fees, and charges are estimates based on currently approved amounts. These figures may not be final. Actual tuition, fees, and charges are subject to change by the Regents of the University of California and could be affected by State funding reductions. Accordingly, final approved levels (and a student's final balance due) may differ from the amounts shown.*

Please Note: Some or all instruction for all or part of academic year 2020–21 may be delivered remotely. Tuition and mandatory fees have been set regardless of the method of instruction and will not be refunded in the event instruction occurs remotely for any part of the academic year.

See how affordable a UC degree can be!
admissions.ucr.edu/cost

WAYS TO PAY

If you qualify, the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan covers **100% of your systemwide tuition and fees!**
Learn more: [universityofcalifornia.edu/blueandgold](https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/blueandgold)

If you qualify, the Middle Class Scholarship covers **up to 40% of your systemwide tuition and fees.**
Learn more: csac.ca.gov/mcs.asp

Complete a **FAFSA** at fafsa.ed.gov and a GPA form at csac.ca.gov to apply for the most aid.

Dreamers: If you are an undocumented student, complete a CA Dream Act application at dream.csac.ca.gov and a GPA form at csac.ca.gov to apply for the most aid.

You are automatically considered for scholarships when you apply to UCR, including the \$10,000 Regents' Scholarship and \$8000 UCR Achievement Scholarship for out-of-state students.

Learn more about how to pay for school without going into debt: financialaid.ucr.edu

DATES & DEADLINES

Aug. 1 Access the UC Application.

Oct. 1 Access the FAFSA (or CA Dream Act application) and GPA form.

Nov. 1-30 Submit your UC Application.

Nov. 30 Deadline to submit your UC Application.

March 1 Admission notification begins.

March 2 Deadline to submit your FAFSA (or CA Dream Act application) and GPA form.

April 2 Deadline to submit additional financial aid documents (tax forms etc.), if selected for verification.

May 1 **First-Year Students:** Deadline to submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR).

June 1 **Transfer Students:** Deadline to submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR).

July 1 Deadline to send your transcripts.

July 15 Deadline to send your test scores.

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Students perform at the MESC Culture Show.

Visit UCR! visit.ucr.edu



Arzo Kaderi, UCR grad and former president of the Afghan Student Association, performs at the MESC Culture Show.

Apply now! admissions.ucr.edu/apply

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UCRIVERSIDE

FIRST IN THE NATION

UCR students made history by developing the first Middle Eastern student center in the United States.



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This information is accurate and reliable at the time of publication but may change without notice. Please contact Undergraduate Admissions for the most up-to-date information. (08/20)

As part of UC Riverside's federal reporting requirements under the Clery Act, you can access our Annual Security and Fire Safety Report at go.ucr.edu/CleryAct. A full list of Consumer and Safety Information Disclosures is also available at go.ucr.edu/ConsumerSafety.



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