

2021 UHP Preview Day Q&A

General UHP Questions

- **How do we confirm our interest in UHP?**
 - You will need to first submit your SIR to UC Davis, and then you'll be able to accept your UHP offer under Pre-Enrollment task. For step-by-step instructions, see our FAQ here: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/admissions/freshman>
- **What percent of students at Davis are in UHP?**
 - About 3%. We have about 700 students overall and about 200 come in from high school.
- **What percent of the people who are offered UHP accept their admission to UC Davis?**
 - That's a bit of a complicated question given that you all have lots of great offers- what I do know is that we have a target set by admissions and we always outperform expectations.
- **How does priority registration work with UHP?**
 - UHP students register during the first day of registration for all quarters they are actively enrolled in UHP. This enables you to register for classes before the majority of other students.
- **Is priority registration only for freshman UHP students?**
 - No, priority registration is for all years in UHP! All UHP students receive priority registration for every quarter they are active in UHP.
- **Is the 4-year graduation rate for UHP students different than the University-wide rate?**
 - Nope- in fact a bit better. So what we do know is that we don't slow you down and we even help students satisfy UHP requirements when they plan to graduate early.
- **What percentage of students remain in the honors program through the 4 years.**
 - It actually has been going up and up. We are set to graduate our biggest class ever this Spring, even with COVID impacting research and service opportunities where we were able to help. In the end historically about 60% but again this is trending up! (nationally in honors programs and Colleges is about 40-50%)
- **Is it possible to double major while in the UHP and graduate in four years?**
 - Yes.
- **When you graduate in the honors program, does your degree look different?**
 - Your degree will be the same, but you will receive Transcript Notation for each year you successfully complete the University Honors Program. You also will still

be eligible to graduate with Honors, High Honors, or Highest Honors through your major.

- **Did UHP help you guys explore what you want to major in or what you want to do in the future?**
 - I personally switched majors twice, both times I talked to the UHP advisors, Kelly then Kate, and they helped me make sure it was what I wanted to do and how I would do it. They also really helped me figure out what I want to do in my future!
- **I have a friend who is interested in UHP, would they be able to apply if not invited?**
 - We do offer an On-Campus Admittance program, where first-year students who achieve a 3.5+ GPA in their first quarter at UC Davis will be invited to apply to UHP.
- **So we can take courses unrelated to our major? Does being a part of UHP provide any benefits in this regard?**
 - Yes! I highly recommend it too. UHP definitely exposed me to classes I would never have considered taking before.
- **What is the diversity like when living in Currant Hall and UHP in general?**
 - We are really proud of the fact that UHP meets or exceeds the diversity of the campus as a whole. That's a real point of emphasis for us- we focus on inclusive excellence as a focus of the program.
- **Are UHP evenly split between STEM, Social Sciences and Humanities? (Will a Humanities major find students in similar majors within UHP?)**
 - We are remarkably balanced by major in UHP. We do so intentionally- the % of each College (and within Letters and Science, balanced across physical and social sciences as well as arts and humanities). We feel that is an important part of the program.
- **What are the circumstances that might eliminate a student from being accepted into UHP? Even after being invited.**
 - UHP does have an annual GPA requirement for continued participation. We ask students maintain UC cumulative GPA of 3.25. However, we have an appeal process that students may be eligible for.
- **Is there any extended access to campus facilities through UHP (art studio space, library, etc.)?**
 - Yes, there is graduate level library privileges that allows you to access more resources and for longer check out periods.

UHP Curriculum

- **How are the six classes we take decided? Are there required ones or are they our choice of which ones we take?**
 - Each quarter, a catalogue of honors courses will be made available to you and you will submit your top 5 choices. The UHP staff will then match you into a class, and most students receive either their first or second choice.
- **Do we have a list of the UHP courses available for Year 1/2 for Fall 2021?**
 - The current Fall 2021 offerings can be viewed here:
<https://honors.ucdavis.edu/courses>
- **Are freshman and sophomores in the same UPH classes?**
 - Yes
- **Can honors program classes fulfill major requirements?**
 - Yes, many honors classes fulfill major requirements, such as math, biology, or psychology courses. Our past course offerings can be viewed here:
<https://honors.ucdavis.edu/courses>
- **What would you say your average course load has been? Like how many credits ?**
 - Students on average take 15 units/quarter. In some quarters students might take more or less units.
- **How many classes are typically taken per quarter?**
 - Students taken 3-4 courses per quarter with one of those courses being their honors course.
- **For Spring 2022, there are only 10 courses listed for UHP. Will there be more offered? Are there usually more to choose from?**
 - Yes, more will be added. Generally we have around 23 courses per quarter.
- **Is it possible to take more than one UHP course per quarter? More than 6 per first 2 years?**
 - Yes. We like to ensure that all students get one course first and then we open it up for students to add a 2nd course or for Year 3 & 4 students to take a course if desired.
- **Do UHP professors limit the number of A grades they give out for UHP classes?**
 - No. If you get an A, then you are awarded an A.
- **I saw on the UHP course list for this fall that there's a Calc 1 class. Is that the same as a regular Calc 1 class or is this class smaller? Would it also satisfy my major requirement?**
 - It would meet your major requirement as would a non-honors calculus course. The course would be smaller if taken with UHP.

- **So only the honors classes have small class sizes?**
 - Not especially but most intro courses can be very large here. You might not get to “UHP” sized classes until later as you take more courses in your major. We do have first year seminars too, and honors students often take one of those as well (those are capped at 19).
- **Will changing your major affect the courses you take in the University Honors Program?**
 - Students will choose to take UHP courses that fulfill General Education (GE), major, minor or university requirements. You may also elect to take courses as electives (for personal interest).
- **Is there a list of the honors courses & SHAPE courses?**
 - Yes, please see below for further information:
 - UHP Year 1&2 Courses: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/courses> (Be sure to check out the course fliers!)
 - UHP “Honors Contract”: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/honors-contract>
 - SHAPE courses: <https://shape.ucdavis.edu>
 - Bio Design Challenge (UHP Year 3 project option): <https://biodesignchallenge.org/uc-davis>
- **Is the senior thesis/capstone project something specific to UHP students, or all of the UC Davis student body?**
 - Many majors offer a research thesis course experience, however, it is not a guarantee in every major that students can pursue research for credit in a thesis/capstone manner. That is a unique part of the UHP experience. You can find more information on thesis/capstone in major and UHP here:
 - Capstone Courses: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/capstones>
 - UHP Signature Work: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/year-4-signature-work>
- **How do the course schedules of UHP students differ from non-UHP students?**
 - The course schedules of UHP students do not dramatically differ from other UCD students, the Year 1 & 2 courses can satisfy General Education and major/minor requirements. In Year 3, a one-unit research preparation course is the only course requirement. In year 4, students take 2 to 3 quarters of research work, however, for many students that is also a major requirement or an elective in their major or a way to achieve honors or further recognition in major.
- **Can you explain more about the honors contract?**
 - Students will take HNR 190X for 1 unit and engage with faculty in a topic of interest. Students will set up re-occurring meetings and the final outcomes can vary but can be papers, podcasts, lesson plans, etc. Visit <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/honors-contracts> for more info

- **A question for Dr. Spiller--could you tell a bit more about the physics/music course? That's the perfect intersection of my two interests, and I'd love to hear more.**
 - Dr. Chiang will discuss the physical properties of musical sounds, acoustics, etc., and I will discuss how different cultures organize (or ignore) those physical properties into meaningful activities.

Living in Currant/Housing at UC Davis

- **Are UHP members required to live in the living community? And can people who are not in UHP be their roommates?**
 - All incoming first-years live in the honors Living-Learning Community (Currant Hall). If a student has a compelling reason-financial, religious, living at home or other living-learning community option- that prevents you from living in the UHP residence hall community, please contact uhp@ucdavis.edu. You can also request a non-UHP roommate, but space is limited and this cannot be guaranteed as priority is given to other honors students.
- **Are single occupancy dorms available in Currant Hall?**
 - Yes! Currently, there are singles and doubles available. If the county approves triples due to COVID regulations, triples will also be available.
- **Is living in Currant Hall just for the first year or all four years?**
 - First year unless you opt to become a community advisor in the 2nd year.
- **Does everyone in the Honors program live at Currant Hall?**
 - Only first-year honors students live in Currant Hall, though many of them go on to live together for the rest of their years at UC Davis.
- **Do you know the prices for double and triples and do you think triples will be available for fall 2021?**
 - For housing prices, I would recommend checking the Housing website: <https://housing.ucdavis.edu/covid19/>. Currently, only singles and doubles are approved for Fall 2021 due to COVID regulations, but triples will become available if the guidelines change.
- **Is the cost of housing the same in UHP compared to ordinary housing? or is it more/less expensive?**
 - The cost is the same as other campus residence halls.
- **Are there resources set up to help students find roommates in Currant?**
 - Yes! There is a roommate matching survey, but the most helpful resources for me were the Class of 2023 Facebook group (where people posted little intros and what they were looking for in a roommate), and also the UHP Facebook

Group. There will probably be a UC Davis Freshman Class of 2025 group started soon if there isn't one already!

- **Because you live in a specific hall and have some UHP classes, do you feel isolated from others not in the program?**
 - I don't feel isolated at all. If anything the friends I've made outside of UHP have been almost jealous of the relationships I formed through UHP. Once you start involving yourself on campus in various groups you'll find your way and your people no problem.
- **How is housing covered after 1st year? Is there dorm support, just outside of Currant Hall?**
 - Most people choose to live off-campus after their first year (I'm living with several friends that I met in Currant), but there is also on-campus housing available (for example, apartment complexes like the Green).
- **What's it like once you don't live in Currant hall after freshman year?**
 - You may opt to live in another campus apartment/residence hall or in town in a house or apartment.

Study Abroad

- **Is it harder to study abroad if you are in UHP?**
 - No. You can use study abroad as a Year 3 project and can work with your advisor to modify your curriculum if need be.
- **Does the UHP support study abroad experiences?**
 - YES! Many students pursue study abroad to satisfy the UHP year three project.
 - Look here for study abroad opportunities that UC Davis (and UHP!) support: <https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/pathways/academics/studyabroad>
- **Can you study abroad for more than a year while in UHP and/or UC Davis in general?**
 - Studying abroad for over a year is not a common experience, however, UHP does encourage the study abroad experience by including it as one of the Year Three project options. You can find more information about UC Davis study abroad here: <https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/pathways/academics/studyabroad>

Scholarships

- **Can I hear more about the Regents' Scholar Society?**

- Some UHP students join this organization. Check out their website for details: <https://davisrss.weebly.com>
- **Do all Regents students accept the honors invite?**
 - Historically, very nearly all (as in >90% or so).
- **Are the Regents scholarship and Honors program mutually exclusive? Can you have the scholarship if you aren't in the honors program?**
 - The Regents Scholarship program is separate from UHP. You can still retain your Regents Scholarship even if you are not a member of UHP.
- **Can you apply to be in Regents society?**
 - Students are awarded the Regents scholarship and if so they may join the Regents Scholars Society.
- **Do Regents scholars who are not part of UHP also get priority registration?**
 - Yes
- **Can you be part of the Regents Scholars Society and UHP?**
 - Yes!
- **Is the George and Ann Lin honors scholarship recurring?**
 - My understanding is that it is guaranteed for 1 year and we are working to extend it, but we don't have that established at this time (again, that's my understanding). We also help you by working closely with Prestigious Scholarships to apply for a whole variety of scholarships for continuing students and UHP students typically do well with those.

Research/Internships/Career Support

- **What are the internship opportunities like aside from research at the UHP?**
 - UHP students pursue a variety of different internship opportunities from experiences at the Capitol in Sac to abroad experiences to internships on campus. You can find more information about those options here:
 - Washington Program: <https://washingtonprogram.ucdavis.edu>
 - Internship & Career Center at UCD: <https://icc.ucdavis.edu>
 - It is common for students to use an internship for their year three project.
- **Does UHP fit with the pre-med track? How can the program help us succeed in applying to med school?**
 - The honors program allows students to work closely with faculty in small class settings, through honors contracts, signature work, etc. This allows for strong letters of recommendation, opportunities for mentorship experiences, working

in labs, etc. In addition, Year 3 UHP curriculum promotes community service, internships and/or lab work which is highly desirable for pre-med candidacy.

- **What kind of support is given to students who plan on attending graduate school, specifically pursuing PhDs?**
 - Quite a bit- and especially the mentorship by faculty in classes and in joining their research programs. Undergraduate research is the number one thing graduate programs are looking for and doing a thesis is a big deal there. We also help with personal statements and of course, dropping by the office to bounce ideas about various programs - anytime!
- **Does UHP sponsor internships with legislators in Sacramento? How many UHP students pursue this option?**
 - We actually have a class in the first or second year run by the UC wide Sacramento program, and that's been pretty popular, as well as a conduit to internships. UC Davis is also expanding its presence over in Sacramento and we (UHP) are developing a program right along these lines focused on community engaged work. Also, a student who graduated two years ago as the top graduating senior (University Medalist) was an intern for Governor Brown as an undergrad and is now doing a legislative post grad program. So we don't directly offer those opportunities, but we definitely help find them and make them easier to get!
- **How many students are a part of internship opportunities in the state offices in Sacramento?**
 - We have students that participate in the UC Center Sacramento program which can also count as Year 3 project activity. Other students will also find internships in Sacramento or DC.
- **What types of research projects have Computer Science majors done in the past?**
 - All UHP students' signature work from the past five years can be found in the UHP Research Booklets found here: <https://honors.ucdavis.edu/year-4-signature-work>
 - A current UHP Computer Science (CS) student is designing a video game from scratch for their CS project.
- **Would you say it is easier to do well in a STEM major through UHP rather than the non-honors program at another UC school? As in it's less cut-throat, so not as difficult to be successful?**
 - Well, hard to say specifically- but having a close knit supportive and non-competitive community of scholars in UHP is really helpful. Not only are students taking their UHP courses together, STEM students in UHP are often taking their Chem and so on together, so natural study groups emerge.

- **What is it like to be a Computer Science and UHP student?**
 - UHP is super helpful for CS students because of priority registration, especially when it comes to upper division classes that are only offered once or twice a year. I'm currently in an Operating Systems class that is known to be notoriously difficult to get into (the waitlist has over 100 students!), but because of priority registration, I was able to get into the course as a second-year student.
- **How has been your experience double majoring in STEM?**
 - Feel free to email us at uhp@ucdavis.edu and we can connect you with a STEM double major who is also a UHP student.
- **If I got to admitted to Computer Science, can I double major in Data Science (about to open)?**
 - Data Science will be available beginning Fall 2022. I would consult with a major advisor to see if students may join who enter in Fall 2021.
- **What opportunities are there for psychology majors and focuses through UHP?**
 - Feel free to email us at uhp@ucdavis.edu and we can connect you with a current UHP student who is a psychology major. There are plenty of psychology majors in our program who can speak to their unique experiences in UHP and at UCD.
- **What are some opportunities for Human Development majors in UHP?**
 - We have courses that help to satisfy Human Development degree requirements (Psychology, for example, and BIS 2A for instance) but we also have had many HDE majors go through the program and do great research projects with HDE faculty!
- **Not sure if this has been answered, but would it be easy for me to add a minor (say, business/marketing), to my science related major?**
 - Yes, that is common for our students.
- **What percentage of sophomore UHP students get summer internships?**
 - Not sure of the % but it is common for UHP students to be securing summer internships. UHP advisors are also willing to help with internship search strategies, resume and cover letter prep and interviewing skills.
- **What opportunities are available for environmental studies majors? Especially with a focus on environmental policy and law as well as agriculture.**
 - Plenty- it is a real area of strength here. For instance we have the Muir Institute for Environmental Studies where many undergrads work on campus, and in the field. UC Davis runs the largest University run reserve system in the country and there are opportunities there too! Both research and policy (not to mention we have a law school here too, and they have interns).
- **Are there faculty or professors that might help me learn where I can get hands on learning that will be useful for someone who wants to major in nursing?**

- We have a faculty member teaching bioethics in UHP who is actually a nursing school faculty member too. He'd be a great resource!
- **Can undergrads participate in research done at UC Davis med school labs?**
 - Definitely! It is a real area of emphasis at UC Davis and UHP for sure!
- **Can undergrads get involved in research done in the UC Davis neuroscience grad school program?**
 - Absolutely- I have many colleagues in my department who are at the Center for Neuroscience and we definitely have connections to neuroscience research going on at Davis (lots!). One hitch is that it takes a long time to be able to work with primates but lots of opportunities to work with other animal models- but also human subjects too (imaging etc.).
- **What types of opportunities does the UHP provide for an Animal Science major?**
 - Check out this resource for opportunities available to our students - <https://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/academics/undergrad/internships>.

Plans for Fall 2021

- **Are courses in general still distance learning? Or are there plans to transition into in-person classes?**
 - For Spring they are but the University's plan is to indeed move back to in person. That depends on things progressing as they have been in Davis/Northern California of course. Small classes like UHP classes are the easiest ones to accommodate in person no matter what.

Miscellaneous

- **Is it feasible to balance the UHP and a Davis D1 sports team?**
 - We do have student athletes that participate in UHP. For example, diving and track and field. We can connect you with one of those students if you e-mail us at uhp@ucdavis.edu
- **How's the food at Davis? does the area around the school have good food options?**
 - UC Davis and Davis are a foodie haven! Check out these options for dining:
 - Campus Dining: <https://www.ucdavis.edu/campus-life/dining-food>
 - CoHo ASUCD Coffee House: <https://coffeehouse.ucdavis.edu>
 - Davis Farmer's Market: <https://www.davisfarmersmarket.org>
 - Downtown Davis: <https://davisdowntown.com/dining>
- **How do we transfer credits from any community college courses to UC Davis?**

- Submit official transcripts from your community college to UC Davis by the deadline.
- You can find courses that have transferred previously from California Community Colleges to the UC here: <https://assist.org>
- **This sounds like a really cool experience! I've already completed much of my GE at my local community college and so I'll probably be at Davis for only 2 years. Would this program still work on a 2 year timeline?**
 - Yes, we work with each student to help them manage the UHP curriculum and their own unique graduation timeline. It is not uncommon for a UHP student to graduate early with an accelerated UHP curriculum plan.
- **Did any of you come to Davis from out-of-state, and how was that experience?**
 - I don't think we have an out of state student on the panel but we definitely have had out of state students including several who've work in our office thus- really immersed in UHP and UCD.
- **I'm planning a gap year and will defer from Davis for a year. Does this affect my admission into UHP?**
 - No. Just e-mail uhp@ucdavis.edu to let us know your plans.
- **Are we allowed to set up a one-on-one meeting with you?**
 - Yes- just reach out by email! uhp@ucdavis.edu