

UCSC Silicon Valley @extension

Where Thought Leaders Learn



**PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATE COURSES
FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**



HOME OF THE GLOBAL TECH PROFESSIONAL

Welcome to UCSC Silicon Valley Professional Education, a division of University of California, Santa Cruz.

We are an accredited*, nonprofit educator based in the heart of Silicon Valley and focused on training top professionals throughout their careers.

- [350+ Professional Development Courses](#)
- [11 Professional Certificates](#)
- [13 Specializations](#)
- Complete Your Program in One Year or Less
- Internships and OPT Eligibility

* Accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission
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PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSES

CRACKING THE CODE TO A DREAM CAREER

Practical, High-Quality Programs

Our programs are created by industry professionals and reviewed by university panels and industry advisory boards to support careers in high demand. Each course provides students with practical skills, theory, and current business practices that can significantly increase their earning potential. Our curriculum aligns with many professional licenses and master's degree programs.

Certificates

The traditional certificate program duration is 9-12 months. Some students complete two certificates in a year or less or they earn one certificate and one specialization.

Specializations

Many students choose to complete a specialization in conjunction with a certificate. Usually about six units, a specialization is perfect for people wanting to target specific career skill sets. For example, you can earn a [Data Science and Data Analytics](#) certificate and also take courses to earn a specialization in [Data Science](#) or [Lean-Agile Project Management](#).

You will study with industry professionals from some of the biggest companies in the world, gain insight into personnel requirements, and learn how to stay ahead of the curve.

One-Quarter | Short Programs

Join us in the heart of Silicon Valley for a focused study in one of our top programs. In this immersive study program, you will learn new skills from industry leaders, network with regional leaders, and complete a foundational program to move your career forward.

- Study 12 units in a high-demand industry.
- Complete your studies in one quarter.
- Earn a digital badge for your professional branding on social media.
- Various programs will be offered every quarter.
- Additional details online.





SILICON VALLEY

THE LAUNCH PAD FOR INDUSTRY LEADERS

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, UCSC SV embraces talent with open arms, innovative learning modes, and instructional excellence. We are surrounded by global leaders—Nvidia, Yahoo, Cisco, Erickson, Google, numerous biopharma and research companies, and uncountable startups.

Leading Industry Instructors

Silicon Valley professionals bring industry experience and practical, best practices into the classroom to support the student experience.

Networking & Connections

Instructors and frequent guest speakers are working professionals with an eye on the regional economy. Our students work in neighboring companies that are changing the world.

Embracing Diversity

Residing in a multicultural community, UCSC SV embraces talent with open arms, innovative learning modes, and instructional excellence.

WORK EXPERIENCE: OPT AND INTERNSHIPS

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING



Once you complete a professional certificate program you qualify for an unpaid internship and a temporary paid work experience through the [Optional Practical Training \(OPT\) program](#). OPT requires that student work placement has to be related to their certificate program. Our students are pursuing diverse interests.

- 44 percent are working in technology jobs.
- 20 percent are working in business-related jobs.

Our students have amazing experiences in local startups and global companies. More than 80 percent of our students find positions within Silicon Valley and the rest land positions in other U.S. locations or abroad.

Career Services Resources

Learn current job search techniques and gain support for a successful job search.

- Worksheets, strategies, and free coaching for students and alumni to help you get started in your job search and refine your presentation.
- Polish up your resumé, practice your networking skills, and learn about LinkedIn, personal branding, and diversity centers.
- Discover new job opportunities & job fairs.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

DATA SCIENCE AND DATA ANALYTICS:

- Apply principles of data science in solving problems centered around Big Data.
- Obtain, manipulate, analyze, and visualize volumes of data that drive many fields, such as business and innovation, bioinformatics, weather forecasting, and healthcare.
- Identify and use appropriate data models in solving real-world problems.

Choose between
two data emphases:

Track 1: Data Science

A comprehensive introduction for students wishing to pursue or enhance their careers in the growing field of data science and analytics.

Track 2: Data Engineering

Designed for enterprise data professionals who are involved in designing, administering and using shared databases in a Big Data environment.



“

This place helped me get to a point where I made connections with amazing friends who had positions in the valley. Students over here are really well-versed in networking. It's been a game-changer.”

—Aakash Dave

The technical designer and solo evangelist for a social network, Aakash completed the [Data Science and Data Analytics certificate program](#) and took other courses to help launch his company.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING:

- Demonstrate the ability to develop logically structured software solutions through the use of a high-level programming language.
- Design object-oriented systems.
- Implement optimal solutions for software systems using advanced concepts of algorithms and computer science theory.

Also of interest:

Mobile Application Development Specialization

Program Languages:

- C
- C++
- C#
- GO
- Java
- RUST
- Python



“

I'm working with data and trying to understand and get insights from the data to leverage business. This is the place everyone should go to learn cutting-edge technology.”

—Renato Roschel Ribeiro

An international student from Brazil, Renato completed certificates in [Database and Data Analytics](#) and [Computer Programming](#) and put his new skills to work as a senior business analyst at Google through the OPT program.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

MARKETING MANAGEMENT:

- Create integrated, multi-channel marketing campaigns
- Evaluate the success of marketing campaigns based on data
- Communicate brand values to diverse audiences
- Leverage social media as a selling tool
- Capstone portfolio project

Also of interest:

Social Media Marketing Specialization



“

Every course took me a step further. By the time the courses were done, I was pretty certain I was going to make it into a business.”

—Bouwien Luppes

Bouwien, from Finland, launched her company just as she was finishing up her certificate program in [Marketing Management](#) and a specialization in [Social Media Marketing](#).

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

PROJECT & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT:

- Establish business needs
- Develop leadership skills
- Estimate costs and schedules
- Manage risk
- Define products
- Build connections
- Capstone project development
- Capstone project portfolio



“

I wanted to learn from instructors who have been practicing all they teach. I wondered what it would be like to live and work in Silicon Valley.”

—Eva Janos

Eva came to the tech capital of the world to study [project management](#) and it led to a successful job at a financial software company in Silicon Valley.

TAILORED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Certificates

Specializations

Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Administration• Human Resource Management• Marketing Management• Project and Program Management• Supply Chain Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administrative Professionals• DEI Leadership• Social Media Marketing• Lean-Agile Project Management• Workplace Cultural Competency
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computer Programming• Data Science and Data Analytics• Embedded Systems• Linux Programming and Administration• Software Engineering and Quality• VLSI Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AI Application Development• AI for Business• DevOps and Data Virtualization• Enterprise AI Implementation• Mobile Application Development• Python
Short Programs		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Science• Business and Administrative Professionals• Business and Management• More one-quarter programs to be announced



OUR INSTRUCTORS

Some of the companies employing our highly skilled instructors include eBay, Apple, LinkedIn, Intel, Tech Mahindra, Glassdoor, Meta, Google, Genentech, Stanford University, Yahoo, Hewlett Packard, IBM, Amazon AWS, AMD, Cisco Systems, Adobe, government, nonprofit organizations, and numerous startups.



"To be able to write efficient code, you need a deep understanding of algorithms. That is why 70% of questions in any programming interview come from data structure and algorithms."

— Bineet Sharma, M.S.C.S.

Various leadership roles including CEO of CashonAd; and co-founder of OnTick
Instructor/Chair to both Computer Programming Certificate
and Java Development Specialization

Parthasarathy M Padmanabhan is a data architect with more than 25 years of experience in information technology and has worked in data modeling for more than 10 years.

— Parthasarathy M Padmanabhan, M.B.A

data engineering lead, New Relic, Inc.

Instructor/Advisory Board to Data Science and Data Analytics



Alan Tsuda is a veteran of the computer and tech industries, he specializes in the application of technology in learning. Tsuda has assisted with the development of technical training programs for two consulting firms and served on advisory boards for curriculum review and program redesign projects at UCSC Extension and UC Berkeley Extension

— Alan Tsuda, M.B.A.

Founder of ResultWorks

Instructor/Advisory Board member for various UC programs

"Timing is everything. Too late, or even too early, leads to violations."

— Arvind Vidyarthi, M.S.E.E.

Physical Design Lead, Intel

Instructor/Chair for the VLSI and Semiconductor Engineering certificate program



THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE UCSC SILICON VALLEY

Sure, there's a lot of traffic and a crazy-fast pace of change. We are inventors, designers, problem-solvers, and entrepreneurs who can't wait to make the world better.

Networking & Fun

We love getting together. There is no place that puts on a free, inspiring Meetup like Silicon Valley. You'll connect with classmates, instructors, guest speakers, and people in the community.

Tech History

From the birth of the semiconductor to the software explosion that led us to cloud computing, biopharma, and the world of genetics—it's all here. Be sure to visit the [Computer History Museum](#), The Tech Interactive, and [the garage where Steve Jobs first cobbled together the early designs that became Apple](#).

Natural Beauty

If you are a nature lover, you will enjoy the beaches of the Monterey Bay, the San Francisco Baylands, nearby redwood forests, vast agricultural expanses abutting the rolling foothills, and a breathtaking Sierra mountain range calling you to go on long hikes with your camera. We're not kidding. It's seriously beautiful around here.

Creativity

You can indulge your inner art lover in museums, open studios, festivals, and concert venues.

Just Next Door

You'll stroll by the headquarters for companies that are making history: LinkedIn, Apple, Nvidia, Meta, Cisco, Intel, AMD, eBay, Intel, and others. Nearby are Great America Amusement Park, The Computer History Museum, Baylands Nature Preserve, and the San Jose International Airport.

30–60-Minute Drive

Within an hour's drive you have San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge, Berkeley Bowl Marketplace, Monterey Bay beaches and whale Tours, The Mystery Spot, and endless Santa Cruz mountain hiking trails.

Spend the Day

If you leave after breakfast, you can have lunch in the Napa Valley wine country, Yosemite National Park, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, or maybe venture a little further to some Hollywood studios, Disneyland, the Reno slot machines, and skiing in Lake Tahoe.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Education

You must have two years of college experience or sufficient work or industry experience. Must show through transcripts or resume with a personal essay.

COVID Vaccine Mandatory

All campus visitors must be vaccinated.

English Proficiency

You must have an English proficiency score of iBT TOEFL 70, IELTS 6.0, or equivalent.



Program Costs:

International students pay on average \$11,000–\$14,000 Plus a \$4,500 International student fee due at the beginning of your program.

Note: You'll need a minimum of **12** units per quarter to meet visa requirements. Costs are subject to change.

Annual Calendar

Fall • August 19–December 31

Winter • January 1–March 31

Spring • March 18–June 15

Summer • June 3–August 31

Housing in Silicon Valley

Be sure to check our website for our top housing referrals.

The Silicon Valley housing prices vary widely, from about \$800/month for a room in a house to more than \$3,000 for a house with multiple rooms. You have numerous options for finding an apartment!

FIND YOUR OWN PATH

Thank you for considering UCSC Silicon Valley Professional Education in your future plans. As a premier University of California education destination in the heart of Silicon Valley, we have a tremendous amount of resources to support your future success.

We offer you the opportunity to expand your network and become a global citizen while introducing you to the best professional instruction Silicon Valley has to offer.

You'll engage with instructors who are world-class industry leaders in their discipline, meet classmates employed by some of the most exciting companies in the world, and develop new skills and perspectives that will shape your career.

Silicon Valley is a place of constant change and innovation, a community that is always looking to build new relationships with people all over the world. I invite you to immerse yourself in the California lifestyle—it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We are committed to your professional success.

Like you, I came to the U.S. to expand my education and build a new career. It has truly been a fun and rewarding journey.

—PK

UCSC Silicon Valley Dean P.K. Agarwal has served as the executive for several global tech companies as well as chairman of Future 500, a Bay Area-based pioneer in the area of global sustainability; the CEO of TiE Global, an organization dedicated to fostering entrepreneurship across 61 cities in 18 countries; and chief technology officer for the State of California under Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.



Dean PK Agarwal
UCSC Silicon Valley Extension

