Welcome to SDSU

At San Diego State University, we’re asking fundamental questions.

How do we inspire leadership?

How do we nurture tomorrow’s leaders?

The answers emerge when students work alongside faculty researchers to improve lives; when innovation is not only taught, but practiced; and when students, faculty, and staff take on society’s problems with dedication and purpose.

San Diego State University is characterized by remarkable students, exceptional and dedicated faculty and staff, and innovative programs. We are an intellectual community committed to the ideals of diversity and dedicated to human growth and development. Guided by our strategic plan, we are moving forward with initiatives to enhance student success, research and creative endeavors, and community and communication. We are resolving today’s questions and anticipating those of tomorrow.
Academic and Community Engagement

San Diego State University is a community of people committed to student success and life-changing opportunities for students, including study abroad, undergraduate research, internships and entrepreneurial experiences. SDSU is the oldest and largest higher education institution in the San Diego region, and these deep community roots provide access to internships, mentoring relationships, and volunteer opportunities that complement and enhance the classroom experience.

SDSU is an academically rich university that provides endless possibilities for students: bachelor’s degrees in 94 areas, master’s degrees in 78 fields, and 22 doctoral degrees (Ph.D., Ed.D., Au.D., DNP, and DPT). SDSU is a place for the best and brightest to dream of who they will become and to make those dreams a reality.
Diversity and Inclusive Excellence

Diversity is a hallmark of San Diego State University, where all students—regardless of background or station—can achieve excellence and success. The university has been recognized for the nation’s largest increase in graduation rates and for reducing the achievement gaps among ethnic and racial groups.

SDSU’s campus reflects the diversity of our region and the world beyond. Students from more than 90 nations contribute to SDSU’s dynamic mix of ethnic, racial, and social backgrounds.

SDSU ranks No. 6 in the nation for ethnic and racial diversity, is recognized as a Hispanic-serving institution, and is one of the top universities in economic diversity. More than half of our students and 40 percent of our tenured-track faculty members are women. We are a national model for educating military veterans, and we are ranked among the most LGBT-friendly campuses in the nation.
One of our goals at SDSU is to “create a global campus” by promoting internationalization in everything from curriculum content to cultural campus activities and international research and exchange programs.

SDSU ranks in the top 25 in the number of students who study abroad to gain new perspectives and to grow personally and intellectually. More than 2,100 SDSU students study abroad each year in 52 countries, including the United Kingdom, China, Italy, Mexico, and Spain.

Our campus-based academic programs reinforce this global perspective. These programs include the Center for International Business Education and Research; the Center for Latin American Studies; the International Security and Conflict Resolution degree program; and the International Business major, which is ranked No. 10, and is one of the largest programs of its kind in the nation.
SDSU students study hard, but they also know how to have fun outside the classroom. You can join an intramural sports team or an honor society, lead a community service project or the student body, live on our lively campus or on fraternity row. Our new Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union, built to LEED-platinum energy standards, is a hub for student activities with its Commuter Resource Center, restaurants, bowling alley and game room, meeting spaces, and theatre.

You can cheer on 19 NCAA Division I athletics teams, which are setting new standards for success. A record number of Aztec teams are qualifying for post-season competition, and both our men’s and women’s basketball teams have played in the Sweet 16. Our football team has won 19 conference championships in its long and storied history and has a string of bowl game appearances.
Research and Creative Endeavors

San Diego State is a leading public research university with a thriving research agenda and competitive awards totaling nearly $108 million annually—including more than 156 awards from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

Undergraduate research and entrepreneurship are hallmarks at SDSU. Students collaborate with faculty and staff in on-campus laboratories to address national and global challenges and build innovative projects and new companies in our entrepreneurship and innovation centers.

More than 65 SDSU students have earned prestigious Fulbright awards since 2005, while other students have received the Udall Scholarship for environmental work or Gates Cambridge Scholarships.
Leadership Starts Here

SDSU lives by the ethos Leadership Starts Here.

When you think about it, Leadership Starts Here is a pretty bold statement. It is also a promise—one that our students keep every day by focusing on academic excellence and engaging society’s challenges.

SDSU’s legacy of leadership is found in research and innovation, entrepreneurship, community engagement, and global competition.

SDSU alumni lead businesses and organizations throughout the world. They are CEOs, presidents, founders, and partners. Aztecs run biotech companies, accounting firms, restaurant chains, film studios, and hospitals.
The mission of San Diego State University is to provide research-oriented, high-quality education for undergraduate and graduate students, and to contribute to the solution of problems through excellence and distinction in teaching, research, and service.

The university strives to impart an appreciation and broad understanding of the human experience throughout the world and the ages. This education extends to diverse cultural legacies and accomplishments in many areas, such as the arts and technology; the advancement of human thought including philosophy and science; the development of economic, political, and social institutions; and the physical and biological evolution of humans and their environment.

San Diego State University pursues its mission through its many and diverse departments and interdisciplinary programs in the creative and performing arts, the humanities, the sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences.