Welcome to SDSU

At SDSU, faculty, staff, students, and community partners come together to pursue knowledge and meet the challenges of our region and our world. The educational process is not confined to classrooms and laboratories. It flows seamlessly wherever faculty and students come together—in traditional campus settings, in the community, and in the international arena. Faculty members exemplify the integrated role of teacher/scholar, enabling students to learn through both interaction and participation in ongoing research efforts, internships, study abroad and community-based learning projects. This pedagogical approach allows students to apply classroom learning to real-world challenges. San Diego State’s reputation for academic excellence and practical problem-solving inspires the confidence of community leaders, who look to SDSU for ideas and solutions.

San Diego State is characterized by remarkable students, exceptional faculty and innovative programs. We are an intellectual community committed to the ideals of diversity and dedicated to human growth and development. All of these attributes make San Diego State a vibrant university whose graduates are well prepared to serve our region, our state, our nation, and our world.
Campus Community

SDSU is a community of people committed to student success. As the oldest and largest higher education institution in the San Diego region, SDSU has deep roots and connections. You’ll have access to valuable internships, volunteer opportunities, and practical wisdom from experts in your field of study to enhance your classroom instruction.

Your SDSU

San Diego State University is an academically rich urban university that provides endless possibilities for students. SDSU offers bachelor’s degrees in 85 areas, master’s degrees in 76, one educational specialist degree (Ed.S.), research doctorates (Ph.D./Ed.D.) in 19 areas, and one professional doctorate (Au.D.). SDSU is a place to challenge yourself… to take your education into your own hands and carve out your future.

With award-winning professors, top-notch research facilities, and a location at the gateway to Latin America and the Pacific Rim, SDSU gives you the tools to expand your knowledge and your potential. This is your journey… discover how to make SDSU your own.

Make a Difference

SDSU alumni from all fields of study make a difference not only in the San Diego region, but also around the world. What difference will you make? Start imagining now.
San Diego: An International Hub

On the Pacific Rim and bordering Mexico, San Diego offers a wide variety of social and cultural activities. Known for its near-perfect climate, miles of sandy beaches, the world-famous San Diego Zoo, and fun-filled waterfront activities, San Diego is also recognized globally as a growing academic and research mecca. San Diego’s geographic location and diverse regional population help make the area a dynamic international hub.

International Education

SDSU encourages students to engage in international educational opportunities. Each year, we welcome thousands of international students who provide enriching cultural interaction for the campus community. Our study abroad program is unparalleled in the opportunities offered to SDSU students. For more information, contact the International Student Center at www.sdsu.edu/isc.

International Students—The International Student Center provides services and programs to meet the needs of international students. The American Language Institute provides English language instruction for international students and professionals.

Study Abroad Programs—Students in our international programs gain intercultural communication skills, global understanding, a broader view of the world, lifelong friendships, foreign language skills, and a better awareness of self. SDSU is ranked second in the nation in its class for the number of students who have an international experience. Join more than 1,600 students studying abroad each year in approximately 50 countries, including Australia, Spain, Japan, Mexico, and China.

Globally-focused Programs—Campus-based academic programs and centers with a global focus 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 one of the largest of its kind in the nation.
At San Diego State University, our mission is to provide research-oriented, high quality education for undergraduate and graduate students. We are committed to creating educational opportunities that not only contribute to human intellectual development, but also equip our students to succeed in an increasingly technological and global society. Faculty and students contribute to our community and to the world through distinction in teaching, research, and service.

SDSU offers 182 different academic degree choices. Students benefit from excellent classroom instruction and hands-on research opportunities as they work alongside faculty mentors at field sites and in classrooms, studios and laboratories. Since 2000, SDSU researchers have secured more than $1.1 billion in external funding, bringing both cutting-edge equipment and the excitement of discovery into laboratories and classrooms.

Active at the international level, SDSU ranks second among universities of its type for the number of students studying abroad. International opportunities—including pioneering triple-degree programs offered in conjunction with universities in Canada and Mexico or Mexico and Chile—give students a competitive advantage as they move into professional careers or pursue graduate studies.

Campus Growth

The San Diego State campus, with its distinctive California mission style of architecture, has supported more than $700 million in new construction during the last decade. The BioScience Center; a new home for the College of Arts and Letters; a completely redesigned tennis complex, softball field and swimming pools; and a striking pedestrian bridge that connects the residence halls with campus are just a few of the recent projects. The San Diego Trolley station at SDSU provides another means of transportation to and from campus for thousands of students, staff, and faculty. These important projects support academic and athletic programs and enhance the learning and living environment of the campus community.

No one could have predicted this phenomenal growth in 1897 when San Diego Normal School opened its doors in downtown San Diego to seven faculty and 91 students. The current campus on Montezuma Mesa, founded in 1931, covers 283 acres and enrolls more than 30,000 students. The university also offers classes at the Imperial Valley Campus in Calexico and a satellite facility in Brawley, operates the renowned Mount Laguna Observatory, and manages four biological field stations covering more than 9,000 acres.

Throughout the years and the changes, San Diego State University’s commitment to academic excellence and community involvement has never wavered. Now, more than ever, a degree from SDSU remains highly sought after, highly regarded and highly valued.