Santa Clara
UNIVERSITY
1851

2026-2027

Partner
Fact Sheet

About Santa Clara University

Santa Clara University (SCU) is famous for small class sizes, which create an intimate learning environment where students and teachers connect. Students have many opportunities to get involved on campus, and run over 100 club organizations.

The academic year is divided into 3 quarters: Fall, Winter, and Spring. Student exchange applications to SCU for the academic year will attend Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters.

Located in the heart of the beautiful Silicon Valley, Santa Clara University is ten minutes from San Jose and one hour from San Francisco and Santa Cruz.

Helpful Resources

Santa Clara University's mission statement and international vision
Campus Facilities
Language Courses

University Photos & Videos
A map of the Bay Area
Tourist Info: San Jose
Tourist Info: San Francisco

Academic Information

Academic Levels Offered to Exchange Students and Language of Instruction

Undergraduate; English

Language Requirements

Review SCU language requirements on our website.

Main Study Fields (Majors) and Courses

Explore available programs and current courses on the SCU website.

Exchange students are restricted from taking Computer Engineering courses.

Learning Expectations

Students attend all lectures, participate during in-class discussions, and complete all course assignments.

Academic Calendar

See the Santa Clara University Academic Calendar on our website.

Course Load and Grading

Per quarter, the minimum course load is 12 units and the maximum course load is 19 units, with letter grades A-F.

Exams and Transcripts

Exams occur during the last week of the quarter. Transcripts are released after grades are received, and the student must not have a hold on their account. This should be no later than 1 month after exams.

Student Registration

Once students receive their acceptance materials from SCU, information will be provided on how to register for courses at SCU.

Course Enrollment Pre-Registration Deadlines

Fall Quarter: May, Winter Quarter: November, Spring Quarter: February

Exchange Dates and Deadlines

	Quarter 1 (Fall)	Quarter 2 (Winter)	Quarter 3 (Spring)
Application Deadlines	01 April	01 October	01 October
Arrival Dates	Week prior to the beginning of class	Weekend prior to the beginning of class	Weekend prior to the beginning of class
Mandatory Orientation Seminar	Week prior to the beginning of class	First week of class	First week of class
Beginning & End of Quarters	Starts: 22 Sept., 2026 Ends: 12 Dec., 2026	Starts: 5 Jan., 2027 Ends: 20 March, 2027	Starts: 30 March, 2027 Ends: 12 June, 2027

Student Living

Incoming Exchange Student Guide
- After being accepted, students will be given access to the Incoming Exchange Student Guide in their Exchange Application.

Housing and Meals
- Students are responsible for applying directly to the SCU Housing Office for on-campus housing
- Meal plan varies depending on the residence hall
- Students can find more information in the Exchange Student Guide

Cost of Living/Accommodations
- Review the linked per-quarter cost estimate
- Students should budget for additional academic expenses, such as textbooks

Application and Visas

Application Requirements

Students are required to complete the Santa Clara University: Incoming Exchange Student Application. Students will upload their scanned supplemental materials to their application. Hardcopies are not required.

Visa Requirements

Students with questions regarding the visa process and completing the proper documents should visit the International Students and Scholars website.

Health Insurance Requirements

Comprehensive health insurance is required by the U.S. government as well as Santa Clara University. All international students in F-1 or J-1 status are automatically enrolled in and charged for the SCU Student Health Insurance Plan. This cannot be waived, and students should budget accordingly.

Contact

Exchange Coordinator
Christopher Hanson

Assistant Director of Global Learning
Email: GlobalLearning@scu.edu

Santa Clara
U N I V E R S I T Y

Promotional materials (brochures, posters, course catalog, student guide, application form, academic calendar, etc.) should be sent to:

Global Learning
Global Engagement
Santa Clara University
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053 USA

or by email at GlobalLearning@scu.edu