

Third Year Goals from UC Santa Cruz Advising Roadmap **(<https://advising.ucsc.edu/roadmap/third.html>)**

You're halfway there! Junior year is a time to fully engage -- with your classes, your professors, and the multitude of opportunities that the research university offers. The third-year goals will help you ensure that your education is truly yours:

1. Make meaningful connections with faculty in your major and identify those you consider mentors. You'll find that building these connections will help you build a different level of engagement with the material you're learning in class, and help you clarify your interests within your discipline.
2. Further clarify your post-UCSC goals (and talk to people about them!). Consider ways to prepare for those goals by using the elective space in your academic plan -- some students may pursue [internships](#), others may pursue [research](#) under faculty supervision, others a minor or a special educational program. Individualize your education!
3. Identify possible graduate school and career possibilities. Begin researching graduate schools at least 18 months before you plan to attend.
4. Research senior-year opportunities in your major such as senior theses, research, scholarship and award opportunities, etc.
5. Check your academic plan to be sure you're on track for a timely graduation. Checking now means fewer possibilities for unpleasant surprises later -- if you have questions or are unsure, contact an adviser.

Complete List of UC Santa Cruz Advising Learning Objectives **(<https://advising.ucsc.edu/about/mission/index.html>)**

First Year Learning Objectives

1. Students will understand how the UCSC advising system is organized and learn how to access advising and academic support services. Within the advising relationship, students will understand their responsibilities for taking action and making decisions related to their academic plans.
2. Students will develop an understanding of how to use the MyUCSC Student Portal.
3. Students will identify qualification requirements, initial placement information, and first year courses for potential majors. In pursuing first year courses, students will both develop the academic foundational skills important to potential majors and assess their interest in, and ability to succeed in, the program.
4. Students will make progress toward clarifying their educational goals as related to the choice of a major, and will propose a major (or confirm a proposed major) by the end of their first year.
5. Students will learn to develop an academic plan that includes classes to meet degree requirements and that meets the university's time-to-degree policies, and that takes into account prerequisite and course sequencing issues.
6. Students will develop appropriate university level conduct.

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Second Year Learning Objectives

1. Early in the academic year, students will assess their progress toward their intended major(s) in terms of both necessary courses and their skills and abilities. Students will be formally declared in a major by the deadline in the last quarter of their second year.
2. Students will use the MyUCSC Student Portal to assess their progress in completing their general education requirements.
3. Students will research the connections between their potential and/or intended major and potential careers, and will begin to engage in career preparation activities.
4. Students will research and plan for educational opportunities both within the formal curriculum and beyond it (Education Abroad, internships, research opportunities, etc.).

Third Year Learning Objectives

1. Students will evaluate their academic plan to ensure that they are on track toward a timely graduation.
2. Students will make meaningful connections with faculty in their major and identify faculty mentors.
3. Students will further clarify and be able to articulate their educational goals, and will determine ways in which to individualize their formal education to meet those goals. (This might include the addition of a concentration or sub-field of interest, a pattern of courses to supplement the major, or the intentional use of elective credit to build skills.)
4. Students will participate in enrichment activities relevant to their interests and goals.
5. Students will research and prepare for senior year requirements and opportunities such as senior exit requirement options, scholarship and award opportunities, etc.
6. Students will identify potential graduate school and/or career opportunities and learn how to prepare for those opportunities.

Fourth Year Learning Objectives

1. Early in their final year, students will review, confirm, and plan for the completion of their graduation requirements.
2. Early in their final year, students will schedule and then take the steps necessary for successful entry into graduate programs or the job search process (including taking necessary exams, filing graduate school applications, requesting letters of recommendation, attending career fairs, etc.).
3. Students will learn to confidently present their experience, skills, and achievements to potential employers and/or graduate school selection committees.
4. Students will learn the necessary administrative processes involved in leaving UCSC and confirming the status of their degree.
5. Students will learn and consider the ways in which they can stay connected to UC Santa Cruz after earning their degree, such as through campus involvement and/or mentoring future undergraduates, membership in the Alumni Association, etc.