

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER/WINTER PROGRAMMES (i-SP)

IMPORTANT NOTE

Before applying for any summer/winter programme, read the [GRO website](#) and [application guide](#) for important information on:

- General Eligibility Requirements and Application Process
- Course Mapping and Financial Aid
- Visa Application, Travel Advisories and Student Insurance

University of California Santa Cruz: Global Entrepreneurship (GEn) Program

(Updated as of February 2026)

Host University Website: <https://global.ucsc.edu/visiting-students/gen-program/>

Programme Location: Santa Cruz, California, USA

Programme Dates: 22 June to 25 July 2026

Application Deadline: **31 March 2026** (Extended deadline for NUS students)

The UC Santa Cruz Global Entrepreneurship (Gen) Program is a hybrid programme, consisting of **three weeks of online learning** followed by **two weeks of in-person sessions**.

Course mapping and financial assistance are not applicable to any online or hybrid summer programmes or courses.

Please reach out to your home faculty if you are looking to course map programmes or courses in a fixed hybrid format (e.g., courses that are offered as a package with both online and on-site components).

ESTIMATED COST OF PARTICIPATION

1	Programme Fee and Expenses	<p>The published programme fee is USD \$4,025. NUS students are offered a USD\$275 discount, bringing the total programme fee to USD \$3,750.</p> <p>The programme fee includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five weeks of instruction and administration - Two-weeks campus meal plan - Two-weeks on campus housing (Dual occupancy) - Airport transfer to/from Santa Cruz on the designated programme arrival and departure dates - Excursions to businesses in the greater Bay <p>Please note that the programme fee does not include Airfare, immigration/visa costs, personal expenses, health insurance and any other personal expenses.</p> <p>All fees are estimates and subject to change. Further detail about fees and expenses are available at the summer programmes website.</p>
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PROGRAMME DETAILS

2	Academic Content	This is a 5-week hybrid programme at UC Santa Cruz offering students a unique opportunity to gain hands-on entrepreneurial experience.
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		<p>The programme consists of three (3) weeks of online learning followed by two (2) weeks in-person on the UC Santa Cruz campus. Participants will gain hands-on experience through a comprehensive curriculum consisting of lectures, industry guest speakers, site visits in Silicon Valley, and guided internships or startup business development.</p> <p>During the programme, students will choose between an internship track or a startup accelerator track. This approach ensures that participants are well-prepared to contribute meaningfully to their fields, equipped with both the theoretical knowledge and practical experience needed to succeed in the dynamic world of business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internship Track: Students provide high-quality freelancing support to historically underserved small businesses, nonprofits, and startups. This mutually beneficial arrangement equips businesses with essential digital tools to thrive, while students gain practical experience in client interactions, project management, team building, leadership training, and proposal writing. As part of this experience, students will build simple no-code websites and/or develop social media marketing campaigns, helping businesses expand their digital presence. This real-world engagement not only provides businesses with valuable resources but also helps students develop a sense of purpose and a deep understanding of the challenges faced by small enterprises. • Startup Accelerator Track: Students develop a startup idea, create a comprehensive business plan through customer discovery, and build a compelling pitch deck using the Lean Startup and NSF I-Corps methods. This approach enables them to apply entrepreneurial principles in a supportive, controlled environment while receiving mentorship from industry leaders. Additionally, networking opportunities with Silicon Valley professionals provide valuable insights into the realities of launching and scaling a successful business. <p>Please find more information here.</p>
3	<p>Eligibility Requirements</p>	<p>NUS' generic eligibility requirements apply, please refer to GRO website for details.</p> <p>UCSC: This programme is open to all university students who wish to gain valuable entrepreneurial skills and practical business experience while building their network in Silicon Valley and the greater Bay Area. The ideal participant for this programme will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An interest in entrepreneurship and seeking innovative solutions to business problems - A proactive approach to learning and uncovering new insights - A willingness to engage with diverse perspectives - A level of proficiency in English sufficient to be able to contribute meaningfully to class discussions and collaborative projects
4	<p>Accommodation</p>	<p>Programme Fee includes on-campus accommodation at UC Santa Cruz for two weeks. Please contact genprogram@ucsc.edu for more details on campus housing.</p>

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5	Application Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Please apply through the NUS Education Records System - Global Education (EduRec-GE). Applying through EduRec-GE will allow GRO to contact and assist you in times of crisis/emergency while overseas. With an official application through EduRec-GE, you are covered by the NUS Travel Blanket Insurance. You should also concurrently apply to the host university once you have applied on NUS Edu-Rec. <p>For your application with the host university, please prepare the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Statement of Interest: (500 words or fewer) introducing yourself and explaining your motivation for applying to participate in the GEn programme. Please be sure to address the following points in your Statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight any past academic or personal experience, skills, and/or interests as they relate to the program and its goals. Discuss any future academic and career goals, and how your participation in the GEn program will help to advance those goals. Provide any other relevant details that would help faculty to evaluate your preparedness to participate in this programme. Resume/CV Copy of your most recent academic transcript Proof of English proficiency (if applicable) such as TOEFL/IELTS/DET scores, or a test listed here; the Programme manager may also elect to conduct online interviews with applicants.
6	Course Mapping	<p>All course mapping requests are subject to approval by the faculties/departments.</p> <p>If you are interested in obtaining credits for your course, you can start the course mapping process via EduRec-GE after you have accepted the programme offer.</p> <p>Please also note the following: Students may map up to a maximum of 10 units for each Summer Programme and up to a maximum of 5 units for each Winter Programme. Course mapping will be subject to approval from the respective Faculties/Schools.</p> <p>A total of 12 units from a maximum of 2 overseas summer/winter and research programmes can be mapped without having to pay NUS tuition. Additional units mapped will be subjected to Special Term fees. For details, visit the Office of the University Registrar's website.</p>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
7	Visa Application	<p>A B1/B2 visitor visa is appropriate for most participants on the GEn programme. Citizens or nationals of a country participating in the ESTA Visa Waiver Program (VWP) are eligible to travel to the U.S. under the VWP. For applicants from NUS who are not Singaporean citizens or are otherwise ineligible for the VWP, UCSC can provide a Certificate of Eligibility (DS-2019) for a J-1 visa.</p> <p>For further details regarding your required visa, please email genprogram@ucsc.edu</p>

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8	Travel Advisories	Visit the MFA website for travel advisories on various countries from the Singapore government.
9	Student Insurance	<p>NUS Student Travel Insurance is provided for your participation in this programme. Should you require a certificate of insurance, you may request it from the insurer directly following the instructions detailed in: https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/. (Log in using your NUSNET ID and password.)</p> <p>Please ensure that you have a comprehensive travel insurance for the full duration of your stay abroad, including your personal travel within/outside USA. Review the insurance coverages to ensure that they meet your needs. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase supplemental travel insurance to ensure they are adequately covered during their time abroad.</p> <p>In addition, students may need purchase additional insurance for the in-person portion of the programme as participants may be required to show proof of health insurance coverage that meets minimum coverage levels and is valid in the U.S.</p> <p>See here for detailed information about this requirement.</p>
10	Contact Information	<p>Questions related to the programme: genprogram@ucsc.edu</p> <p>Questions for NUS Global: groams@nus.edu.sg</p> <p>Questions related to course mapping: Please contact your faculty SEP coordinator.</p>

***Please refer to host university’s website for the latest information.**