

UCLA
CSST
2014 SUMMER

July 6 – September 12, 2014

The CSST Summer Program is a 10-week intensive research training and PhD recruitment program. Each student will be enrolled in 12 units of UCLA courses, conduct research under the guidance of a UCLA faculty mentor, and participate in required CSST activities including professional development and networking events. UCLA PhD programs will preview potential PhD applicants' research performance and begin early recruitment for the next year's admission cycle.

About 95% of CSST participants came from biomedical & life sciences, physical Science, and engineering majors. But we also welcome students from non-STEM majors such as geology, sociology, political science, and so forth. (STEM: science, technology, engineering & mathematics.)

The specific goals of the CSST Summer Program are to:

- Develop students' research career potentials
- Foster cross-disciplinary interaction and research
- Develop a community of CSST colleagues
- Identify and recruit top students to UCLA PhD programs

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| Sunday, July 6 | Program Start: Arrival and Move-In Day |
| Monday, July 7 | CSST Orientation and Lab safety training |
| Tuesday, July 15 – Thursday, July 17 | Peer Seminar: Oral Presentations of Project Plans |
| Tuesday, September 2 – Thursday, September 5 | Peer Seminar: Oral Presentations of Project Results |
| Tuesday, September 10 | CSST Final Presentations: Poster Presentations |
| Friday, September 12 | Program End: Move-Out day |

A limited number (300-350) of applicants who meet the following criteria will be selected for the January 2014 CSST interviews. 80-100 students will be admitted.

- Strong interest in UCLA PhD career
- Interest in interdisciplinary study
- Outstanding academic achievement
- Previous research experience
- High English proficiency
- Independent thinking & creativity
- Mature personality
- For Chinese students: Willingness to accept China Scholarship Council (CSC) scholarship for graduate school. <http://www.csc.edu.cn>.

We will announce the application link soon. Please check back on your university website for application instructions in a few weeks. Below is an overview of what you would be asked to provide in the online application form. If you are interested to apply, we strongly encourage you to start preparing the application materials ahead of time.

- Your basic information
- Your academic background.
 - GPA, ranking, etc.
 - You will be asked to upload your Official Transcripts in English
- English tests that you have taken
 - National English Test in China, TOEFL, GRE, etc.
 - You are not required to provide these test scores in order to be considered for the program. Applicants' English proficiency will be assessed during our on-site interviews.
- Your research experience
 - You may describe up to 3 research experiences you have.
- Your Curriculum Vitae
- 2-Part Essay
 - *Part 1: Personal Statement (300-500 words):* Please browse [UCLA department webpages and PhD program information](#). Then write an essay describing:
 - Your reason for applying to the CSST Summer Program. What do you hope to gain from this experience?
 - Your short & long-term career goals.
 - The UCLA PhD Programs that interest you.
 - *Part 2: Summer Research Interest (100-200 words):* Please browse UCLA research topics on [UCLA department webpages](#). Then write an essay describing:
 - General research topic(s) that interest you. Be flexible and name more than one.
 - Area(s) you would like to focus on this summer. Be flexible and name more than one.
 - Note: It is NOT good to name a specific faculty member in the essay.

- Applicants submit CSST online application. There will be an \$80 application fee.
- CSST announces 1st-round selection results and invites selected applicants for interview.

Housing plays an important role in developing a community of CSST colleagues and promoting cross-disciplinary interaction among students. Each student will be assigned a bed in a triple room in UCLA campus housing. All CSST students are required to live in their assigned housing. No exceptions. A meal plan of 11-meals or 15-meals per week is also included in the housing package.

CSST will enroll each student in 4 units of 199 independent study course with his/her UCLA faculty mentor and 8 units of CSST Colloquium (aka M Pharm 194) with Professor Ren Sun, CSST Director. Course grades will be based upon research performance, CSST program attendance, and personal conduct.

Students are strongly encouraged to take the GRE examination at least once before attending the Summer Program. Although the GRE score is not a requirement for participating in the Summer Program, it will be useful for evaluating the student's admissibility to UCLA PhD programs at the end of the Summer Program. Additionally, taking the exam early will allow students to retake it later if necessary.

Questions?
