
Partnering across the desk: Increasing equity and access with UC Scout

September 2024



Hello and welcome to Partnering across the desk: Increasing equity and access with UC Scout (and UCSC Admissions).

What is UC Scout?

University of California SAPEP program

- Online A-G approved courses and curricula
- Fully virtual program housed within UCSC Extension
- Accredited by WASC
- Eligible courses approved by NCAA and the College Board®

UC Scout's Mission

To provide high-quality A-G and AP® curricula and courses for students in need, with emphasis on advancing the academic success of California's educationally underserved students



UC SCOUT

We'll start the presentation with an overview of UC Scout and our resources, then share more about our partnership with UCSC Admissions. Before we get started, I'd like to do a quick poll: how many of you have heard of UC Scout before?

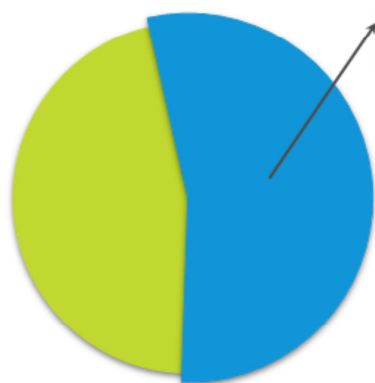
Okay, it seems like a pretty good mix of levels of knowledge about UC Scout. That's great to see! I'm sure that everyone will learn something new in the next 30 minutes.

UC Scout is a University of California SAPEP program. You are probably familiar with other SAPEP programs like EAOP, MESA, and Puente. UC Scout is actually housed under UCSC Extension programs, and what we do is develop online A-G approved courses and curricula. UC Scout is not technically a high school, but is considered a high school program, though we are fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Eligible courses also carry NCAA and College Board approval. It's important to note that all of our courses are high school level, so we are not considered a dual enrollment program.

UC Scout's mission is to provide high-quality A-G and AP® curricula and courses for students in need, with an emphasis on advancing the academic success of California's educationally underserved students. We serve students throughout the state of California as well as throughout the country and internationally, but our primary mission and the reason UC Scout was originally created over two decades ago is to increase access to A-G and AP courses for underserved students. Yes, UC Scout has been around since 1999, though it's only been called UC Scout for about a decade and we've seen a lot of growth in recent years. Our outreach team in particular is only about two years old, so we've been working to build relationships with other UC programs and departments as well as CBOs and other organizations. One of our more robust partnerships to date is with UCSC Admissions, which we'll get to in a bit.

UC Scout by the numbers

THE CHALLENGE



56% of graduating seniors did not complete their A-G requirements in 2023

In 2018-19...

2.5% of CA schools offered no A-G courses

and another 6% only offered some A-G courses.

*EdSource

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UC Scout seeks to bridge this educational gap

Students at over 1,000 schools utilized UC Scout (AY 2023-24)

Supported over 35K student enrollments (AY 2023-24)

Over 1,500 UC Scout courses adopted by teachers (AY 2023-24)

UC SCOUT

First, we want to set the stage with some data. As you are probably aware, as recently as last year fewer than half of California's graduating high school seniors graduated meeting minimum A-G requirements. In the 2018-2019 academic year, 2.5% of California high schools offered no A-G courses, and another 6% only offered some. Now, you know how big California is, so 8.5% represents hundreds of schools where students don't have the opportunity to meet minimum A-G. Even of the schools that offer enough A-G courses, there are many barriers to students completing them and meeting UC first-year eligibility, such as scheduling conflicts – I'm sure you all know the barriers better than we do.

But UC Scout is on a mission to change this. Over the past 5 years, we've seen 65% growth in enrollments across our program. In the 2022-2023 academic year, nearly 800 schools utilized UC Scout courses in one way or another, and we supported over 30,000 student enrollments – note that these are enrollments, not individual students, and some students might take more than one course with UC Scout. We also offered over 1,000 courses directly to teachers, and we'll explain more about how that works soon. There is still a lot of work we can be doing, so let's talk about how we are supporting students, teachers, and schools.

UC Scout course catalog



A - History/Social Science

World History
AP World
 History: Modern
AP Human Geography
AP European History
 U.S. History
AP U.S. History
AP African American Studies
 U.S. Government and Politics**
AP U.S. Government and Politics**
AP Comparative Government and Politics**



B - English

English 9
 English 10
 English 11
 English 12
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition



C - Mathematics

Pre-Algebra (*not eligible for a-g approval*)
 Algebra 1
 Geometry
 Algebra 2
 Integrated Math 1
 Integrated Math 2
 Integrated Math 3
 Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
 Statistics
AP Statistics
AP Computer Science A



D - Science

Biology
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics 1
AP Physics 2
AP Physics C: Mechanics**
AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism**
AP Computer Science Principles
 Intro to Java**
 Intro to Robotic Engineering**
 Oceanography
AP Environmental Science



E - Languages other than English

French 1
 French 2
 French 3
 French 4
AP French Language & Culture
 German 1
 German 2
 German 3
 German 4
AP German Language & Culture
 Spanish 1
 Spanish 2
 Spanish 3
 Spanish 4
AP Spanish Language & Culture



F - Visual and Performing Arts

Studio Art: 3-D Design
 Art History and Appreciation**
AP Art History
AP Music Theory
Visual Communication



G - College Preparatory Electives

Introduction to Ethnic Studies**
 Health and Medicine: EMT**
 Law and Society**
 Economics**
AP Macroeconomics**
 Psychology**
AP Psychology

**single semester course

UC SCOUT

This is a look at UC Scout's course catalog. We currently offer 67 courses in all A-G areas, of which 28 are Advanced Placement. All of our course content is produced in house by our instructional designers, credentialed teachers, and video production teams. Most of our courses are yearlong courses split into two semesters, but about a dozen courses are a single semester in length, which you can see on this slide with the double asterisks.

I'd also like to highlight our newest courses. AP African American Studies and Introduction to Ethnic Studies were both added to our catalog this year, and yes the ethnic studies course will meet the upcoming high school graduation requirement. This coming spring 2025, we'll be adding a yearlong Visual Communication course in area F. We also offer geometry, computer science, and many other courses, as you can see here. All of our courses are available in three different plan types, which we'll cover on the next slide.

<https://www.ucscout.org/courses/>

Plan types and pricing structure

Plan Type	Target Audience	Key Features	Pricing	Credit Options
Basic	Students & teachers	Supplemental resources for learning and instruction	\$29 per student/course/semester; FREE for California public school students and teachers	Not offered for credit
Plus	Teachers	Video lessons and curriculum to run an in-person, hybrid, or 100% online course	\$49 per student/course/semester; FREE for California public school teachers	School can issue credit
On Demand	Students	Accredited, self-paced, independent study online courses	\$399 per student/course/semester; Scholarship program available for eligible California students	UC Scout issues credit and transcript

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All of UC Scout's courses are available in three plan types. For those of you who have heard of UC Scout before, you might be familiar with the last one, but let's take a look at all three.

First, the Basic plan provides supplemental resources for learning and instruction for FREE to California public school students and teachers, and for \$29 per student/course/semester for all others. These are not credit-bearing courses, but they can be used to reinforce topics from an in-person class, study for an exam, or explore new subjects, to name a few examples. Think of this as like a tutoring resource for students.

Next, the Plus plan provides video lessons and curriculum to run an in-person, hybrid, or 100% online course for FREE to California public school teachers, and \$49 per student/course/semester for all others. Credit can be issued by the school, and courses are A-G approved. We'll talk more about the Plus plan on the next slide.

Finally, the On Demand plan provides accredited, self-paced, independent study online courses for \$399 per student/course/semester. This is a flat rate for all students and courses, and we do offer a scholarship program for eligible California students, which we'll talk more about shortly. In the On Demand plan, UC Scout provides a credentialed teacher, credit, and official transcript to the student.

<https://www.ucscout.org/plans/>

Plus plan

A-G approved curriculum developed by UC Scout

- Based on California state standards
- Provided online (via Canvas) and can be adapted for in-person or hybrid instruction
- Flexible curriculum that can be adapted to local context
- Can supplement existing curriculum as a resource for teachers
- Partnership with a school/district to provide credit to students
- Free teacher training and ongoing support provided



The graphic features a green rounded rectangle with the word "Plus" in white. To the left is a circular icon containing a computer monitor with a plus sign and a person silhouette. Below this, the word "Teachers" is written in green. Three bullet points follow, each with a blue icon: a checkmark, a dollar sign, and a graduation cap.

- ✓ Video lessons and curriculum to run an in-person, hybrid, or 100% online course
- \$ \$49 per student/course/semester
FREE for California public school teachers
- 🎓 School can issue credit



UC SCOUT

Let's talk a bit more about the Plus plan, which is truly the heart of UC Scout. All of the curriculum is developed based on California state and/or national standards and is both rigorous and interactive. We provide the curriculum online in Canvas, but it can be adapted by the teacher for in-person or hybrid instruction. The curriculum is A-G approved if followed as-is, but it can be modified to fit the needs of a local school or district. It can also be used to supplement an existing curriculum, which is especially beneficial for teachers new to teaching or new to a particular course. The best way to think about the Plus plan is like a partnership between UC Scout, who provides the curriculum, and a school or district, who provides a teacher to do the grading and issue credit to the students. UC Scout also supports teachers with free training and ongoing support to implement our courses. Many schools and districts are simply not aware that UC Scout provides this opportunity for free to public schools in California, but – and I've been asked this before – I promise it is not too good to be true, it's really a legitimate program.

Slide 6

MCO

I love that you have a more detailed slide for the Plus program

Melissa Chavez, 2024-07-11T23:12:24.686

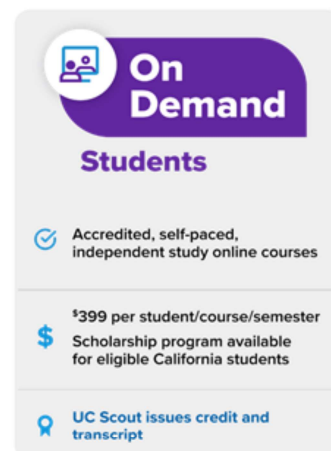
Scholarship program

Public-facing application

- \$349 discount for a single On Demand course
- Students responsible for \$50 technology fee
- Must meet eligibility criteria and apply online during the filing period

Partnerships

- UC Scout offers scholarships in partnership with other UC SAPEP programs



UC SCOUT

Circling back to our On Demand program, UC Scout is proud to offer scholarships to eligible students in California. Scholarships are for \$349, taking the cost of one semester down to \$50, and they are limited to one course per term. Students must meet certain eligibility criteria and can apply online with the support of their parent and counselor.

We also offer scholarships in partnership with other SAPEP programs, so we'll provide a bulk number of scholarships to a program and that program will support their students in the UC Scout course. This typically happens during the summer, so if you work with one of these programs please encourage them to reach out to us for more information.

UC Scout awarded over 175 scholarships from fall 2023 through summer 2024, and we hope to continue growing this program.

Questions can be directed to ucscoutscholarships@ucsc.edu

Eligibility criteria:

- In high school (grades 9-12) in California
- Minimum 2.5 GPA
- Low income or foster youth, or first-gen and English learner

Course credit and transcripts

The image shows three clipboards, each representing a different course credit plan. The first clipboard is titled 'Basic' and has a pink border. It contains two red 'X' marks and one green checkmark. The second clipboard is titled 'Plus' and has a green border. It contains three green checkmarks. The third clipboard is titled 'On Demand' and has a purple border. It contains three green checkmarks and a lightbulb icon with a note.

Plan	Details
Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❌ No credit granted❌ Courses not reported as A-G coursework on UC application✅ Student can explain in personal insight question responses
Plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Credit can be issued by school (check with school in advance)✅ Courses can be reported on UC application as A-G coursework from the high school✅ Transcript provided by the high school
On Demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✅ Credit issued by UC Scout✅ Courses reported as A-G coursework from UC Scout on UC application✅ Transcript provided by UC Scout through Parchment <p>💡 To use for high school graduation requirement, student must send transcript to their high school directly</p>

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UC SCOUT

Because we know how much counselors love the nitty gritty logistics, we want to provide you with details on how credit is awarded with UC Scout.

In the Basic plan, no credit is granted, so students will not report these as A-G courses on their college applications. Students are welcome to mention that they took Basic courses in the PIQs, which could demonstrate valuable characteristics such as motivation and self-advocacy.

In the Plus plan, credit can be issued by the partner high school, at the discretion of the school. Students will report these courses on their UC application the same as other courses from their high school, since credit comes from the school, not from UC Scout.

In the On Demand plan, credit is issued by UC Scout, so students will report these courses on the UC application as A-G courses from UC Scout, and send an official transcript from UC Scout through Parchment when requested. It is up to the discretion of individual high schools and districts if they will accept UC Scout On Demand courses to meet high school graduation requirements, which we advise students to confirm with their counselor – that’s you! – before enrolling in a course.

Frequently asked questions

Can a student complete a yearlong course over the summer?

- Depending on their schedule, yes. Most courses take about 70-80 hours to complete each semester (90-100 hours for AP® courses)

How are UC Scout courses graded?

- **Basic** courses: not graded and do not earn credit
- **Plus** courses: graded by the student's teacher at the school
- **On Demand** courses: graded by the UC Scout teacher on a 0-100% scale

How can students take the AP® exam?

- **Plus** courses: at the student's school
- **On Demand** courses: at UC Scout headquarters in Santa Clara, or a local site



UC SCOUT

Let's go over a few quick FAQs about UC Scout.

First, can a student complete a yearlong course over the summer? The short answer is technically, yes, but as we all know, just because you *can* do something doesn't necessarily mean you *should* do it. Most UC Scout On Demand courses take an average of 70-80 hours to complete one semester of work, and AP courses take an average of between 90-100 hours. While these numbers may vary, it's important that students consult with their parents, counselor, and calendar before deciding to attempt a full yearlong course in our 10 week summer term.

Next, how are UC Scout courses graded? This depends on the plan type. In the Basic plan, courses are not graded and do not earn credit. In the Plus plan, courses are graded by the teacher at the student's school, so they can either follow our grading conventions or adapt them to fit their school's needs. In the On Demand plan, students earn a final grade on a 0-100% scale. If transferring credit to their high school, the high school can translate the percentage grade into a letter grade on the transcript, but when applying to UC students should report the percentage grade on their UC application so their UC GPA can be calculated accurately.

Finally, how can students take the AP exam? With the Basic plan, there is no option to take the AP exam, and with Plus, the school offering the course would need to offer the AP exam to students. In the On Demand plan, UC Scout offers the AP exam in person at UC Scout headquarters in Santa Clara, California, or students can find a local school or testing site instead.



Partnering with UCSC

UC SCOUT

So now that we've gotten a crash course in UC Scout, how does our partnership with UCSC fit in? Well, while UC Scout has been around for over two decades, our outreach team was just created a few years ago. In 2022, we began having conversations with many UC admissions departments and other organizations. With UCSC Admissions, we first started with staff training and ensuring UCSC Admissions staff were informed about UC Scout. Then we started having conversations, mostly on Zoom, about our shared goals of increasing A-G completion rates, boosting UC first-year eligibility and selection, and increasing equity and access for underserved students. That was the beginning of our work together, and now I'll hand it over to Maia (or Bea) to tell you more about how our partnership has evolved.

How it's going

Joint presentations

- Virtual
- In-person

Publications

Social media

- @ucscout
- @ucscadmissions

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Hey there!

UCSC ADMS

After initially connecting and doing basic training, through consistent meetings and planning the relationship between UC Scout and UCSC Admissions has grown to more of a partnership rather than just information sharing.

So far, some of the outcomes of our partnership include hosting joint presentations, such as:

- A presentation for international counselors on how students can use AP classes to explore subjects and enrich the rigor of their schedule.
- A presentation for UC Scout students on A-G eligibility and UCSC selection, just to name a few.

Collaborating on these presentations has allowed us to reach a wider audience to promote helpful knowledge for students and counselors interested in UCSC and UC in general.

UC Scout has also shared printed publications with UCSC Admissions that we've taken on the road with us during fall outreach, for example at college fairs. In fact, a funny story is that last year at one of the UC counselor conferences, UC Scout ran out of flyers and guess what – our UCSC staff had enough extras to share back with them. How's that for a partnership? Don't worry, they're bringing extra flyers this year!

We have also collaborated on social media, including with a reel on Instagram that was jointly created and cross-posted by UC Scout and UCSC Admissions. Let's take a look at it now (**play video**).

These are some examples of the ways we have already collaborated, which were developed specifically to meet the needs of our two programs.

Looking forward

Strategic collaboration

- Data and information sharing
- Joint presentations
- Reciprocal partnership

Reaching our goals

- Develop partnerships with other organizations and departments
- Documentation and communication



UCSC ADMS

What we've done so far is just the beginning. Some of our plans for strategic collaboration in the future include:

- Sharing data to identify high schools with low A-G completion rates in CA in areas such as the Imperial Empire, Central Valley, and LA to connect with counselors, teachers, and principals regarding UC Scout and UCSC. We hope to arrange meetings with principals/AVID/MESA/Upward Bound counselors regarding UC Scout
- Continue to develop joint presentations and share UC Scout publications at college fairs/high school visits
- Create additional social media collaborations – follow UC Scout and UCSC Admissions to see those!
- And continue to develop a truly reciprocal partnership to better serve you and your students

Ultimately, our goal is to jointly leverage our resources to promote A-G completion and UC first-year eligibility in California.

UC SCOUT

While our work with UCSC Admissions is one of our most robust partnerships, we are eager to connect with other organizations and departments, both within UC and throughout the state. Through clear documentation and communication, we hope to use this partnership to not only help UCSC Admissions reach their goals, but also to provide a blueprint for ways we can form other partnerships as well. I encourage you to think about what a partnership with UC Scout might look like for you?

Slide 12

MOU0

@Bea and Maia: feel free to change this to whatever you want! What is your ultimate goal with partnering with UC Scout?

-Adra

Microsoft Office User, 2024-08-15T23:58:28.867

What's next?

Partner with UC Scout

- Increase A-G completion rates
- Support students and teachers with high-quality curricula



Learn more and spread the word

- With your school
- With your district
- With your networks



UC SCOUT

So, what does this mean for all of you? Well first, just like we've created and continue to develop a partnership with UCSC Admissions, we'd love to partner with you to help increase A-G completion rates and support students and teachers with high-quality curricula. If you know of a program, department, school, or other organization that might be interested in partnering with UC Scout, please fill out this form and we'll follow up directly. Remember we can start small, with conversations, and hopefully build up to a more robust partnership.

Next, I encourage you all to continue learning about UC Scout and help us spread the word within your school, your district, and other networks. Know that we are here to support you and your students in whatever capacity we can.

Thank you

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