Seeing is Believing

To truly get a sense of Humboldt State University, you need to come to campus and see it for yourself. Not until you have taken a campus tour, checked out our residence halls, spoken with an Admissions Counselor, sat in on a class, and met with a faculty member can you fully appreciate what sets us apart from other universities and why so many students choose to come to HSU every year!

Where are we located? What’s the area like? Would we be biased if we told you that this part of California is one of the most amazing places on earth? Sure. Then again, when you visit you will see where we’re coming from—spectacular beaches, vibrant cities, and one-of-a-kind natural wonders. Welcome to Humboldt County, home to the world’s tallest trees—old-growth coastal Redwoods that can grow to 300 feet tall and live to be 2,000 years. Redwood National Park is just one of Humboldt County's favorite attractions. The park boasts 37 miles of pristine coastline, a mosaic of diverse habitats, a herd of Roosevelt elk, and unlimited opportunities for hiking, camping, and reconnecting with nature.

The best time to visit the campus is when school is in session. Campus visits can usually be arranged for any weekday or Saturday throughout the year. Since campus visits are tailored to meet the students’ interests, when possible, please contact us a week in advance to allow enough time for us to make appropriate arrangements.

To schedule a campus visit, please contact the Office of Admissions:

Telephone: 866-850-9556 (toll-free) or 707-826-6270 (local)
Monday – Friday, 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
Email: welcome@humboldt.edu
Website: humboldt.edu

The Admissions staff looks forward to seeing you at Humboldt State University!
The Humboldt State Community

Welcome to the Humboldt State Community

As a student at Humboldt State, you’ll probably hear references to the “HSU community”—a phrase used to describe the strong sense of connection among our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Together, they make HSU what it is today: a university that offers high-quality education, fosters diversity, and inspires students to better understand themselves and the world.

This community is focused on helping students to be successful and achieve their academic goals. Our faculty and staff are known for providing students with the personal attention, mentoring, and support they need to thrive and grow. We have developed world-class academic programs that challenge students to think critically and deeply.

Like any group, we are the sum of many parts. HSU is indeed fortunate to include people with different backgrounds and unique perspectives. This diversity enriches our community and strengthens the educational experience here. It helps us understand the value to be found in differences, while offering us opportunities to reflect more deeply on our own cultures and values.

HSU’s community is also strongly influenced by our location in one of the world’s most beautiful and inspiring natural environments. We live and learn among ancient redwood forests, rivers, and pristine coastline. Each day serves as a reminder of the importance of protecting this environment and ecosystems around the world; in this context, our community has a long-standing commitment to both environmental responsibility and social justice. This is reinforced each year at commencement, when many of our graduates take the Humboldt Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility.

Ultimately, you play an important role in making Humboldt a vibrant place to live and learn. During your time as a student, and then as an alumnus or alumna, you will play an ongoing role in shaping a learning community that reaches around the world and stretches back more than a century. On behalf of the University, thank you for being part of this community.
Our Vision

- Humboldt State University will be the campus of choice for individuals who seek above all else to improve the human condition and our environment.
- We will be the premier center for the interdisciplinary study of the environment and its natural resources.
- We will be a regional center for the arts.
- We will be renowned for social and environmental responsibility and action.
- We believe the key to our common future will be the individual citizen who acts in good conscience and engages in informed action.
- We will commit to increasing our diversity of people and perspectives.
- We will be exemplary partners with our communities, including tribal nations.
- We will be stewards of learning to make a positive difference.

Our Mission

Humboldt State University (HSU) is a comprehensive, residential campus of the California State University (CSU). We welcome students from California and the world to our campus. We offer them access to affordable, high-quality education that is responsive to the needs of a fast-changing world. We serve them by providing a wide array of programs and activities that promote understanding of social, economic, and environmental issues. We help individuals prepare to be responsible members of diverse societies.

These programs and the experience of a Humboldt State education serve as a catalyst for life-long learning and personal development. We strive to create an inclusive environment of free inquiry in which learning is the highest priority. In this environment, discovery through research, creative endeavors, and experience energize the educational process.
Welcome To Humboldt

Professors Who Know You by Name

At Humboldt State, you won’t spend four years watching your professor from the back of a massive lecture hall. You’ll know your professors. You’ll know your classmates. You’ll be involved.

Our students graduate with a unique mix of critical thinking skills and real world experience, and it all starts with how we teach. We dedicate ourselves to mentoring students in small classes taught by professors who really get to know them. Students also do more than spend time in a lecture hall and take notes—they get plenty of chances to step outside the classroom, laboratory, or studio, and put what they are learning to use.

HSU students graduate with more than a degree. They leave HSU with the experience that takes them where they want to go in life.

Hands-On Learning Not Just for Graduate Students

Imagine using state-of-the-art technology to peer into the world of quantum physics, looking for clues about the nature of gravity. That’s just one of the research projects that involve undergraduate students in HSU’s Department of Physics & Astronomy.

Getting undergraduates involved in research can make a big difference in their education. And most universities typically reserve this work for graduate students. At HSU, students take part in meaningful research in all academic fields, working closely with dedicated and talented professors.
Learning to Create Greener Communities

Just how efficient can you make a hydrogen fuel cell? And what are the implications for transportation, home energy needs and more? For decades, Humboldt State has been a leader in answering questions like these. Our focus on alternative energy empowers students to create sustainable communities.

Under the guidance of expert faculty, Humboldt State students are engaged in research on solar, biomass, and other alternative energy sources. HSU’s internationally renowned Schatz Energy Research Center has developed hydrogen fuel technology, and the Center’s student researchers operate a hydrogen fueling station on campus. the Waste-Reduction & Resource Awareness Program promotes clean energy technologies, and the Humboldt Energy Independence Fund creates student-driven renewable energy projects on campus. In fact, literally hundreds of classes, clubs, and initiatives at Humboldt State focus on creating a greener, more sustainable future.

Humboldt State’s dedication to the community goes beyond environmental sustainability. HSU students are committed to creating a fair and just society for everyone. That’s one of the reasons why students at HSU created the Graduation Pledge in 1987. The pledge has since been adopted by schools all over the world.

“I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work.”

—HSU Graduation Pledge
Learning That Goes Way Beyond the Classroom

Your education here will include a mix of creative thinking and communication skills, along with hands-on experience and career preparation. You’ll be challenged by new perspectives and will get to know diverse individuals. And whatever your specific area of study, you’ll learn the value of working for positive change in society.

Hands-on experience in cutting edge facilities helps prepare our students for success in careers or acceptance into top graduate schools upon graduation. There are many great facilities available for use by undergraduate students. Here are some highlights:

- **Schatz Energy Research Center**—Home of the country’s first hydrogen powered electric vehicle
- **Biomechanics Lab**—Research and learning facility for analyzing mechanical and neuromuscular characteristics of human motion
- **Humboldt State Herbarium**—The largest in the CSU system with nearly 100,000 specimens
- **Child Development Lab**—A special environment for observing and working directly with children
- **Coral Sea Research Vessel**—The nation’s only research vessel used primarily for undergraduate research
- **Arcata Community Forest**—A living 2,134-acre classroom adjacent to campus
- **Gravitational Research Lab**—Where students explore the boundaries of physics

Our wide range of academic offerings will give you the flexibility to explore your options and find the major that best fits your interests. We also have more than 170 student clubs focused on academics, careers, culture, sports, and lifestyle.

Explore this catalog and take the opportunity to learn more about all that HSU has to offer. Don’t forget to visit The Campus Community, Admission Information, and Academic Regulations sections to get a head start on a successful academic career at Humboldt State.
Accreditation

Humboldt State University is accredited by the organizations listed below. Information regarding accreditation of these programs can be found at the associated departmental offices.

- Western Association of Schools & Colleges
- Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
- Council on Social Work Education
- National Academy of Early Childhood Programs—reporting to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Association of Schools of Art & Design (NASAD)
- National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)
- Society of American Foresters
- Humboldt State has been approved or designated by:
  - California Board of Behavioral Sciences
  - California State Board of Education
  - Department of Veterans Affairs
  - State Board of Forestry (BOF)
  - Student & Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)
  - US Office of Personnel Management (OPM)
What HSU graduates should know and be able to do as a result of their HSU experience

HSU graduates will be prepared to:
- succeed in their chosen careers
- take responsibility for identifying personal goals and practicing lifelong learning
- pursue social justice, promote environmental responsibility, and improve economic conditions in their workplaces and communities

HSU graduates at the baccalaureate level will have demonstrated:
- effective communication through written and oral modes
- critical and creative thinking skills in acquiring a broad base of knowledge and applying it to complex issues
- competence in a major area of study
- appreciation for and understanding of an expanded world perspective by engaging respectfully with a diverse range of individuals, communities, and viewpoints.

HSU graduates at the masters level will be able to:
- elucidate the major theories, research methods and approaches to inquiry and/or schools of practice in the student’s field of study; articulate their sources and illustrate both their application and their relationships to allied fields
- disaggregate, adapt, reformulate and employ principal ideas, techniques or methods at the forefront of their field of study in the context of a written product or project
- provide adequate evidence (through papers, projects, notebooks, computer files or catalogues) of contributing to, expanding, assessing, and/or refining knowledge within their field of study
- create sustained, coherent arguments or explanations and reflections on their work or that of collaborators (if applicable), to both general and specialized audiences
- apply the ethical framework(s) appropriate to their field of study
- employ the tools, concepts, and methods appropriate to their inquiry in a project, paper or performance