Education That Lasts a Lifetime

Winning the 2020 Tax Season

Turn Your DREAM into a Dream Job – 2020 Career Prospects

How One Gamer Leveled Up Her Career with a Coding Boot Camp
Beyond THE 60-YEAR CURRICULUM

The 60-Year Curriculum (60YC) is a concept that is quickly becoming an integral part of higher education and will impact students and alumni in significant ways. I have reported on the 60YC previously in this magazine, but now can report strong advances—both in U.S. universities and at UCI.

The 60YC has become a university imperative that calls for universities to take on a much stronger responsibility for the success of its students after graduation. Universities have an obligation to help and support their graduates throughout a lifetime, especially at times of transition, from school to work, from career to career, and from career to retirement. Recently, I reported UCI’s progress to the Chancellor and his cabinet because he recognizes the importance of what we have been doing and the benefits of the 60YC. Here is a quick summary of that report.

Competition in degree programs for working adults is getting more intense every day. "Mega" universities such as the University of Phoenix and the Southern New Hampshire University have online enrollments above 70,000, demonstrates this competition. As UCI enters this market aggressively with part-time online master’s degrees, it will have to become much more sophisticated in the marketing of these degrees.

The advances in pedagogical research and the goals of higher education call for real world examples and experiences in the traditional classroom. Active learning focuses on teaching methods that are relevant to student life experiences. Over 85 percent of entering freshmen indicate that "gaining a meaningful career" is their top motivation for entering higher education. To be "student-centered," UCI must be relevant to this motivation. The Division of Career Pathways (DCP) is working on providing opportunities for faculty to include career-relevant learning for their students.

Alternative digital credentials (ADCs), sometimes called “badges,” open a new vista to foster the 60YC. By providing an alternative to traditional learning assessment, ADCs allow for shorter, more focused evaluation of individual skills and competencies that are workforce relevant. Not only do ADCs help individuals demonstrate competencies that help them in their careers, they also represent a contribution by the University in its efforts to develop a skilled regional workforce. The DCE and the DCP are deeply involved in the development of a centralized way to provide ADCs to matriculated UCI students as well as for DCE students.

The 60YC guides our efforts and focuses the DCE, DCP, and UCI based on the needs and welfare of people throughout their lives. The 60YC is the University response to the individual need for lifelong learning. The ability to serve our students and our local community is our principle motivator. The DCE and DCP staff finds its inspiration in serving you.

Gary W. Matkin
Dean, Continuing Education
Vice Provost, Career Pathways
Education That Lasts a Lifetime

Instructor Q&A: Mary Nash, Medical Device Marketing

Turn Your Dream into a Dream Job – 2020 Career Prospects

Alumni Spotlight: Minami Hatakeyama, Riding a Wave to a Digital Marketing Career

7 Must-Know Tech Trends for 2020 and Beyond

Alumni Spotlight: Jom Thaipejr, From the Drawing Board to the Esports Arena

Optical Engineering Certificate Program Turns 10

The Social Impacts of Natural Disasters

Certificate Programs

Alumni Spotlight: Cami La Porte, How One Gamer Leveled Up Her Career with a Coding Boot Camp

Winning the 2020 Tax Season

HOW TO enroll

Online: ce.uci.edu

Phone: (949) 824-5414 (Press #1)

Fax: (949) 824-2090 Download enrollment form at ce.uci.edu/enrollmentform

In-person: Student Services Office, Continuing Education Building 3 #234 at Pereira Dr., west of East Peltason Drive on the UCI campus

Mail: UCI Division of Continuing Education Student Services Office PO Box 6050, Irvine, CA 92616-6050 Please allow 7-10 days for your enrollment to be processed.

calendar

SPRING 2020
COURSES BEGIN: MARCH 30

SUMMER 2020
REGISTRATION OPENS: APRIL 24
COURSES BEGIN: JUNE 22
Education that lasts a lifetime

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCI is keeping the Classic Rock generation active, interested and engaged.

Sherri Nussbaum was thinking about leaving her job at Western Digital when she got a mailer from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UCI, an organization devoted to fun and recreational education for active adults. She liked the idea of exploring new skills sets and expanding horizons, studying whatever interested her.

Tired of being stressed at work, Sherri was intrigued and wanted to explore the possibility of devoting some time to OLLI. So she left her 25-year marketing career in 2006, became a dedicated OLLI member and is currently treasurer of the board, taking courses when she’s not helping run the family’s Audible Rush bicycle speaker business.

“One day I get this cool flyer in the mail and it really sparked my interest,” she said. “There were so many classes in the arts, history and literature. It was so exhilarating to see an organization that allows you to explore whatever interests you with no limits. I tried getting my husband Marc involved but he wasn’t so sure at first. It took me a year, but I finally lured him in.”

This happy couple is accustomed to working, and playing, together. Formerly Senior VP Engineering at Western Digital, Marc signed up and never looked back. He’s now curriculum director for STEM programs at OLLI at UCI, as well as the go-to guy when any IT issues arise. He and Sherri — known to friends as the “Make it Happen Chick” — are also on the new marketing committee.

Marc and Sherri see the volunteer-based organization as especially relevant to their generation, an older but vibrant demographic that helped change the world. Who better to reinvent lifelong education?

“I really feel that OLLI represents the future, exploring whatever interests you without worrying about grades and credits— these are the best years of your life. At OLLI you pay one low fee and take as many courses as you like, all you can eat. And OLLI offers lots of day trips and group events. There was a private tour of Dodger Stadium, for instance, that was a lot of fun.”

It’s a great way to pursue your curiosities and get mental exercise, he added. “OLLI offers benefits that go beyond learning. It’s about staying active and involved. It’s incredibly important to stay engaged and curious at any age. People spend too much time on the couch.”

Marc takes about 20 courses a semester, going in-depth on subjects like NASA’s return to the moon, Mars exploration and medicine. Sherri is active with OLLI groups that visit museums and hold wine tastings. She also belongs to a gastronomy group that gets together to sample interesting restaurants.

The group features a unique refugee
chef program in which chefs prepare dishes from their native countries, discuss the culinary scene, and speak on their experiences as refugees.

“We’ve had chefs from Venezuela and Afghanistan talk about their experiences,” Sherri said. “Short day trips also are very popular with OLLI members. We go on food-tasting tours, visit art museums, take walking tours around L.A. to learn about the architecture. We hop on a bus and spend the whole day.”

It’s easy to explore as many topics as their busy schedules allow, without any admission hassles. Classes are easy to digest, short 1-4 session each in subjects spanning the social sciences, arts and science. And although OLLI is aimed at members 50 years and older, with most members 65-plus, they really have no age restrictions.

It’s all part of the “60-year Curriculum” push proposed by Gary Matkin, Dean of UCI Division of Continuing Education — a commitment to learning and growth that lasts a lifetime.

The future of lifelong learning

OLLI at UCI is a burgeoning organization of lifelong learners, mostly retired and semi-retired, dedicated to enhancing their lives through education, forming a community of like-minded individuals. It’s part of a national network of 125 OLLI programs founded 20 years ago by the Bernard Osher Foundation, an attempt to target mature students who had few continuing education options.

It continues to grow and thrive, fed by an aging population that craves activity and engagement. UCI alone has more than 700 members, with overflowing classes drawing a minimum 40 members, sometimes more than 100, covering a wealth of subjects from writing and music to wellness, current events and history. The annual membership fee of $235 ($160 for one semester) gives unlimited access.

The instruction is world-class, drawing from UCI faculty as well as retired instructors and local professionals who are experts in their fields. Having access to UCI professors and resources is one of the factors that makes OLLI at UCI so special, giving it a strong academic identity.

In fact, every OLLI program is somewhat unique, reflecting its school as well as the community, said Robert Smith, president of the board for OLLI at UCI and former Chairman and CEO of The Futures Group International and President and CEO of Global Resources Information Group.

“We’re university-based so our course offerings tend to be more academic,” Smith said. “Some of the other OLLI programs go in a different direction. The OLLI at Long Beach State offers yoga at the beach, for instance. We don’t because the Irvine area has so many social opportunities like that, so we fill a different niche.”

The growth of OLLI at UCI is fueled by two major factors: People are living longer and staying healthier, allowing them to keep an active lifestyle well past retirement, Smith said. And the future looks brighter than ever, with ambitious plans to reach underserved communities.

Classes are held at their conveniently located state-of-the-art classroom near the Irvine Train Station, and parking is free to all members. The only prerequisite is a passion for learning.
Upcoming Free Events:

- **How to Help Your Clients Maximize Health Savings Account’s Benefits**
  Wednesday, January 29, 12-12:45pm (PST)

- **Live-Online GRE Strategy Workshop**
  Thursday, January 30, 6-7pm (PST)
  Thursday, February 27, 10-11am (PST)
  Tuesday, March 3, 6-7pm (PST)

- **Gen Z: Counseling and Educating a Different Generation**
  Wednesday, February 5, 11am-12pm (PST)

- **Scaling “agiLE”: Agile in the Large Enterprise**
  Thursday, February 6, 11am-12pm (PST)

- **Live-Online GMAT Strategy Workshop**
  Wednesday, February 12, 6-7pm (PST)

- **Live-Online LSAT Strategy Workshop**
  Thursday, February 13, 6-7pm (PST)

- **Energy Leadership: How to Create and Sustain an Anabolic Spa Culture**
  Monday, February 24, 11am-12pm (PST)

- **Wealth That Lasts Information Session**
  Thursday, March 5, 6-7pm, UCI Campus

- **Clinical Trials Information Session**
  Wednesday, March 11, 12-1pm (PST)

- **High School Summer Institute in Law Information Session Webinar**
  Tuesday, March 17, 12-12:45pm (PST)

- **Converting an ILT to an E-Learning Course**
  Wednesday, March 18, 11am-12pm (PST)

- **Facilities Management Information Session**
  Wednesday, March 18, 12-1pm (PST)

- **Paralegal Career and Program Information Session**
  Wednesday, March 18, 6-7pm, UCI Campus

- **EUR Information Session**
  Tuesday, March 24, 4-4:45pm

- **High School Summer Institute in Law Open House**
  Thursday, May 14, 5:30-6:30pm (PST), UCI Campus

*Sign up at ce.uci.edu/events*
UCI Division of Continuing Education partners with a number of universities to provide you a “next step” on your educational pathway. We have articulation agreements with the universities listed. These schools accept coursework from select UCI Division of Continuing Education certificate programs as credit toward specific degree programs.

Learn more at [ce.uci.edu/transfer](http://ce.uci.edu/transfer).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>University and Degree Program</th>
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</thead>
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| Clinical Trials: Medical Device and Drug Development | Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) Of Applied Life Science’s: Part-Time Master of Bioscience (MBS) Program  
Northeastern University, Master of Science in Regulatory Affairs for Drugs, Biologics, and Medical Devices OR Master of Science in Project Management |
| Contract Management | Concord Law School at Purdue University Global, Executive Juris Doctor (EJD) |
| Embedded Systems Engineering | University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Master of Science in Engineering |
| Medical Device Development | Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) Of Applied Life Science’s: Part-Time Master of Bioscience (MBS) Program  
Northeastern University, Master of Science in Regulatory Affairs for Drugs, Biologics, and Medical Devices OR Master of Science in Project Management  
University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Master of Science in Engineering |
| Organizational Leadership and Communication | University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Master of Science in Organizational Change Leadership |
| Paralegal | Concord Law School at Purdue University Global, Executive Juris Doctor (EJD) |
| Personal Financial Planning | Cal Lutheran-California Institute of Finance, Master in Business Administration |
| Project Management | University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Master of Science in Project Management |
| Regulatory Affairs and Compliance | Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) Of Applied Life Science’s: Part-Time Master of Bioscience (MBS) Program  
Northeastern University, Master of Science in Regulatory Affairs for Drugs, Biologics, and Medical Devices OR Master of Science in Project Management |
| Supply Chain Management | University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Master of Science in Integrated Supply Chain Management |
2020 Career Prospects

Looking to leave your job behind for something more rewarding or maybe start your career journey on the right path? Going into 2020 with a clear vision of your best long-term options can be a big advantage, whether that means switching it up in your company or striking out in an entirely new direction.

But don’t take the plunge until you’ve done your due diligence and researched the best career and education options available. The right preparation can make all the difference, turning dreams into a dream job — and UCI Division of Continuing Education (DCE) can help every step of the way, with a wide range of certificate programs that target the hottest occupations of 2020 and beyond.

It’s an opportune time for anyone with a bachelor’s degree to consider gaining a competitive edge through continuing education. The U.S. employment outlook is exceptionally bright and many of the most in-demand jobs are also among the most lucrative.

Let’s look at the 10 fastest-growing U.S. occupations and the UCI DCE programs that can put you on the track to success. Projected 2019-29 job growth is indicated by percentage and provided by Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI).

#1 Software Developers (25%)

This field is positively booming, with more than 3 million software developers currently employed in the U.S. Consider that Apple’s App Store accounted for nearly 26 billion downloads in 2017 alone, bringing in $77 billion in revenue. UCI DCE offers several Technology programs such as machine and deep learning, full stack web development, Java, Python, mobile application development, and more. There is also a Coding Boot Camp offered on the UCI campus, available as part-time and full-time options.

#2 Market Research Analysts (20%)

The Digital Marketing & Communications program provides cutting-edge training for those seeking to enter this fast-evolving field. Advances in technology such as artificial intelligence and virtual reality are opening new worlds of possibilities for digital marketing professionals, and this program prepares candidates for the future with hands-on experience, creating a practical basis for crafting marketing strategy and building campaigns on multiple platforms. The program is intended for marketing, communication, and product management specialists who want to update their skill sets and lead strategic marketing planning. In addition, market research analysts evaluate and research market conditions. The Data Science certificate program is designed for professionals in a variety of industries and job functions who are looking to help their organization understand and leverage the massive amounts of diverse data they collect.

#3 Financial Managers (16%)

Looking to get into the lucrative field of finance? The Personal Financial Planning certificate program can launch current professionals as well as recent college graduates onto the path to becoming a Certified Financial Planners (CFP)

The program is designed for a range of candidates in the world of finance, including bankers and accountants — any professional who wants to become a Personal Financial Planner. The 15- to 26-month program, mixing on-campus and online instruction, is registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc., the certifying body for this discipline. Upon completion, the student satisfies the educational requirements to sit for the CFP exam. Annual salary ranges up to $163,000.

#4 Registered Nurses (13%)

There is a plethora of RN programs to choose from, but current RNs can make themselves even more marketable by expanding their skill set through DCE’s Healthcare Analytics and Lean Healthcare programs. Lean thinking and methodology are increasingly utilized in the healthcare industry to identify and streamline factors that waste time, money and supplies. And Healthcare Analytics takes a deep
dive into health informatics, providing the research and analytical skills needed to collect, organize and visualize data to improve patient outcomes, lower costs and optimize business operations.

#5 Management Analysts (12%)
This key role can take on different titles in various organizations, but the responsibilities and core skills are the same — gathering and analyzing data and serving as liaison between multiple departments. DCE’s Business Analyst certificate aims to enhance a student’s knowledge and background while opening new doors for professionals in business as well as IT, any candidate who can analyze data to improve value and streamline functions. This program aligns with industry standards set forth by the Project Management Institute and International Institute of Business Analysis and prepares students to sit for PMI® and IIBA® certification exams.

#6 General and Operations Managers (10%)
DCE’s Business Administration certificate program provides a solid background for success in any managerial role. Courses cover a range of areas, from finance and digital marketing to communication, leadership, and modern business writing. The Organizational Leadership & Communication program is designed to cultivate managerial potential and equip candidates with the skills, insight and passion needed to lead and inspire team members. DCE also offers short on-campus business leadership courses.

#7 Accountants and Auditors (10%)
Accountants are always solidly in demand, even when the economy dips. More than 1.3 million of them are currently employed in the U.S. with an annual salary that can range up to $92,000. The Applied Accounting certificate program can lead to career success for financial professionals who want to satisfy educational requirements for the Uniform Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Examination without pursuing an advanced degree. It’s also a great entry point for anyone with a bachelor’s degree who’s looking to become an accountant, a career that can be applied across a wide range of organizations and industries.

#8 Business Operations Specialists (9%)
A Supply Chain Management online certificate can provide a competitive edge for candidates working to create greater operational efficiencies within an organization — analysts, supervisors, directors and executives — any professional responsible for managing or working in a supply chain. This 6- to 12-month online program recognizes that today’s supply chain management isn’t just a process for reducing costs and enhancing efficiencies, it also involves alignment of end-to-end business processes, creating a collaborative relationship among suppliers and customers for greater value and mutual gain.

#9-10 Elementary & Secondary School Teachers (7%)
The need for qualified teachers will continue to grow, and so too will their responsibilities to keep up with a changing student body and educational system. Ranking #9 and #10 respectively on the list, elementary and secondary teachers benefit from continuing their education as a way to burnish their credentials and prepare for advancement. DCE’s teacher education programs are perfectly aligned with those needs. Take the online Gifted & Talented Education (GATE) program for example. This highly popular program is designed for those who want to gain a deeper understanding of teaching to this challenging and diverse group of students. The Reading program helps teachers become literacy leaders in their classroom, while satisfying federal, state and local regulations that mandate all students receive proper reading instruction. There are also California Commission on Teacher Credentialing-approved offerings for those seeking to advance to administrative positions within their school or district, and the TESOL and TEFL programs prepare career changers to teach English to speakers of foreign languages both here and abroad.

Whether you are pursuing one of these growing fields, or simply want to become more proficient in your current one, make UCI Division of Continuing Education your destination for professional and career development in 2020 and beyond.

- Visit ce.uci.edu/certificates to view all offerings.
Mary Nash
Medical Device Marketing Instructor

Mary has over 20 years of medical device marketing leadership, product management, and product launch experience. She has worked for large global companies such as Medtronic and Covidien. She was most recently Sr. Vice President, Marketing for DenMat Holdings, a dental products manufacturer. Mary recently launched her own marketing consulting business to assist medical device businesses in reaching their goals. Her employment and engagement in the industry enables her to provide guidance, advice, and resources to those interested in learning more about medical device marketing.

Q. Why did you decide to become an instructor?
A. I had a wonderful experience obtaining both my B.A. in Psychology and my MBA from UCI. I have always had an interest in sharing the knowledge that I’ve gained through my years of experience in the business world and have greatly enjoyed the mentoring and development opportunities I’ve had as a manager. The opportunity to teach what I’ve learned to interested students at UCI is the perfect opportunity to bring together all of these things.

Q. What’s unique about your teaching style?
A. In continuing education, students have a variety of differing objectives. I try to understand these up front and teach with the perspective in mind of what each student is trying to achieve in his or her career. I speak to the class as a whole, but also customize discussion responses to the individual student. We typically have such a varied group and everyone brings different strengths to the course. I encourage and facilitate dialogue between students because that is where some of the best learning takes place.

Q. What’s your favorite lesson to teach and why?
A. I really enjoy teaching the core of marketing, which is positioning and messaging. It is much more difficult than most people think to develop a strong, unique position in the customer’s mind. If you get this right, every other strategy and tactic falls into place.

Q. What do you find most rewarding about being an instructor?
A. It’s very rewarding when I’m able to help a student to understand a new concept and I see their growth throughout the course.

“I encourage and facilitate dialogue between students because that is where some of the best learning takes place.”
By enrolling in Concurrent Enrollment, you can take advantage of over 5,000 UCI undergraduate and graduate courses without formal admission to the university, based on available space and permission of the course instructor and/or department. Courses carry university credit, may count toward a degree, and are taught by distinguished UCI faculty. Registration in Concurrent Enrollment does not constitute admission to UCI.

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• lifelong learners

When are Concurrent Enrollment classes offered?
Concurrent Enrollment is offered during the fall, winter, and spring academic quarters.

How many classes can I take?
You may enroll in a maximum of 2 courses not to exceed 8 units per quarter. Students intending to transfer course credit to another college or university should first verify acceptance of the course at that institution.

How do I obtain a UCI catalogue or schedule of classes?
Course descriptions are listed in the UCI General Catalogue, online at catalogue.uci.edu. The schedule of classes can be viewed online at websoc.reg.uci.edu.

• ce.uci.edu/concurrent
Cami La Porte’s career was the stuff most kids dream of.

She got her start as a streaming gamer and freelance video producer and quickly moved on to work for top-tier gaming companies like Blizzard Entertainment.

But despite working in a field she loved, Cami wasn’t completely satisfied.

“I was in love with my job as a game producer and project manager supporting character artists that made in-game skins. I’m a pretty huge gamer,” Cami said. “The only problem is that I never actually touched the products I was launching because I didn’t have the coding background.”

More than anything, Cami wanted to understand the code behind the games. That meant a radical career pivot—and a return to the classroom.

“Tired of feeling stuck on the sidelines,” she said. “I wanted to take pride in actually watching my code get deployed. That’s a feeling I could never get as a producer.”

A challenge turns into an opportunity

Unfortunately for Cami, her career shift began under less-than-ideal circumstances.

“I had to leave work for health reasons,” she said. “To be honest, I thought my career was over. I kept getting endless bad news after each surgery.”

Cami took some time away from her career to focus on her health. While it was a struggle, her time off came with a silver lining.

“I was at a point in my life where I began to reflect and think about what I wanted while I was recovering. The idea of going back to school started as a way to keep me from being depressed,” Cami said.

Cami took as many free online coding classes as she could find, but after a while, she realized she needed more formal training to make any serious career changes. Her early gaming and streaming success, however, meant that Cami didn’t have the same educational background as many of her peers.

“I didn’t go to college. I love to learn but it wasn’t my path before,” said Cami. “I was 18 when I got my first job and I’ve always worked with people who have degrees and technical experience. I always felt either underpaid or behind.”

At age 30, she didn’t want to take four years out of an already successful career. That’s when she found The Coding Boot Camp at UCI.

“I did a ton of research before signing up for the UCI coding boot camp, and the thing that sold me on the program was their extensive career support path,” Cami said. “I was coming from a freelance background, so getting me to be employer competitive was vital.”
Back in the game
Cami enrolled in UCI’s full-time, 12-week coding boot camp to upgrade her skills and get back to work as quickly as possible. Initially, though, she was concerned about her lack of coding experience.

“I’d been a managing producer and content creator, but I was nervous about my inexperience with actual code,” Cami said. “I wasn’t one of the people in class that just got things right away, but once I worked it enough, concepts started coming quicker.”

Despite her fears, Cami found that support from her teachers, TAs, and classmates helped her succeed.

“I took for granted how valuable it is to have teachers and faculty invested in your success,” she said. “I loved being in an educational setting. I never had that when I was younger.”

Cami had to put in a lot of time and hard work to stay on track, but she knew it would be worth it in the end.

“The full-time boot camp is a really fast course. You learn something then move on, which meant I had to practice on my own time,” said Cami. “I’d show up at 7 a.m. and study or do homework. If I’d just done the four-hour classes and then gone home I wouldn’t have gotten where I am.”

In fact, Cami’s hard work paid off before she even finished the course.

“My teacher actually recommended me for my current position as a back-end software engineer role at TensorIoT. He noticed my hard work and asked if I was interested in the job,” Cami said. “I’d been looking for a new job for months before the boot camp. I went to school and got one before I even graduated!”

Career power up
Cami’s coursework proved instrumental to landing her new job because it focused on using real-world data to build projects that solve actual problems.

“For our very first project we used NASA and SpaceX APIs to build a website that featured things like a photo of space every day and the current position of the ISS,” Cami said. “It was so easy to build because we loved the idea, but it was also a preview of what it would be like to work in a field where you’re passionate about your product.”

That passion continues to drive Cami to learn challenging but rewarding new concepts and skills, even after graduation.

“I need to get AWS certified for my new job, but I’m excited about it,” Cami said. “In the past, I’d take my time with stuff, but the boot camp really pushes you through new concepts in a matter of hours. I’m able to absorb difficult concepts more quickly now and break them down into something I can understand and use.”

A new way to play
Her health on track and her career revitalized, Cami feels there’s no limit to what she can now achieve.

“This opportunity has opened so many doors for me, when I believed there was nothing left to open,” she said. “I feel like I can do stuff now. I have the courage to try really difficult things and expect more from myself.”

Cami has big plans for the future.

“In five years, I’d like to be developing my own app,” Cami said. “One single guy designed and built my favorite game of all time. One guy. He’s my hero, and I’d like to do something like that.”

For anyone on the fence about enrolling in a boot camp, Cami has one piece of wisdom to share.

“You’re worth getting an education,” she said. “Wherever you come from, or how dumb you think you are, you deserve a chance to learn something that you love and a chance to do something that you want to learn. Grab the bull by the horns. Ask questions. The UCI boot camp gave me all the tools I needed to make this happen. This course is for you.”

Ready to level up your career? Explore Trilogy-powered boot camps in coding, data analytics, cybersecurity, or UX/UI design at ce.uci.edu/bootcamps.
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Learn More:
Jennifer Bague-Sampson
Program Administrator/ Premedical Advisor premedpb@uci.edu
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Dr. Joanne Zinger
Program Director
(951) 662-3735
ps.soceco.uci.edu/content/post-baccalaureate-program

POST-BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS
Visit the program pages to learn about admission requirements, curriculum, and application deadlines.
DCE alumna Minami Hatakeyama was a professional bodyboarding champion in Japan before coming to UCI for a fresh start.

You might say Minami Hatakeyama has saltwater running through her veins. The daughter of avid surfers, she spent every weekend at the beach when she was growing up, hitting the waves herself and taking up bodyboarding when she was 11. She turned out to be a prodigy, tackling massive swells with grace and aggression, cartwheeling through white-water tubes.

Just a few years later she became certified as a professional by the Japan Professional Bodyboard Association, competing at the highest level of the sport, winning prestigious events and placing consistent top-three finishes on the JPBA Tour.

A quick look at her performance in the 2012 IBA Pipe Challenge on YouTube shows Minami at her peak, clutching her bodyboard, soaring and skipping over towering walls of water.

“The JPBA operates the highest professional and amateur tour,” said the 24-year-old DCE student. “It’s the only organization that has jurisdiction over certified professional bodyboarders in the country. After I graduated high school, I worked as a bodyboarding instructor for three years while also participating in competitions. Then I switched my job to save money for my future study abroad, and I retired as an athlete.”

Minami left the sport at the top of her game to study marketing, aspiring to a more sustainable, long-term career. To raise money, she took a job as a dental assistant, serving an international clientele that included many English-speaking clients.

The experience was a revelation. It convinced her that learning English would be a big advantage in her future endeavors. Minami wanted a career in international marketing, and she decided that enrolling in UCI Division of Continuing Education’s Accelerated Certificate Program in Digital Marketing & Communications (ACP DMC) was her best path to success.

“When I was a dental assistant, I met a lot of patients from around the world,” Minami said. “My experience as a professional bodyboarder and the international travel it involved also gave me opportunities to meet and communicate with a lot of different people. It allowed me to value the importance of speaking English. That’s the main reason why I wanted to go to UCI, to study digital marketing and improve my English.”

Bright and engaging — and eager to practice her developing English skills — Minami found time to field questions about her journey, a ride that swept her all the way from Japan to Irvine.

Let’s start at the beginning. Where did you live before coming to America? And what led you to move here?

I lived in Japan’s Chiba Prefecture for two years before I moved to Irvine. The main reason I chose California is the nice climate and beaches. There are so many famous beaches in Southern California, and I love being at the beach. It was also a good opportunity to learn English.

Tell me about your career as a bodyboarder.

As you know, I started bodyboarding when I was just 11 years old. Shortly after that I started competitive bodyboarding, and I won an amateur title when I was 13. Not long after that, when I was 15, I got certified as a professional

“Our instructors were very knowledgeable and motivated. They’ve taught me so much about marketing and communications!”
After all the success, why did you leave the sport and decide to get into marketing?

Nowadays, professional bodyboarding is in a state of decline, so it was difficult to earn money. I was really in love with being a bodyboarder, but I decided I needed to change my career to something more promising. When a friend of mine told me about an internship he was taking practicing digital marketing, it sounded really interesting, so I decided to take a course and explore a career in digital marketing.

Why did you choose UCI Division of Continuing Education?

Before I enrolled at UCI, I was taking an English class at a local school, and I met someone who was in the ACP Digital Marketing & Communications program at UCI. He told me all about it, and it sounded like it was what I was looking for. At that time, I was looking for a school that provided a marketing program related to business, so I decided it was just right for me.

Tell me about your experience taking the certificate program. What was your favorite part?

I loved it all. My favorite part was that everyone was so motivated and helpful with each other. Also, there was a hands-on project where I had to promote a skincare product, create a marketing program and design a poster to go with it. Our instructors were very knowledgeable and motivated. They’ve taught me so much about marketing and communications!

I understand you’re currently serving an internship.

I’m working as a Campaign Marketer at a local company, Immerse, that provides Virtual Reality platforms for language curriculum. Right now, I’m developing an outbound marketing strategy and business development strategy translating thought-leading content, researching various marketing channels to expand brand awareness, and related tasks. I really enjoy the job and I’m excited to learn about real-world digital marketing. It’s great preparation because I’m planning to go back to Japan and find a job in marketing.

There are so many great beaches in Orange County. Do you still go bodyboarding for fun?

I still go bodyboarding for fun! I also love to go swimming in my spare time.

ip.ce.uci.edu/dmc
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“I came in wanting to learn how to better create my presentations, and left with not only that but also a different perspective on how to view myself while I present.”

–Michael Kim, Edward Lifesciences

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Embedded systems range from microprocessor-based control systems to system-on-chip (SoC) design and device software development. Examples can be found in consumer electronics, medical devices, and commercial and military applications. The explosion of the Internet-of-Things (IoT) has multiplied the need for embedded system designers and programmers.

Understand embedded systems engineering as a synergistic function between hardware, firmware and software device design and development. Learn the essential concepts of development through a practical, hands-on approach utilizing industry design automation (EDA) tools and design kits.

This program is designed for working professionals who are interested in transitioning into the embedded systems/system-on-chip (SoC) industry, including hardware/software engineers; computer engineers; communications and networking engineers; control systems engineers; and other technical professionals involved in embedded systems design and development.

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- Writing Portable Device Drivers
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- C Programming for Embedded Systems
- FPGA Design and Implementation
- Fundamentals of Embedded Systems
- Real-Time Embedded Systems Programming
- Applied Control Theory for Embedded Systems
- Fundamentals of Embedded Linux

**OCCUPATIONAL SUMMARY FOR COMPUTER HARDWARE ENGINEERS IN THE U.S.**

- **72,301** JOBS (2019)
- **6.5%** PROJECTED GROWTH (2019-2029)
- **$88k-$147k** ANNUAL SALARY (25TH-75TH PERCENTILE)

SOURCE: Economic Modeling Specialists International (Emsi)

[ce.uci.edu/embedded]
College Ready

Summer Programs for High School Students

UCI faculty and industry experts provide high school students the opportunity of hands-on learning to advance academic and professional skills in a variety of interests. These programs provide students a great way to gain a college experience, enhance their college resumé, and explore an area of study.
High School Summer Institute in Law
July 23 – 31, 2020
Offered at UCI School of Law, students are introduced to the legal system in the context of students’ rights while they gain practice in public speaking, persuasion, negotiation and legal analysis. Personal interaction with faculty and law students not only engage and inspire participants in the study of law, but also help them explore a possible career as a lawyer.

- For high school juniors and seniors
- Scholarships available

ce.uci.edu/hslaw

Experience University Research
July 12 – 25, 2020
August 2 – 22, 2020
This program allows students to take college-level courses alongside local and international peers. Choose from hands-on courses in some of UCI’s most popular academic areas of study, including Engineering, Business, Environmental Policy, Finance, Writing, Esports, Machine Learning and more.

- For high school students ages 15 and up

ip.ce.uci.edu/eurLOCAL
Prospective investors say we’re on the cusp of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, a term coined by Klaus Schwab, chairman of the World Economic Forum, in his 2016 book of the same name. It’s an era when fast-evolving tech is transforming virtually every aspect of our lives, creating massive disruption as well as opportunity — and businesses are investing heavily to be on the front lines.

Far beyond the Computer Age, this new era is taking digital into an exciting new future of possibilities, from smart robots to autonomous air taxis, personalized medicine and more. Think of how, just 10 years ago, using voice commands to search for a movie to stream on Netflix or Amazon Prime would have seemed positively Jetsons.

Now imagine what might come next. A look at emerging new technologies can give us a preview of things to come, and 2020 looks to be a significant year in the evolution.

“The overall direction is called digital transformation, all of these existing trends coming together and being properly integrated because of cloud technology,” said Hally Gruber, Technology Programs Developer at UCI. “Newer tech trends like 5G networks, blockchain and Internet of Things are becoming more sophisticated, and at the same time becoming more widely integrated in the cloud, working together to do things never before possible.”

Digital transformation has been anticipated for decades, Gruber said. “But now it’s all finally happening, and it’s super exciting.”

For those who have the right preparation and knowledge, it can be a time of tremendous opportunity. With that in mind, here are seven top tech trends of 2020 and beyond, in no particular order.

**Widespread 5G**

Arguably the most anticipated new trend, 5G data networks promise lightning-fast Internet speed and massive bandwidth from cellular networks, which will have far-reaching impact for smart vehicles, delivery drones and much more. Simply put, 5G networks allow exceedingly rapid communication between devices, speeding the evolution of autonomous commerce and travel. But most of us will covet 5G for personal applications like easier streaming, higher quality movies and music, as well as Internet that’s faster than home
Digital transformation has been anticipated for decades. But now it’s all finally happening, and it’s super exciting.”

—Hally Gruber, Technology Programs Developer, UCI DCE

Digital transformation has been anticipated for decades. But now it’s all finally happening, and it’s super exciting.”

—Hally Gruber, Technology Programs Developer, UCI DCE

Wi-fi. Consumer 5G was rolled out in 2019 but looks to become far more mainstream in 2020.

Blockchain
Most everyone has heard about blockchain, mostly as it relates to Bitcoin cryptocurrency, but what is it really? Think of it as sort of digital, public ledger that maintains a permanent, definitive record of encrypted and validated transactions across multiple computers. Data history is easily verifiable, making it a promising nascent technology for many businesses. Might not sound too exciting, but big players such as IBM, Facebook and Mastercard are betting heavily on it. And if Facebook’s proposed Libra cryptocurrency sees light of day, that could give blockchain a huge boost in 2020 and beyond.

Autonomous technology
Manufacturers have been working to perfect autonomous vehicles for years, and although we can’t expect to routinely see self-driving sedans cruising the freeways any time soon, 2020 looks to be a big year for increased use of autonomous trucking and shipping. The trend could extend to delivery drones, air taxis, home appliances and smart robots, as well. Amazon has been perfecting auto-delivery drones for years; Uber is developing its Elevate air-taxi commuter drones, and Tesla chief Elon Musk recently said that his company plans to unveil a completely autonomous Tesla model sometime soon.

Artificial Intelligence services
AI and Machine Learning are among the most impactful and transformative new technologies of the new era, and businesses will increasingly turn to them to improve their own operations, customer experience, and marketing endeavors along the way. But adopting your own AI remains an unwieldy and hugely expensive proposition, leading to the rise of AI service providers. Currently the outsourcing is being taken care of by tech giants such as Google and Amazon, but experts predict exponential growth in smaller AI services that can provide businesses with custom algorithms crafted for each operation.

Customized medicine
Rampant advanced in technology, especially in the form of AI and genomics, are transforming how healthcare is being delivered in myriad ways. Wearable devices that can track and capture patient data are providing more precise diagnoses, often leading to effective and targeted treatments before any symptoms are experienced. Medicine will become far more personalized, crafted according to a wealth of new data, provided through genetic analysis and predictive AI algorithms that will streamline healthcare and, ideally, lower the cost. Training in healthcare analytics can be a golden ticket in this field.

Shopping without cards or cash
Someday soon, the humble ATM card might seem a quaint anachronism, and cash a soiled relic of the past. After all, people are accustomed to shopping on their mobile devices, so paying for products in real life with virtual currency is a logical next step. For now, tech trends like QR codes and facial recognition payment are mostly confined to China, but they’re slowly migrating west. Look for Google Wallet and Apple Pay to become more widely accepted in 2020 and beyond, providing more convenience for consumers while increasing concerns over identity protection, creating potential opportunities for cybersecurity experts.

Prescriptive analytics
Might not be as sexy as, say, 5G or AI, but it can form a solid foundation for a long career as a data analyst. Those armed with a strong background in data science will be well-positioned to capitalize on the rise of prescriptive analytics — the logical extension of descriptive and predictive applications. This tech trend takes all the data in question and delivers solutions of how best to capitalize on the results of the first two applications. Already becoming established in the healthcare industry, many experts believe predictive analytics will begin edging into other fields, as well.

Interested in launching a new career in the tech world? UCI Division of Continuing Education offers a number of cutting-edge technology certificate programs that can position you for success in 2020 and well beyond.

To view all available technology certificates and specialized studies programs, visit ce.uci.edu/tech.

ce.uci.edu/tech
Breaking a long family tradition, Jom Thaipejr left civil engineering behind for a career in esports.

His father and grandfather both notable civil engineers, Jom Thaipejr had a plan for his life mapped out from an early age. It was always assumed that he would follow their footsteps and carry on the family tradition.

Jom never really questioned it. He graduated from Cal Baptist University, and then launched his professional career at AECOM, a global giant in infrastructure design. His work ethic and determination positioned him for a successful career there, until one day Jom realized he had to make a change. Engineering wasn’t sparking his passion for work.

“It was just understood that I’d become a civil engineer,” Jom said. “For example, my dad would take me to construction sites when I was a kid and say things like, ‘Someday you’ll be building a bridge just like that one.’ I never questioned it. But every morning I’d have to push myself to do the work, and I wanted to work on something that excited me.”

So on the advice of a friend, he enrolled in the Division of Continuing Education’s Esports Management specialized studies program. Soon after, he landed a position with iBUYPOWER, a leading custom gaming-computer company, where he works as a marketing content specialist, event planner, and on partnership activations. One of his duties is to organize large esports events — something he loves every minute of.

“It stems from when I was in high school and took a multimedia class,” he said. “That was right about when YouTube started getting really popular. My teacher saw potential in me, and it was something that I liked and was passionate about. That’s how I wanted to feel about my career.”

Armed with his DCE education, Jom found an exciting new life in esports, but he’s still close with his old crew at AECOM. In fact, on a day he set aside to visit former coworkers, Jom found time to chat with us about his journey, and the family tradition that was so hard to break.

**Having been groomed to carry on a family tradition must have made your career change especially tough. How did your parents take it?**

Well, I put off telling them as long as I could, but I had already been hired at my new company and I knew I had to break the news. I waited until after we had dinner, and somehow my mother knew something was up. She was mostly okay with it, but my father was livid. After all the schooling and studying, he couldn’t understand why I’d leave engineering, something that I was clearly good at, for a job in esports.

**What sort of work were you doing at AECOM?**

A lot of my work involved aviation and airport design — Oakland International, John Wayne, San Diego International and others — mostly around civil and electrical design for runways and taxiways. It was a great job. AECOM is the very best, like the Google in its field, and it’s almost impossible to break into. People couldn’t understand why I’d leave, but every day I woke up mentally exhausted.

**“One of the things that impressed me most is that the instructors are all professionals from big tech companies like Twitch, Activision and Blizzard. They provide great insight into all the aspects of esports...”**

**Was there a turning point or moment’s revelation that made you realize you needed a change?**

It was mostly all the retirement parties I attended, seeing these engineers who were so passionate about their career and able to work in the company for over 20 years. I wanted to be that passionate too, but I didn’t see engineering to be that field for me.

**What made you decide to get into the esports business?**

I discovered multimedia and filmmaking when I was in high school. I didn’t realize it would be something I’d like, or had
talent for, but I had to take an art class to fulfill a graduation requirement. When I decided to find a career that I was excited about, I knew it had to be something along those lines. At first, I thought of applying to work at YouTube, but that company is so impacted it’s impossible to find an opening. Then a friend of mine at UCI mentioned their esports courses, and I thought, ‘Is that really a thing?’ (laughs) But I found out it’s this massive industry that has so many opportunities in so many different areas.

Tell me about the Esports Management program. How did it help open doors for you?

One of the things that impressed me most is that the instructors are all professionals from big tech companies like Twitch, Activision and Blizzard. They provide great insight into all the aspects of esports, which is a huge, fast-growing industry. They’re very helpful even when the program is over, and they have so many networking connections. One of my classmates found out I wanted a job at iBUYPOWER, and they offered to help push my resume through their network. Thanks to them, I finally got a call for an interview after waiting months.

How did the interview go?

Well, I almost blew it. (laughs) The manager called and asked when I’d be available and I blurted out Tuesday, meaning Tuesday the following week. I totally forgot this was Monday, so he said, ‘Great, see you tomorrow.’ I was so nervous I was sweating. I walked in and there sat the department manager and the VP. The VP looks at my resume and says, ‘You’ve only had experience as a civil engineer?’ Well, yeah. So I asked, ‘You need me to build anything?’ (laughs)

Was it a tough transition from engineering?

Actually, my engineering skills give me an advantage. It takes a lot of planning and organizing to produce something large or small, whether that’s a college tournament or a meet-and-greet with professional esports athletes at an event like TwitchCon in San Diego. So it’s similar to designing a runway lighting system or any engineering project, in a way. My background illustrated that if I was passionate enough about something and determined to do whatever it took to make it work, that I could go ahead and take the leap! You never know how your old skill sets might help you succeed. I’m proof of that.

How does your father feel about your career now?

He’s fine with it and happy that I found a job I’m passionate about. I took my parents to a recent iBUYPOWER event and he was really impressed. He told me how proud he was. That meant a lot to me.

Learn more at ce.uci.edu/esports
UCI DCE instructors and advisory committee members were honored for their exceptional efforts in support of continuing education at the 20th Annual Instructor and Advisory Committee Member Appreciation Breakfast held on November 22, 2019. Special awards were presented in two categories: Dean’s Outstanding Service Award and Distinguished Instructor Award.

**Dean’s Outstanding Service Award**
Recognizes outstanding individuals for their contributions to UCI DCE.

- **Atahan Isik** has had a dramatic impact on students in the Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship Accelerated Certificate Program. He provides extraordinary assistance to students throughout their course of study, expands student thinking about entrepreneurial careers through guest speakers and field trips, and provides creative programming concepts, such as Zero Gravity, that contribute to DCE’s evolving portfolio of educational offerings.

- **Nicole Quinn** is the original developer for the Esports Project Management: Live Events course. Nicole created a fun yet challenging and informative course with her amazing experiences at Blizzard Entertainment. Her students have always given her rave reviews stating how passionate and
knowledgeable she is in this field. Nicole happily mentors her students and helps them achieve their goals. She provides her students with the tools and meaningful connections they need in order to continue their young Esports careers. Students love Nicole so much that they want an additional course with her.

• **Kai Williamson** has been a major contributor to the success of the Paralegal program for more than 10 years. She has served as an instructor in a variety of courses, including Fundamentals of the Paralegal Profession, Corporate Law, Legal Career Skills, and Business Law. In addition, Kai has been a part of the program’s advisory committee and is a frequent sounding board as we contemplate ways to improve the program. Beyond her duties as an instructor and advisor, Kai has consistently found employment opportunities for our students.

**Distinguished Instructor Award**

Honors the contributions of instructors who have helped UCI DCE remain at the forefront of continuing education and have provided students with the skills needed to advance their careers in today’s rapidly changing business climate.

- **Ellen Callen**, Digital Marketing & Communications
- **Ray Estrada**, Culinary Arts
- **Ryan Hook**, Personal Financial Planning
- **Dena M. Kelber**, Business Analysis and Project Management
- **Susan Lee**, Meeting and Event Management
- **Keith McCormick**, Data Science
- **David Nakashima**, International Tourism and Hotel Management
- **Helen Nam**, English as a Second Language
- **Katherine St. Martin**, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance
Tax deadline is fast approaching, one of only two certainties we face in life — and only slightly the least dreadful of the pair, some would argue. Time to drag out expense records and pay stubs, W-2s and 1099s, and hunker down with a calculator to find out how much we’re getting back, with luck, or the amount we owe to the IRS.

Regardless, it can be a stressful chore, but doing your homework beforehand can help save money and prevent costly pitfalls. And with the tax code recently being overhauled, it can be especially confusing, said Ryan Bourque, accounting instructor for the Division of Continuing Education and principal at Bourque & Associates, CPAs and Business Advisors, headquartered in Irvine.

“The most important thing is to be aware of the changes brought on by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) that was passed in 2017,” he said. “Not only did it shift tax brackets and withholding rates, it also made big changes to some previous deductions and credits. Everyone who files taxes needs to be aware of the new rules. It can be confusing, but if you’re prepared and know what you’re doing, you can avoid mistakes, reduce your tax liability or maximize your refund.”

With that in mind, Bourque offers several valuable tips that can make life much easier as April 15 approaches.

**Consider putting money into your IRA.** If it looks like you’ll have to write a check to the IRS, you can always tuck some money away for retirement and get a nice deduction up to $6,000. “It’s not too late,” Bourque said. “You can still get your IRA deduction for 2019 as long as you make the contribution on or before April 15. It’s a good way to save for retirement and save on your taxes.”

**Get an extension if you can’t file on time.** Getting a late start on your taxes? No need to panic. The IRS will give you until October 15 to file your 1040 return. All you need to do is estimate your total tax liability for 2019 and send along Form 4868, available for download on the IRS.gov website. But you still need to pay all your taxes by April 15 or you’ll face potential penalties and interest — and they can pile up very quickly. If it looks like you owe the government, estimate your liability as accurately as possible and send a payment along with Form 4868, either online through IRS e-file or by mail.

**Consider itemizing your state deductions.** Most people take the standard deduction on their 1040 in lieu of itemized deductions, and for good reason. For 2019 it has been increased to $24,400 for married couples filing jointly and $12,200 for single filers. But California’s Franchise Tax Board isn’t nearly as generous — in 2018 it was $4,401 for singles and $8,802 for married couples. “If you’ve had a lot of
medical expenses, property taxes, charity contributions and other applicable expenses, it pays to check your records, run the numbers, and see if you can get a larger deduction by itemizing your state tax," Bourque said.

**Be aware of new limits on mortgage interest deductions.** If you purchased or refinanced a home in 2019 you can deduct interest on qualified loans of up to a total of $750,000, down from $1 million. But if the loan was secured before Dec. 15, 2017, the previous limit applies. "This is another change brought on by the TCJA," Bourque said.

**Self-employed? Take deductions for mileage and other business expenses.** With so many people working the gig economy, this is especially relevant. Any expense that’s directly related to running your business can be deducted from your taxable income, including car mileage, computers and even phones, Bourque said. "So many people are driving for Uber or Lyft to get extra money, and they aren’t aware they can deduct for mileage, 58 cents per mile for 2019. You can also deduct for actual cost of using your car for business, including gas and insurance, and often get a larger deduction than straight mileage." Bear in mind, you need to file a Schedule C or C-EZ to take business deductions.

**Don’t leave education credits on the table.** Deductions for tuition and fees have been eliminated, but there are two credits that can help ease a student’s tax burden. The American Opportunity Tax Credit allows a maximum credit of $2,500 for educational expenses, and the Lifetime Learning Credit limit is $2,000. To be eligible, you had to be enrolled at least half time for at least one academic period, for education credit or job skills. "Keep in mind these are tax credits, not deductions," Bourque said. "Credits are deducted from the amount of tax you owe, not from your taxable income." Check IRS.gov for more details.

**Get a tax credit for your new electric vehicle.** If you bought a shiny new all-electric or plug-in hybrid in 2019 you might be eligible for a fat tax credit up to $7,500, depending on the size of the vehicle and battery capacity. The amount varies widely, with more popular models often bringing smaller credits. The reason? Once a manufacturer reaches a limit of 200,000 EVs sold, the credit begins phasing out. The purchase date can be a factor, as well, Bourque said. "For instance, if you bought a Tesla S from January to the end of June, you get a $3,750 credit. But if it was purchased after that, it’s only $1,875." By contrast, an Audi e-tron SUV fetches the full $7,500, regardless of purchase date; the Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid gets $2,500. It’s all spelled out on the Department of Energy’s website, www.fueleconomy.gov.

Learn more about starting or growing a career in accounting at ce.uci.edu/accounting.
UCI Alumni

You are UC Irvine.
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Our members receive a host of benefits not only as an incentive to join the association, but to say thank you as well. After all, without our members, we would not exist and neither would a network dedicated to connecting alumni with each other and the university!

Top 5 benefits of membership

- **Stay connected**: Find out the latest UC Irvine news, research and updates.
- **Help yourself**: Every membership helps increase UC Irvine’s national ranking.
- **Save money**: Get discounts on a wide variety of goods and services.
- **Have fun**: Receive exclusive access to exciting events and programs.
- **Show your pride**: It’s just the right thing to do.

[alumni.uci.edu](https://alumni.uci.edu)

UCI Division of Continuing Education

Alumni Chapter

Whether you signed up for your first UCI Division of Continuing Education course for personal or professional development, you became part of something special the moment you clicked the registration button. Now you’ve taken the courses, you’ve developed new skills, you’ve improved your resume, and you’ve met some terrific friends and colleagues along the way. The best way to keep your Continuing Education experience going? Join the Alumni Chapter! It’s free and easy to register, and once you’re a member, you open up a whole new world of opportunities – from social and networking events, to educational and mentoring experiences. The best part – you participate as little or as much as you want.

[ce.uci.edu/alumni](https://ce.uci.edu/alumni)
knowledge is LIMITLESS.

Become a student for life by joining OLLI at UCI.

OLLI at UCI is an organization of lifelong learners – retired and semi-retired – who want to continue cultivating their minds and enhancing their lives through education.

For a low annual fee, members enjoy a variety of courses in areas such as literature, history, science, the arts and more. Social activities, excursions to local museums and attractions, and special events like wine tastings and tickets to local performances are also available to members, many of whom have been active OLLI at UCI students for numerous years. And no tests or grades mean everyone learns just for the pure joy of it!

OLLI at UCI courses are taught by UCI professors as well as other local professionals and are offered during the fall and spring semesters, typically meeting once a week for 2-5 weeks.

Call 949.451.1403 or visit ce.uci.edu/olli to learn more about OLLI at UCI and easy steps to becoming a member!
Ten years ago, the University of California, Irvine, Division of Continuing Education (UCI DCE) saw that the market was in need of skilled optical engineers and created a certificate program that would flexibly and affordably meet the needs of workers and employers.

Back in 2009, Donn Silberman, along with a committee of industry experts, developed a first-of-its-kind online Optical Engineering Certificate program. The UCI DCE was lucky to have Silberman make a significant contribution to the curriculum. His passion for optics started in 1976 when he was an astronomy student volunteer in high school. He would spend the next 40 years researching, developing, designing, manufacturing, and managing various optics-based businesses, with a number of patents and publications to his credit.

The initial optical engineering program supported by Silberman and the committee evolved quickly into two programs — the original certificate program plus an Optical Instrument Design program. The Optical Engineering Certificate focused on the design and engineering of optical components and systems. The Optical Instrument Design certificate focused more on optomechanical component design and optical instrument design.

Each program sought (and still seeks) students with backgrounds in engineering, such as electrical or mechanical, or in physical sciences, such as physics or biology. The programs strategically give students the tools to integrate optical and optomechanical components into their systems. The programs share elective courses that include introductions to lasers, fiber optics, radiometry, and vibration control.

Courses are taught by experienced industry-leading professionals, many with advanced degrees in optical sciences from institutions such as the University of Arizona. Graduates are employed by leading optics companies such as Edmund Optics, Newport/MKS, KLA-Tencor, and Luminit. The instructors and the program’s advisory board provide a substantial network for students to access as they seek to advance their careers.

Pedagogically, two online programs have proven to be the right move. The delivery method is completely supported by the university’s instructors, the UCI DCE staff, and its online infrastructure. Online instruction has enabled students to complete the program quickly, more efficiently, and in a cost-effective manner. After moving the programs to a completely online format in 2011, UCI DCE class sizes increased on average from 16 to 22 face-to-face enrollments to 17 to 33 online enrollments.

The optics programs take about a year and half to complete, as most students work full time and take one course per quarter. Between the two optics programs, UCI DCE has had 75 graduates and currently has 27 candidates.

Student outcomes of the online programs have been very promising. Graduates are now working for companies such as Facebook, the National Solar Observatory, Illumina, Signify, MEI Systems, Hedgehog Research Inc., L3 Technologies, Nanometrics, California Air Resources, Navitar Inc., General Atomics, Tower-Jazz, and Christie Digital.

Academia, industry, and government are researching how optics and photonics have implications in quantum computing, and these trending topics are anticipated to be incorporated into the UCI DCE online curriculum.

Now, at the program’s 10-year mark, the UCI DCE has a viable, scalable, and sustainable curriculum to meet the needs of its students. The flexibility and affordability of the certificate creates a win-win situation. It serves the needs of those (with prior science background) who need to enter the technical workforce quickly. And it meets the needs of employers urgently seeking skilled and credentialed technicians.

“It’s so exciting to see the groundbreaking work that companies are doing,” Silberman said. “I’m inspired by the global attention to optics and photonics and by the sheer amount of young people and students that have the ability to make a difference and create change.”

A version of this article originally appeared in Photonics Spectra, Sept. 2019
A new Emergency Management course examines how impacted communities can recover at a grassroots level.

Widespread wildfires and blackouts have ravaged California in recent years, and earthquakes are a constant threat. While the toll they take are typically measured in acres, number of structures damaged and billions of dollars in cost, the human toll is sometimes downplayed — how it affects individuals in ways large and small.

Giving aid to reeling communities in the aftermath of disasters is a crucial mission for emergency management professionals, working at the grassroots to help all residents recover. That’s the idea behind the new Social Impacts of Disasters course, part of the Emergency Management certificate program.

“One aspect of emergency management is planning for businesses and infrastructure,” said Todd De Voe, course instructor and EM director for Titan Health and Security Technologies. “Social impact means looking at how natural disasters affect individuals in the community, and it goes way beyond just dealing with casualties and property damage. It’s about working directly with the people.”

Look at Katrina, he said. New Orleans has lost 20% of its population since the hurricane. “Not by death. Those were the people who lost everything and had to move away. It’s had a lasting impact on the city.”

De Voe’s new course focuses on ways to engage with communities, identify special needs of various groups, and find solutions to the social impact while coordinating with local agencies and governments. It stems from research that began in the ’70s on the sociological aspects of managing disaster zones.

For example, studies found that businesses owned by minority women were impacted at a much higher rate than others, mainly because most are in the service industry, “a lot of nail salons and beauty salons that need a steady stream of customers to survive,” De Voe said. “They’re likely to shut down if they lose business for more than three days.”

It’s not enough to identify the problem, you need to work with the community to find a workable remedy, he added. “The City of Santa Cruz is a good example. When a wildfire displaced some local businesses, laws were changed to allow them to set up a tent city of sorts. It turned into an open-air mall that had local ice cream shops, barber shops and bookstores, all open for business.”

De Voe also points to East Porterville, a town in Central California that lost its water supply a few years ago. Truckloads of bottled water were brought in to help the residents, but that wasn’t sustainable as a long-term solution. So the city changed an ordinance to allow residents to keep large cisterns on their property to collect and store rainwater.

Having large plastic tanks in their yard wouldn’t have been allowed before, but a creative solution crafted through community activism helped ease the burden on residents.

“We address these issues in the new course,” said De Voe, host of the popular EM Weekly podcast. “When you identify the social impact, how do you engage the community and work with public resources to find a remedy? Disaster resiliency starts at the grassroots, and emergency management involves community activism. With the climate heating up, natural disasters aren’t going away.”

The Social Impacts of Disasters online course starts on April 13, 2020.

Learn more at ce.uci.edu/em

“Social impact means looking at how natural disasters affect individuals in the community, and it goes way beyond just dealing with casualties and property damage. It’s about working directly with the people.”

– Todd De Voe
Help your organization keep its transactions transparent, secure, and private. Blockchain technology is changing the way organizations are conducting business. Governments, banks, insurance companies, technology start-ups, and venture capital firms are all actively engaging in building new products and services on blockchain technologies.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Learn the processes behind Blockchain Technologies, and how to apply them to your organization
- Understand digital currencies, including Bitcoin and Ethereum
- Determine related software technologies that are used to build Blockchain products and services
- Learn methodologies and tools to apply Blockchain theories and use cases using a wide range of real data

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Erica Kasai | kasaie@uci.edu | (949) 824-5754

[ce.uci.edu/blockchain](ce.uci.edu/blockchain)
Sports Management Career Opportunities

The Sport Management specialized studies program is designed for entry to mid-career professionals working in or who aspire to enter the sports or fitness industry. This collaborative online learning experience prepares students for more responsibility in marketing, operations, or facilities management roles in the business of sports.

**Athletic Director • Average Salary: $59,989**
- Manage collegiate athletics programs, the coaching staff, competition schedules, equipment, facilities, and budget.
- Uphold standards for academics, sportsmanship, and respect.
- Participate in the recruitment of athletes to sports programs and selection of athletic scholarship winners.
- Ensure compliance with all school, division, and government regulations.

**Facilities Manager • Average Salary: $65,642**
- Hire and direct contracted service providers associated with facility maintenance and operations.
- Develop policies and procedures for the use of supplies and facilities.
- Manage facilities staff to deliver maintenance and operations services.
- Manage facilities budget and project planning tasks.

**Digital Marketing Manager • Average Salary: $65,632**
- Develop and implement strategies for new media and digital marketing teams.
- Coordinate online marketing campaigns on all social and digital media platforms.
- Build effective teams, manage multiple projects, and supervise collaboration between departments in order to drive positive business growth.
- Lead website development and oversee all customer-facing digital communication channels.

**Director of Operations • Average Salary: $90,904**
- Implement, manage and evaluate operation processes and procedures in accordance with the standards and procedures set out by the organization.
- Ensure that operational processes stay within agreed upon budgets and timelines.
- Assist in developing strategies and implementation plans to improve and standardize all aspects of operations.

**Camp Director • Average Salary: $39,671**
- Manage daily operation of a day or overnight camp, acting as the main contact for staff and parents.
- Oversee the placement of campers into groups or cabins and determine their daily schedule of activities.
- Hire, train, and supervise camp employees or volunteers, including counselors, kitchen staff, and activity instructors.

Source: Payscale.com, December 2019
Environmental Management Certificate Program
This program prepares you to meet the challenges of the expanding regulatory framework and the increasing need for sustainable and green initiatives in the rapidly changing environmental profession.

- ce.uci.edu/env

Earn Your Business Analysis Certificate in Just 6 Months
Learn how to effectively assess business problems and provide solutions in your organization through this fully online and practical program taught by industry experts. You’ll acquire the analytical thinking, problem-solving and communication skills you need to perform as an effective BA in today’s solutions-driven business environment.

- ce.uci.edu/ba

The New Standard in Culinary Education
Gain strong culinary foundations training with an optional externship as found at top culinary schools, but at a far more affordable cost. Our hands-on approach focuses on current techniques used in daily culinary preparations in a professional kitchen setting.

- ce.uci.edu/culinary

Healthcare Analytics Specialized Studies
Learn analytical skills to collect, organize, and visualize data to improve patient outcomes and the operational efficiency of healthcare systems.

- ce.uci.edu/healthcareanalytics

Advance Your HR Career
Highly regarded by local employers for its real-world focus, the comprehensive Human Resources Management Certificate – offered both online and on campus – will provide you with the precise skills and knowledge you need to advance to the next level in your career. Program instructors are leading HR practitioners and offer practical and relevant education you can begin applying immediately in the workplace.

- ce.uci.edu/hr

Wealth That Lasts
How do you create a long-lasting financial legacy for the next generation? Learn how to create a process-driven plan with your advisors to include the transfer of your personal values and beliefs, and not just the transfer of money.

- ce.uci.edu/wtl
Business of Esports Certificate
Launching in March 2020, this program is set to give an advantage to those who are interested in the Esports phenomenon overtaking today’s digital youth culture. As business opportunities in this sector flourish, the industry will create demand for professionals with the right mix of training, passion, and knowledge. The Business of Esports certificate was specifically designed with this in mind.

ip.ce.uci.edu/esports

Strategic Communication Management Certificate
New in 2020, this accelerated certificate for international students focuses on the strategy of communication channels as opposed to individual tactics. Whether it is the marketing communications department placing ads or human resources conducting employment search, all have a communication channel. This program, offered spring and fall quarters, will examine strategy and understand communications holistically.

ip.ce.uci.edu/stratcommACP

Real Estate Licensure Specialized Studies Program
Our program satisfies educational requirements set forth by the California Bureau of Real Estate (CalBRE) for licensing and prepares our students for a wide range of opportunities in the industry.

• Learn more about personal investments and property acquisition
• Satisfy educational requirements for salesperson or broker examinations

ce.uci.edu/realestate

Python for Data Science, Web and Core Programming
Interested in learning one of the fastest growing programming languages? Learn Python, the language of choice for high-demand job fields such as data science, machine learning, predictive analytics, and big data. In this short specialized study program students will learn Python programming concepts, data retrieval, processing, and visualization.

ce.uci.edu/python

Data Science
The Data Science certificate will prepare students to gain the necessary skills to leverage large amounts of data sets, improve, and optimize business performance. Learn to clean, transform, and model data.

c.e.uci.edu/datascience

Meeting & Event Management
Become a highly skilled event professional. Gain an advantage in the areas of financial and administrative management, marketing, and the tools necessary for organizing meetings, tradeshows, event, and more.

ce.uci.edu/mem
The Arts & Entertainment industries continue their boom through the thriving food scene and surge for content in TV, film and new media. Launch an exciting career as a rising chef or filmmaker.

programs

- Culinary Arts Program

ce.uci.edu/arts
To thrive in today’s rapidly changing business environment, you must have the most up-to-date knowledge and skill set. These programs can help you stay ahead of the curve and boost your performance within your organization.

programs

- Business Administration Certificate Program
- Business Analysis Certificate Program
- Contract Management Certificate Program
- Digital Marketing & Communications Certificate Program
- E-Learning Instructional Design Certificate Program
- Esports Management Specialized Studies Program
- HR Business Partner Specialized Studies Program
- Human Resources Management Certificate Program
- Innovation & Product Development Specialized Studies Program
- International Tourism & Hotel Management Certificate Program
- Interpretation Certificate Program
- Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certificate Program
- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Specialized Studies Program
- Meeting & Event Management Specialized Studies Program
- Nonprofit Management Specialized Studies Program
- Project Management Certificate Program
- Real Estate Licensure Specialized Studies Program
- Spa and Wellness Management Certificate Program
- Sport Management Specialized Studies Program
- Strategic Communication Management Specialized Studies Program
- Supply Chain Management Certificate Program
- The Business of Coffee: Modern Production Processes in Colombia Specialized Studies Program
Be an **educational leader** by helping your students succeed. These programs provide proven instruction that incorporates the best and latest practices in student learning, content development and administration.

**programs**

- Clear Induction Administrative Services Credential
- Gifted & Talented Education (GATE) Specialized Studies Program
- Independent Educational Consultant Certificate Program
- Instructional Design for Higher Education Specialization
- Montessori Teacher Education Program
- Preliminary Administrative Services Credential
- Reading Certificate Program
- Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Certificate Program
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Certificate Program

[ce.uci.edu/educ]
Become a **technical leader** by learning the most innovative engineering techniques and methodologies. Enhance your problem-solving skills in a wide variety of engineering disciplines with these programs.

**programs**

- Device Software Engineering Specialized Studies Program
- Embedded Systems Engineering Certificate Program
- Internet of Things (IoT): Applications and Opportunities Specialized Studies Program
- Optical Engineering Certificate Program
- Optical Instrument Design Certificate Program
- Systems Engineering Certificate Program

Join our LinkedIn group to receive industry updates, job postings and more
[linkedin.com/groups/13670954](https://linkedin.com/groups/13670954)
Meet environmental regulatory challenges and the increasing need for sustainable and green initiatives. Learn the practical applications and business aspects of facilities management. Develop emergency management plans to effectively respond to natural and technology-related disasters. Ensure your organization is in compliance by sharpening your environmental, facilities and emergency management skills.

programs

- Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Specialized Studies Program
- Environmental Management Certificate Program
- Facilities Management Certificate Program
- Water-Energy Nexus Certificate Program

Join our LinkedIn group to receive industry updates, job postings and more
linkedin.com/groups/13669863

ce.uci.edu/envfac
Finance & Accounting

Acquire the comprehensive training you need to start your financial career. These programs allow you to further advance your professional career by satisfying educational requirements to sit for the CFP® and CPA exams.

programs

- Applied Accounting Certificate Program
- CFP® Review
- CPA Review
- Personal Financial Planning Certificate Program
- Wealth That Lasts

ce.uci.edu/finance
Stay current in the rapidly changing healthcare industry by **acquiring critical skills** that help reduce errors and boost productivity. Advance your career with knowledge that maximizes value and minimizes waste within any healthcare organization.

Join our LinkedIn group to receive industry updates, job postings and more
[linkedin.com/groups/13687933](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13687933)
From English language instruction, to university preparation and high-quality certificates and internships, our practical, real-world experiences help students advance their resume and global competence.
Programs in:

Law

Gain a solid grounding in all the essential areas of the law with this set of programs. From an ABA-approved paralegal program, to courses in public policy making, you will develop the knowledge and skills needed to function in any legal setting.

Programs

- High School Summer Institute in Law
- Paralegal Certificate Program
- Public Policy Making Academy

ce.uci.edu/law
Explore your leadership potential and gain a valuable credential with our leadership programs. Learn how to combine business expertise and people skills to drive your company forward.

programs

- Business Essentials for Leaders Specialization
- Leadership & Management Short Courses
- Organizational Leadership & Communication Certificate Program
- Strategic Leadership Development Certificate Program

ce.uci.edu/leadership
Learn how to **navigate** the dynamic and highly complex medical device and biotechnology industries with these programs. Build a comprehensive understanding of these rapidly growing fields from research and development, to manufacturing operations and management.

**programs**

- Clinical Research Certificate Program
- Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology (CLS/MT) Training Program
- Clinical Trials: Medical Device & Drug Development Certificate Program
- Comparative Effectiveness Research and Evidence Based Medicine Certificate Program
- Medical Device DevelopmentCertificate Program
- Postbaccalaureate Premedical Program
- Post-Baccalaureate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Regulatory Affairs and Compliance Certificate Program

*Join our LinkedIn group to receive industry updates, job postings and more*

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ce.uci.edu/ls
 programs in:

Technology

Master the latest trends in programming, web development, information security, data science, and more.

programs

- Agile Project Management Certificate Program
- Blockchain Technologies Specialized Studies Program
- Business Intelligence & Data Warehousing Specialized Studies Program
- Computer Programming Courses
- Cyber Security Certificate Program
- Data Science Certificate Program
- Database Management Certificate Program
- Full Stack Web Development Certificate Program
- Java Programming Certificate Program
- Machine and Deep Learning Specialized Studies Program
- Mobile Application Development Certificate Program
- Predictive Analytics Certificate Program
- Python for Data Science, Web and Core Programming Specialized Studies Program
- Search Engine Optimization (SEO) Specialized Studies Program
- Web Design Certificate Program

ce.uci.edu/tech
Today’s employers recognize the value of ongoing professional career development. UCI Division of Continuing Education’s certificate and specialized studies programs – focused programs that balance theory and practice with an emphasis on real-world experience – are well-received by employers and can be a significant factor in hiring and promotion.

Certificate programs offer an in-depth body of knowledge to ensure you gain mastery of a particular topic. Specialized Studies feature shorter, more concentrated curricula for those short on time. Both are distinctive achievements that can help prepare you for career advancement or transition.

**Benefits of Continuing Education**

- **Expand job opportunities**
  Earning a certificate or taking continuing education courses can help position you for higher responsibilities or promotion.

- **Keep pace with work trends**
  Continuing education is a great way to stay abreast of developments and best practices in your field.

- **Enhance confidence**
  A continuing education certificate can help boost your self-image and confidence at work, and in other aspects of your life.

- **Achieve job satisfaction**
  Employees who actively develop new skills and knowledge tend to experience higher job satisfaction than those who do not.

- **Learn to learn**
  Explore a field unrelated to your job that interests you – for personal development or simply for fun.
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careerzot

Talk

by Kathy Seaton

LET’S Talk.

Email. Text. Messenger. Snapchat. Slack. Remember the days when we were forced to talk to each other at work, face to face, in person?

I’m very guilty of using technology to communicate, however, I would like to argue the point that we rely too much on our smart devices and laptops, rather than face-to-face discussion.

There are pitfalls when we don’t talk to each other and we’re robbing ourselves of the opportunity to share, collaborate, strategize, and brainstorm. There is no way that creative or productive planning can be accomplished over email or text.

We might be finding that it’s easier to text or email so that we can craft our messages, and perhaps, hide behind them. But remember that our little smart phone devices were originally designed so that we could communicate more efficiently.

I believe that more “real” business happens with “real” conversation.

And here’s why.

1. We need to engage. Relationship building is the most important thing that we can foster at work. It positions us as leaders, and it makes us more successful. But indeed, these relationships need to be built from contact, from conversation—or maybe even debate—but it needs to be face-to-face.

2. We need to use our time wisely. A simple conversation can save you the time of exchanging 20 emails—the back and forth interaction is often a total waste of time.

3. Our conversations should be concise and to the point to accomplish something. And detailed discussions can’t be done by staring at a computer screen.

I’ll leave you with this thought to consider. Author David Lynch said, “Everyone is on the internet but they’re not talking to each other. There are groups upon groups out there, but they don’t talk to one another. So, while the internet brings everyone into a shared space, it does not necessarily bring them together.”

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