What can first-year students expect in the Earth & Planetary Sciences Graduate Program?

Our research program is one of the premier in the nation. Students can expect to fully participate in research from their first class at UCSC, in addition to taking courses that emphasize breadth and depth in the discipline.

What type of support do first-year graduate students in your program receive?

Sources of support include: fellowships (based on both merit and need), research assistantships (generally associated with competitive grants secured by faculty, researchers, and students), and teaching assistantships (during which graduate students collaborate with faculty and lecturers to run courses, discussion sections, and/or labs). The department can also nominate students for university fellowships, such as the Cota-Robles and the Chancellor’s Fellowships, upon admission to the program.

What salary (on top of tuition and fees) do first-year Graduate Student Researchers in your program earn?

Our pre-candidacy GSRs are paid at step 5, a $6,728 stipend per quarter. Our post-candidacy stipends are at step 6, which pays a $7,041 stipend per quarter. Summer funding is often available.

When are graduate applications due for your program?

January 5th.

Who can I contact for more information?

Jennifer Fish, Graduate Programs Coordinator
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Jeremy Hourigan, Faculty Graduate Program Representative
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http://eps.ucsc.edu/academics/grad-studies
Terrence Blackburn  Geochronology, crustal evolution, cosmochemistry
Emily E. Brodsky  Earthquakes, volcanoes, fluid flow in fractured media
Matthew E. Clapham  Paleobiology, geobiology
Patrick Y. Chuang  Clouds, aerosols, and climate
Jeff Cuzzi (Lecturer)  Ring dynamics and planetsimal formation
Nicole Feldl  Atmospheric science, meteorology, climate change
Noah J. Finnegan  Geomorphology, active tectonics
Andrew T. Fisher  Hydrogeology, crustal studies, coupled flows, modeling
Ian Garrick-Bethell  Planetary interiors, paleomagnetism
Gary B. Griggs  Coastal processes, hazards and engineering
Jeremy K. Hourigan  Thermochronology, structural geology and tectonics
Elise Knittle  Mineral physics, experimental geophysics
Paul L. Koch  Isotope geochemistry, paleontology, and ecology
Thorne Lay  Seismology, geophysics
Francis Nimmo  Icy satellites, accretion, Mars, planetary geophysics
Adina Paytan (Lecturer)  Biogeochemistry, paleoceanography, environmental and aquatic chemistry
David Rubin (Lecturer)  Fluvial and planetary geomorphology, sedimentary geology
Hilde Schwartz (Senior Lecturer)  Vertebrate paleontology, environmental geology, paleoecology, chemoautotrophic ecosystems
Susan Y. Schwartz  Seismology, geophysics, active tectonics
Myriam Telus  Meteoritics, isotope geochemistry, planetary science
Slawek Tulaczyk  Glaciology and glacial geology, soil mechanics
Quentin Williams  Mineral physics, tectonophysics, experimental geochemistry
Ru-Shan Wu (Lecturer)  Seismology, geophysics, wave propagation and subsurface imaging
James C. Zachos  Paleoceanography, marine stratigraphy
Xi Zhang  Planetary Atmospheres, Atmospheric Chemistry, Planetary Atmospheric Circulation
Margaret Zimmer  Watershed hydrology, stream-groundwater interactions, water quality/quantity