UCLA Sage Hill

Outdoor Laboratory for Teaching and Undergraduate Research



The UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability is transforming 3.5 acres of campus into a site for active learning and undergraduate research in environmental science, environmental studies and beyond. Sage Hill is easily accessible and showcases native California habitat and biodiversity. The opportunities to engage students across many disciplines in an outdoor, natural setting are limitless.



Transforming Environmental Education

Our goal is to involve students in hands-on, meaningful, educational activities. Sage Hill is available to faculty teaching across a wide range of fields including environmental science, ecology, geography, atmospheric and climate science, engineering, public health, American Indian Studies, anthropology, archeology, arts, humanities, and more.



Restoring Habitat and Enhancing Biodiversity for the Future

Though Sage Hill currently supports an impressive level of biodiversity, the area is in a degraded state. This presents a unique platform for educating students about restoring habitat and ecosystem functioning within a dense urban area. Students can experiment with cutting-edge climate modeling and learn about planning for a future that will be hotter and drier.



Inspiring a New Generation of Environmental Researchers

For the first time on campus, we are dedicating outdoor space for experimental plots for undergraduate student research. Topics can range from creating rich compost from food waste to sequestering carbon in soil to enhancing microhabitats for salamanders. Students can also use the site to study the long history of the relationships between humans, plants, and animals.



Connecting to the Land

UCLA acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (Los Angeles Basin and the Southern Channel Islands). At Sage Hill we connect students to this remarkable piece of nature and the peoples that hold traditional knowledges in our region.

