Manipulating Answering the Princeton Review Survey for Fun and Profit



UC Santa Cruz Center for Games & Playable Media

http://games.soe.ucsc.edu

Michael Mateas (UC Santa Cruz)



- 8) In total, how many gaming-related courses will your school offer during the 2012-13 academic year?
- 12) Does your gaming program use a team-driven approach?
- 16) What percentage of your total gaming faculty have started, run or worked for a game studio?
- 29) Which technologies or engines does your school utilize?
- 33) What percentage of 2012 graduates have taken a job in some aspect of game development at the time of or before graduating?

The rankings just came out. We're in the top 25 programs.



Congratulations!
Have a cigar and a
fat stack to build
your program with.

Shh. Don't tell him it's a for profit standardized test preparation company that's got nothing to do with Princeton University.



Great! I like the word "Princeton." Sounds prestigious. Here's another fat stack for your program.













First name WELCOME TO THE PRINCETON REVIEW! Poopy Contact Info Sign Up Test Prep Info Last name Bear Now that you have created your account, we'd like to get to know you Email address better. Please tell us more about your current test prep plans and academic interests. pbear8643@gmail.com The name of your current school Create a password Enter school or search list What type of test preparation appeals to you? (Select all that apply) Confirm password ☐ Private tutoring ☐ Classroom Courses ☐ Live Online Courses Select test Self-Paced Study ACT AΡ What program area interests you? ISEE Select one None (I've finished my testing) PSAT GPA (i) SAT SAT/ACT SAT/ACT/PSAT SAT SUBJECT TESTS Select test

Places calect an ontion.

SAVE & CONTINUE

The Basics

Academics & Majors

Admissions

Rankings & Lists

Student Body

Campus Life / Facilities

Careers

Other Schools to Consider

Special Needs

Tuition & Aid

Visiting & Contact Info

Request a Brochure

to Consider

University of California-Santa Barbara

University of California-Berkeley

University of California--Davis

University of California-Los Angeles

University of California-San Diego

More

University of California--Santa Cruz

request a brochure

can i get in

save school

The Basics



Visiting And Contact Information

Office of Admissions, Cook Phone: § 831-459-4008 House Fax: 831-459-4452 1156 High Street Website

1156 High Street Santa Cruz, CA 95064

United States

Academic Calendar:	Quarter
Degrees Offered:	Bachelor's Post-Bachelor's certificate Master's Doctoral Doctoral/Research
Student Faculty Ratio:	19.2:1
Most Popular Majors:	Art/Art Studies, General Business/Commerce, General Ecology, Evolution, Systematics and Population Biology, Other
lore >	

Admissions Average High School GPA: 3.62 Regular Application Deadline: 11/30 Notification Begins: 03/15

Key Statistics

Rankings And Lists

Best Value Colleges for 2014 - Public Reefer Madness: #10

More

At A Glance

Year Founded: 1965 School Type: Public

Religious Affiliation: No Affiliation

 Campus Environment:
 City

 Enrollment:
 15,978

 Average GPA:
 3.62

 Student Faculty Ratio:
 19.2:1

Regular Application

 Deadline:
 11/30

 In-State Tuition:
 \$12,192.00

 Out-of-State Tuition:
 \$35,070.00

 Financial Aid Deadline:
 03/02

More:Academics, Admissions, Student Body, Career, Campus

Life, Tuition & Aid





Can I Get In? Fill in all of your school info, course load, class rank, and extracurriculars below and we'll let you know if you're Questions? looking at a Reach, Match, or Safety School... Call an Advisor What High School do you attend? What is your GPA?* [Please Select] * 888-955-4600 Which test scores will you submit with your college application?* ACT SAT What is your class rank?* Top 5% Top 10% Top 25% Top 50% Bottom 50% I don't know

Which choice describes your courseload?*

I am not taking AP or advanced courses

I take several APs and advanced courses

I take all of the hardest courses

I choose not to get involved

I take the easiest courseload that will get me a diploma

Which describes your activities outside the classroom?*

I have been an on-and-off member of a bunch of different clubs and organizations during HS.

With work and/or sports, I don't have the time

Can I Get In?

Thanks - we've determined where you stand with *University of California--Santa Cruz*. After carefully analyzing all of your information against what we know about your target school, we believe this school is a *Reach* for you.

Need help getting in?

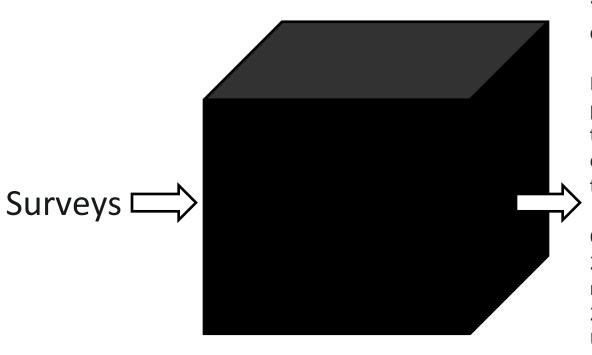
SAT Prep ACT Prep MCAT Prep LSAT Prep GRE Prep GMAT Prep

Or call 888-955-4600 to speak with an Educational Advisor - 8-10 ET during the week, 8-4 ET on the weekends.

The Princeton Review team is here to help you get into the school of your choice - let us know how we can help! And good luck!



Self Study?



"Greetings -- and a "heads up" note of congratulations.

I am pleased to report that your school program in video game design is one of the 50 we selected for our Princeton Review list, "Top Schools to Study Game Design for 2014."

Our list names 25 undergraduate and 25 graduate school programs (we report each group in ranked order: 1 to 25) that are in schools located in the U.S.A. and Canada (plus one in Ireland)."

My Beefs with Princeton Review Survey

Doesn't understand research

Jobs outside of games don't count

Focus on technology and engines

 Big chunks of the survey are free text, and depend on domain expertise to evaluate



Responses

- Develop our own evaluation framework
 - Something that actually helps us understand what to improve
- Convince other raters to start rating game programs
 - US News and World Reports (survey plus reputation)
 - Businessweek (panel of experts for design schools)
 - -
- Consciously decide what we want from rankings
 - Self-study
 - Student guidance
 - Marketing (internal and external)