UC SANTA BARBARA
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Jasmine Moreno

How a passion for math drove this College of Creative Studies grad to distinction

For Milo Moses ‘24, mathematics is more than just a subject — it’s a meditative process.

Moses’s dedication to academics has propelled him from the College of Creative Studies (CCS) to early acceptance at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). He graduates UCSB as a sophomore and heads to CalTech to pursue a PhD. Moses is only the third student in CCS history to finish his degree in two years.

What is your major and why are you passionate about it?

I’m a math major. Mathematics plays a special role in my life. I’m passionate about it for several reasons. The most obvious one is that the act of doing mathematics is deeply meditative and enjoyable. In addition, the process of mathematical study is very rewarding: First, I philosophize about the nature of the world; then I form concrete conjectures which make my philosophy rigorous; and finally, I prove my conjectures. Aside from this, mathematics has granted me amazing life and career opportunities, and it seems like it will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Is there a particular highlight or memory that has defined your CCS experience?

The highlight of my CCS experience has been growth and development. I feel self-actualized, informed, and prepared for my next stages in life. Much of this confidence has come from my interpersonal relationships (often within CCS), as well as my academic journey at the college.

Congratulations on your recent acceptance to Caltech! How did this transpire?

I came to UCSB already knowing most of the mathematics covered in a typical undergraduate degree. CCS did an amazing job of meeting me where I was by providing me the support I needed. At my current stage of academic development, it doesn't make sense for me to be an undergraduate so I am graduating. Caltech is a perfect fit for me because of the focus of its math and physics departments.

How do you feel CCS prepared you for the next phase of your academic journey?

CCS prepared me by giving me the freedom to put myself in the right spaces. I've been able to take all of the right classes and work with all of the right professors. Without a doubt, this has been the biggest factor.

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About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the

edge of the Pacific Ocean.