University Overview

University of Houston-Clear Lake is a student-centered, community-minded, partnership-oriented university that offers bachelor's, master's and select doctoral degree programs to enhance the educational, economic and cultural environment of the region. The university serves a diverse student population from the state, the nation and abroad – particularly from the Houston–Galveston metropolitan area – by offering programs on and off campus.

UHCL offers a variety of programs in business, education, human sciences and humanities, and science and engineering. Academic programs are designed to develop the critical thinking, creative, quantitative, leadership and communication skills of students.

The university is committed to community engagement through partnerships with educational institutions, businesses, government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

A Metropolitan University

Adjacent to NASA's Johnson Space Center, UHCL is situated in the heart of Clear Lake's high-tech community. The campus is located between downtown Houston and Galveston Island. Its neighbors to the east are Armand Bayou Nature Center and Bayport Industrial Complex. As one of the leading higher education institutions serving the Texas upper Gulf Coast, UHCL is a vital component of the surrounding region. The university conducts applied and basic research. It engages in community and professional services that support both the economic development and the quality of life of the area. Because a strong university is essential to the success of the area's industries, UHCL is dedicated to developing and strengthening programs that support the region's various commercial, engineering, human services and trade sectors, especially in the computing, medical, petrochemical and space industries.

Students and faculty apply academic theories and conduct research through UHCL's centers, institutes, clinics and laboratories. These entities include:

- Art School for Children and Young Adults.
- Center for Executive Education.
- Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities.
- Center for Educational Programs.
- Center for Professional Development of Teachers.
- Center for Robotics Software.
- Counseling Clinic.
- Cyber Security Institute.
- Diagnostic Reading Clinic.
- Environmental Institute of Houston.
- Exercise and Nutritional Health Institute.
- Learning Resources Review Center.
- Mathematics Center.
- Psychological Services Clinic.
- Research Center for Language and Culture.

Establishment of UHCL

The establishment of UHCL was authorized by the 62nd Texas Legislature in 1971. The measure was the result of a 1968 report by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System (now the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board), which called
for a second University of Houston campus to provide upper-level and graduate programs. In 1973, the Texas Senate authorized construction of a permanent campus at Clear Lake.

Construction began early in 1974 with the first phase of the Bayou Building. September 1974 marked the beginning of regularly scheduled classes on the UHCL campus under the leadership of founding chancellor, Alfred R. Neumann. Opening-day enrollment totaled 1,069 students. Charter faculty included 60 professors. Today, the university has approximately 8,900 students, and more than 600 full-time and adjunct faculty.

In fall 2014, UHCL welcomed its first-ever freshman class. The university received approval from the state in 2011 for downward expansion, which allowed the university to add freshman- and sophomore-level courses to its roster.

Creation of UHCL Pearland

In 2007, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved creation of UH-Clear Lake at Pearland. Located at 1200 Pearland Parkway, the new campus was developed as a partnership between UHCL and the city of Pearland to improve access to higher education for Pearland-area residents.

In 2009, construction began on a facility that featured eight media-equipped classrooms, two teaching labs, library and other student resources. Classes began in fall 2010, with more than 600 students enrolling in degree programs such as accounting, business, criminology, education, nursing and psychology.

In fall 2014, UHCL Pearland began offering courses toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree for registered nurses with associate degrees. The RN to BSN program is customized for students who wish to improve managerial skills and advance as nurse managers, educators or administrators.

Since 2017, UHCL Pearland has hosted Alvin Community College core classes, which are transferrable to UHCL.

In fall 2018, classes became available for students in UHCL's Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership program. Also in 2018, construction began on a three-story Health Sciences and Classroom Building, featuring a simulated hospital environment, 100-seat lecture hall, laboratories, faculty offices and study zones. Doors opened in spring 2019.

For more information about degree programs offered at UHCL Pearland, call the Office of Enrollment Services at 281-212-1690.

Accreditations

University of Houston–Clear Lake is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master's and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Ga. 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of the University of Houston–Clear Lake.

The College of Business maintains accreditation for graduate and undergraduate business programs by the Associate to Advance Collegiate
Schools of Business (AACSB International). College of Business accounting programs also maintain separate AACSB accounting accreditation.

The College of Education is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), 1140 19th Street, N.W. Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036, phone 202-223-0077. This accreditation covers all of the institution's initial teacher preparation and advanced educator preparation programs. In addition, the educational management with principal as educational leader certification program is accredited by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC). The EC–6 English as a second language certification program is accredited by Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). The early childhood education advanced program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The EC–6 Elementary certification program is accredited by CAEP. The 4–8 generalist program is accredited by the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE). The Literature BA with grades 7–12 English Language Arts and Reading certification is accredited by the national Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). The special education program is accredited by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). The reading specialist program is accredited by the International Reading Association (IRA). The 4–8 mathematics and the 8–12 mathematics certification programs are accredited by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). The BA Biological Science Teacher Certification, life Science 7–12 is accredited by National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). The EC–6 generalist program is accredited by the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). The School Library and Information Science is accredited by the American Library Association/ American Association of School Librarians (ALA/AASL). The College of Education is also accredited by the Texas State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC).

The College of Human Sciences and Humanities has several accredited programs. The Behavioral Analysis program is accredited by the Association for Behavioral Analysis International. The Family Therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education. The Human Factors Certificate and the Human Factors concentration in the M.S. Psychology program are both accredited by the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. The Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. The School Psychology program is approved by and has received National Recognition from the National Association of School Psychologists. The Bachelor of Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. In addition, the National Strength and Conditioning Association has recognized the Fitness and Human Performance curriculum as preparing students for successful entrance into the career field.

The College of Science and Engineering's undergraduate degree program in Computer Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET. The undergraduate degree program in Computer Science and Computer Information Systems
are accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET. The program in Chemistry is accredited by the American Chemical Society (ACS). The undergraduate programs in Occupational Safety and Health and Industrial Hygiene and Safety are accredited by the Applied and Natural Science Commission of ABET.

The Office of Counseling Services is accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS). The Doctoral Internship Program in the Office of Counseling Services is additionally accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA).

**Governance**

UHCL is one of four institutions with distinct identities and missions that make up the University of Houston System. The universities are governed by the UH System Board of Regents and Chancellor Renu Khator. Administrative responsibility for UHCL is vested in its president. UHCL’s shared governance process includes the Faculty Senate, University Staff Association and Student Government Association, working with the university’s administration through various committees and councils including University Council, which is chaired by the university’s president. Other councils/committees include Academic Council, University Life Committee, Planning and Budgeting Committee, and Facilities and Support Services Committee.

**The Campus**

UHCL’s buildings are situated in a 524-acre natural environment. The campus features picturesque, park-like settings with Horsepen Bayou winding through heavily wooded areas abundant with wildlife.

The Arbor Building houses painting, ceramics, weaving and photography studios, as well as educational centers, teaching methods labs and psychology facilities, notably UHCL’s Center for Autism & Development Disabilities.

The Bayou Building houses the majority of classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, the library, alumni relations, bookstore, cafeteria, computing services and laboratories, copy services, mail room and Bayou Theater. It is also home to the Center for Executive Education, Center for Professional Development of Teachers and other research activities.

The Delta Building houses student computer laboratories, classrooms and computing faculty offices. It is home to UHCL’s Cyber Security Institute and Center for Robotics Software.

The Student Services and Classroom Building accommodates functions that include enrollment, health, counseling, academic support and veteran services. The one-stop Student Assistance Center provides enrollment, registration, fee payment, financial aid and scholarship services.

The STEM and Classroom Building houses classroom and lab space for science, technology and mechanical engineering. A three-story section accommodates classrooms, teaching labs and research labs; a two-story section is home to offices, computer lab and a 100-seat tiered lecture hall.

The Recreation and Wellness Center includes academic and recreational wings, open study
spaces, casual seating, food service and private study rooms. An indoor, elevated three-lane running track provides runners a campus view while overlooking two regulation-sized basketball courts and a multi-activity court for indoor soccer, hockey and other sports. It also features weight and cardio rooms, two multipurpose rooms for yoga and other exercises as well as three teaching labs and two classrooms. Also, it is home to UHCL's Exercise and Nutritional Health Institute.

UHCL'S Environmental Institute of Houston is located in North Office Annex 1, just off Entrance 3 adjacent Parking Lot D.

The Central Services Building is headquarters for building maintenance, grounds and custodial services, scheduling and space planning, and vehicle maintenance. The UHCL Police Department is located next to Central Services.

Construction began summer 2018 on a 297-bed, student housing building immediately adjacent to the Recreation and Wellness Center. The residence hall will be completed and ready for occupancy in fall 2019.

University Forest Apartments is a privately owned and managed apartment complex built in 1995 on the campus of the university. This 136-unit student housing facility is a two-story complex that includes a central courtyard with clubhouse, laundry facility, swimming pool, jacuzzi, sand volleyball court, barbecue grills, and picnic and lounge areas.