

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.

Extended Reality Infosheet

New student admissions for Summer 2027 are open.

2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Explore the crossroads of Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), and Mixed Reality (MR), and how they come together under the umbrella of Extended Reality.
- Learn about the applications and career opportunities within different and emerging industries utilizing XR technology.
- Utilize professional development software to design and develop (in groups) an Extended Reality experience using state-of-the-art equipment and technology.
- Apply 3D modeling and animation.
- Bring immersive storytelling and world-building to creation.
- Gain an introduction into User experience (UX) design.

2027 Dates

UC San Diego

- Session 4: July 25 - August 6

Academic Program Overview

Extended Reality is no longer science fiction - it's quickly becoming part of our modern day reality, with diverse applications across an array of industries. An umbrella term, Extended Reality encapsulates Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Reality (VR), Mixed Reality (MR), and everything in between. Extended Reality technology creates an immersive experience that can be used to explore an environment that helps to educate and entertain the end user. While its applications in the gaming industry may primarily come to mind when people think about Extended Reality, its applications have been expanding in recent years to the healthcare, education, entertainment, and automotive industries - among many others - with more to come. As it is continuing to become more present in our daily and professional lives, the job market is only increasing its demand for its varied development and design skills. There's no better time to start preparing for this inflection point than with Summer Springboard's Extended Reality course on the campus of UCSD.

In our Extended Reality course, class will be held in the state-of-the-art UC San Diego MAVERiC Studio. In groups, students will work to design and develop their own Extended Reality virtual space to explore professional XR pipelines and leave with a portfolio showcase experience. No prior knowledge in Extended Reality or software development is required, and all course equipment is supplied. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a PC laptop. (Macs allowed but not all needed software is supported by Apple.)

Excursions

In 2025, students were able to visit a local startup focusing on VR headsets, as well as a virtual excursion within Roblox to meet one of its XR developers. In 2026, students visited a virtual reality startup for an exclusive demo.

Instructors

Trisha West

Trisha "9Key" West – Trisha has spent the last 20 years building 3D worlds in the video game and innovation industries. As a leader in creating immersive spaces, Trisha has collaborated with The USC Cinema World Building Media Lab, Marion Ewing Kauffman Foundation, Sundance New Frontiers, and is currently working in affiliation with the Arthur C. Clarke Center for Human Imagination and UCSD Innovation. Formally trained as a technical artist with a Masters of Interactive Technology from The Guildhall at SMU, Trisha not only creates virtual spaces for Origami Air, but helps guide a new generation of world builders into the field by leading programming and development for UC San Diego's MAVERiC Studio.

Tuition Information:

Apply by November 30 to lock in the lowest prices of the year. Tuition increases on December 1.

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price**: $5,998

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Price**: $3,298

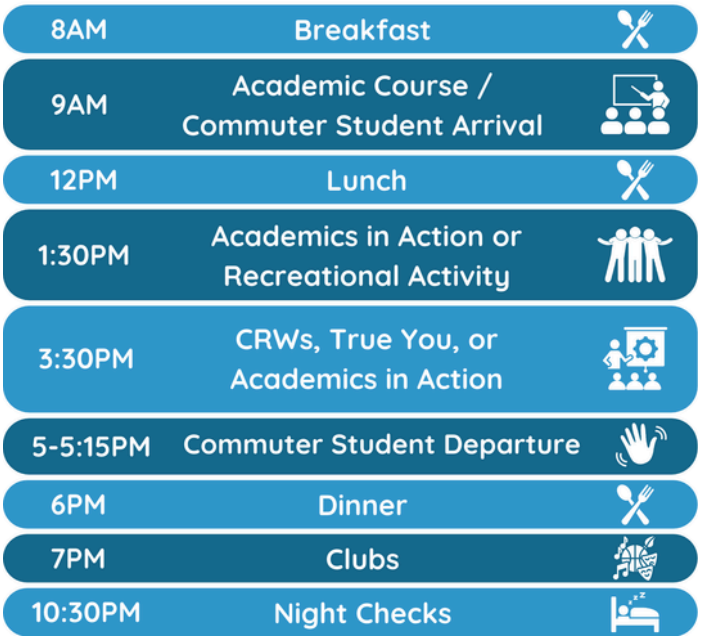
Supplements:

- **Application fee**: Starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday - Friday. During week two, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Afternoons in both weeks are dedicated to students' preferred College Readiness Workshops (CRW), True You, and Academics in Action, with Academics in Action including academic excursions, guest speakers, and course-related activities, such as an instructor-led project or student-led, independent study.

Typical Schedule



Schedule above is a sampler; real schedules may vary based on program and academic track.

More info on Airport Transfer

More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

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