



## CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY

# Dr. Elaine Smith

## FacultyStats

**Hometown:** Santa Barbara, California

**Department:** Biology

**Course(s) taught:** Biology 101, Biology 102, Anatomy

### What had the biggest impact on your decision to join your school's faculty?

I received my undergraduate degree at CU, and I knew about the school's dedication and commitment to its students. When I heard the biology department was looking for a full-time professor, I could not resist.

### What makes your school and your class unique?

I try to adapt to each student's individual needs. Some students absorb more by reading and listening, while others prefer actually doing things themselves. I bring both approaches into my classroom.

### What can high school students do to prepare for college?

I encourage students to visit a few colleges and spend some time talking with professors and students. Web sites and brochures are informative, but it's amazing what one can learn from an in-person visit.

### What is the most rewarding part of your job?

There is so much depth to being a professor. I feel that I am teaching students what they need to know to move onto the next stage in their lives, educationally or professionally. It is challenging and rewarding.

### What is your favorite campus-wide event?

I love the Condor homecoming football game. Win or lose, it's always a great time, from the pre-game activities to the game to the halftime show to the dance afterwards.

### Do you have any advice for future students?

Don't procrastinate. Keep up with your classes on a daily basis. Also, get involved. There's no better way to get to know people and feel at home than to join an organization on campus or in the community.

## What makes your school and your class unique?

I try to adapt to each student's **individual** needs. Some students absorb more by reading and listening, while others prefer actually doing things themselves. I bring **both approaches** into my classroom.

