Chris McCormick

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UCLA B.S. & M.S. Aerospace Engineering student with experience designing, testing, building, and conducting undergraduate research on drones, quadcopters, and remote-controlled airplanes. Currently looking to apply my design and research experience to large-scale projects.

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Bachelor of Science – Aerospace Engineering *GPA: 4.00/4.00* — *Expected Graduation:* **Fall 2025**

Master of Science – Aerospace Engineering *GPA: -- /4.00* — *Expected Graduation:* **Fall 2025**

PROJECTS & EXPERIENCE

UCLA Taira Lab Tailless UAS Undergraduate Research Assistant — **June 2023 — Current**

- Working in conjunction with the Illinois Institute of Technology to reconstruct aircraft control equations for a tailless UAS.
- Utilizing MATLAB and Simulink to process flight data and model the systems within the UAS.
- Reconstructing nonlinear flight stability and control equations for the drone using spares identification methods.
- Learning and improving data processing, communication, and organizational skills.

UCLA Engineering Plane Design — **Jan. 2023 — Mar. 2023**

- Lead a team of students in designing, testing, and assembling a remote-controlled airplane.
- Learned and improved communication and organizational skills, allowing my team to overcome a multitude of challenges.
- Modeled the entire airplane in SolidWorks, 3D printed different parts, and improved my foam cutter operating skills.
- Placed in class a competition and won the award for the fastest airplane.

Personal RC Drone Project — **June 2023 — Sept. 2023**

- Conducted copious amounts of research prior to designing and selecting each component of the drone.
- 3D modeled drone frame in SolidWorks and 3D printed with personal 3D printer.
- Learned how to solder and configure and optimize the drone for different flying styles.
- Studying to take HAM Amateur Radio License exam so I can attach a VTX chip and camera to the drone.

Design/Build/Fly at UCLA (DBF) — **Sept. 2022 — June 2022**

- Contributed to the design and assembly of a remote-controlled airplane placed in an intercollegiate AIAA competition.
- Learned how to run and analyze CFD simulations on different airfoil and wing designs using COMSOL.
- Manufactured and tested the vertical and horizontal stabilizers of the airplane.
- Placed 15th against 81 competing universities in the most recent competition, the highest ever ranking in UCLA history.

UCLA Engineering Rocket Design — **Sept. 2022 — Dec. 2022**

- Formed a team of students to design, assemble, test, and launch two model rockets.
- Conducted research on rocket design and communicated my understanding to my teammates.
- Learned how to operate a laser cutter and improved my 3D modeling and 3D printing skills.
- Placed in class competitions and won the award for the highest apogee (second rocket achieved ~3200 ft).

Personal Coding Projects — **Jan. 2022 — Current**

- Developed my personal website from the ground up using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
- Written multiple programs in C++ to calculate expenses, calculate income, play games, and more.
- Asked to become a C++ class tutor for a previous professor of mine.
- Learned how to program an Arduino Uno and used it to conduct different light displays.

Saddleback College Mars Rover Team — **Jan. 2022 — June 2022**

- Joined the Chassis and Electrical teams and helped assemble a remote-controlled rover.
- Designed and 3D modeled inner components and electrical housing boxes within the rover's chassis.
- Helped in the repeated testing of the rover prior to competition.
- Entered an international, intercollegiate University Rover Competition.

EXTRACURRICULARS AND AWARDS

UCLA Aerospace Engineering Departmental Scholar – *Completing B.S. & M.S. simultaneously* — **Nov. 2023 — Current**

Taira Lab Outreach Events – *3D printed different shapes to show high school students fluid flow* — **Nov. 2023 — Current**

Tau Sigma Academic Honor Society – *Member of UCLA honor society* — **May 2023 — Current**

Phi Theta Kappa Academic Honor Society – *Member of academic honor society* — **April. 2020 — Current**

Saddleback College Tutor – *Computer Science Class Tutor (C++), Physics, Chemistry, and Math Tutor* — **Aug. 2019 — May 2022**