

Extra Credit: Amateur Radio License

Description

Obtain your Amateur (Ham) Radio Technician License (or upgrade your license) and participate in four club events including club meetings, nets, or field trips.

Why Ham Radio?

Ham radio is a hobby that includes technical and interpersonal aspects. We use Ham radio to transmit information during emergency situations when other modes of communication are not available. It's also useful in any situation where cell service is unavailable (e.g. camping). By participating in the Amateur Radio Club you will learn about the science of radio transmission, and the art of communicating on air.

How do I get licensed?

You must take a ~35 multiple choice question test administered by a volunteer group managed by the [American Radio Relay League](#). The questions are pulled from a [question pool](#) of about 400. The best way to study is to read the [study guide](#) and practice all of the questions. You can also use the resource [hamstudy.org](#).

To find out the time and location of upcoming licensing exams, visit [this site](#). There might also be a licensing exam on campus this quarter (TBA). Visit [hams.soe.ucsc.edu](#) for more information.

What is a net?

A [net](#) is an on-air chat with other amateur radio (Ham) operators. The on campus net happens (TBD). If you do not have a radio, or don't know how to use one, you can visit Baskin Engineering 308 to hang out with other members of the club and talk on the radio.

A net is managed by a net control operator, someone who facilitates the transmissions between operators so no one talks over each other. The purpose of the net is to practice the art of radio communication so that in the case of an emergency there is efficient message transmission. The nets on campus are generally light hearted conversations and can involve discussion topics ranging from super hero powers to a game of Battleship over the air.

Submission

Call Sign

After taking the exam, you will be issued a call sign. Enter that call sign and the link to the [FCC callsign lookup](#) where your call sign is listed. For example, in the text portion of the canvas submission, I would list:

wa6bit

https://wireless2.fcc.gov/ULsApp/ULsSearch/results.jsp;JSESSIONID_ULSSEARCH=QxbJcvQfg3J5rdcyqp00Bnv0hzJyBtd0XqNznx4hy4R7R00knhMh!614730627!-470448861

Proof of Participation

For every club meeting you attend, include the date of the meeting you attended in the text portion of the Canvas submission. Make sure to always sign in when attending meetings!

For other club activities, write a statement similar to that which is listed below and have it signed by one of the UCSC ARC officers. For example:

I, Rebecca Rashkin, participated in the UCSC ARC net on 20 Feb. The topic of discussion was "Bunnies vs. Kittens."

Officer signature

Scan this statement and upload it to canvas.

Links

[American Radio Relay League](#)

[UCSC Amateur Radio Club](#)

Study Resources

[ARRL Official Study Guide](#)

[HamStudy](#)

[Exam Review App](#)

Grading Rubric

Worth up to 1% added on to your final grade:

6 pt obtain technician license

4 pt club activity attendance

Note

If there are no amateur radio club meetings this quarter, you will receive the full 10 points if you obtain your license.