

David Farag



Hey! My name is David Farag, and I'm from Santa Clarita, California, which is just a quick 45-minute drive north of campus.

Having two engineer parents meant I was always surrounded by a problem-solving mindset, which got me into building things on my own. That passion has definitely continued here at UCLA. My favorite project so far has been building a maze-solving robot for the Micro Mouse competition with IEEE. Getting to design a custom PCB in KiCad and seeing our flood-fill algorithm solve the maze for the first time was an awesome feeling.

Outside of engineering, I love learning more about my Coptic Egyptian culture. I also like to run track and try to keep that habit going from high school. It's a great way to clear my head after a long day of classes, even when life gets crazy busy.

I chose UCLA's Electrical Engineering program for the food, obviously. I guess being close to home was a plus, too. On a more serious note, I'm excited for the challenges of an EE degree.

I am still not sure what my exact career path is. I actually started at UCLA in Computer Engineering, but have found myself drifting more towards Electrical Engineering, so I think I am going to switch majors. At the same time, most of my work so far has been in software. My internship this past summer was an amazing experience, but it was entirely software-based. It helped me realize that while I don't hate software, I don't love it, and I'm eager to get more hands-on EE experience.

That's why career-wise, I'm leaning towards firmware or R&D roles. I plan to pursue a master's degree after my undergrad, but I ultimately want to gain experience in both areas before committing to a specific path.