

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED
STATEMENT ON CAMPUS GUIDELINES
FOR OFFICE AND CLASSROOM THERMAL COMFORT**

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Assistant Vice Chancellor, Facilities Management

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/13

REVISION NUMBER: Original

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

REFERENCES AND RESOURCES:

ASHRAE: American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers

BACKGROUND:

The HVAC systems serving all office and classroom spaces at UC Merced have been designed in accordance with nationally recognized standards and codes for thermal comfort and ventilation while simultaneously and to meet UC Merced's stringent energy efficiency standards. Due to the inherent diversity in the perception of thermal comfort and influences by the sun and internal heat sources, it is extremely difficult to have one system provide exactly the right temperature for every occupant in every space at all times. Accordingly, zone temperature setpoints for office and classroom spaces have been standardized to achieve a balance between human comfort and energy efficiency.

GUIDELINE(S):

UC Merced employs a central Energy Management System to control space temperature. Each unique zone is provided with a thermostat to monitor and control local space temperature. Most thermostats provide a local display with a user interface that allows an adjustment of the setpoint by ± 2 °F. When zones shift into unoccupied mode, the zone temperature setpoints are relaxed to allow a significant amount of energy savings. The following heating and cooling setpoints have been found to provide adequate thermal comfort for occupants dressed appropriately for the season and weather conditions:

Occupied Heating Mode:	67 °F to 69 °F
Occupied Cooling Mode:	76 °F to 78 °F
Unoccupied Heating Mode:	58 °F
Unoccupied Cooling Mode:	86 °F

DEFINITION(S)

HVAC: Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning

Zone: A collection of rooms or spaces with similar exposure, function and/or occupancy grouped together and served by a single thermostat.