



Photo credit: Natalea Schager

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day

Come to UC Berkeley's annual **Open House** in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation

Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley **orientation** program for all new students.

Events

Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit nature.berkeley.edu for news and updates.

ADVISING

The Undergraduate Advisors for all CNR majors are located in the Office of Instruction and Student Affairs in **260 Mulford Hall**.

Visit nature.berkeley.edu/advising/meet-cnr-advisors for detailed office hours and appointment booking links. You may email general advising questions to pmb.ugrad@berkeley.edu.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone's Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit vcue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.

GENETICS AND PLANT BIOLOGY

Bachelor of Science

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The **Genetics and Plant Biology** major is a broad based program emphasizing the study of plants from the molecular and genetic to organismal levels. The lower division coursework provides students with a foundation in biological and physical sciences as preparation for advanced study at the upper division level and in their concentration. The Department of Plant and Microbial Biology provides a rich and supportive environment for learning, and coursework from the department can be used as a foundation for applications to medical school.



Photo Credit: Julie Gipple

“ **GPB is technical information that's applicable to real post-grad jobs! I've learned about so much that directly translates to lab work, research, and real life.** ”

– Julia Sherman, GPB Junior

MAJOR CONCENTRATIONS

Students in the Genetics and Plant Biology major have the opportunity to pursue one of four concentrations through their elective coursework: (1) biotechnology and bioenergy, (2) plant diversity and evolution, (3) plant genetics, genomes, or (4) bioinformatics, and plant microbe interactions.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Get involved in a **CNR student group** such as **Microbial Sciences Association** or **Planty Social**.
- Apply for a research position through the **SPUR** program and present at a **CNR poster session**.
- Fund travel for academic conferences or research with **CNR Travel Grant**.
- Carry out a research project under the guidance of a faculty mentor through the **CNR Honors program**.

GENETICS AND PLANT BIOLOGY

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DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR
Explore your major	<p>Meet with your college advisor to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Review major and college requirements.</p> <p>Talk to CNR peer advisors about life in the major.</p>	<p>Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major.</p> <p>Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.</p> <p>Review CNR guidelines for study abroad.</p>	<p>Focus elective courses on a concentration.</p> <p>Explore approved electives from outside departments for a more interdisciplinary experience, or build an emphasis by taking interrelated classes.</p> <p>Ask your college advisor about the CNR Honors program.</p>	<p>Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.</p> <p>Complete any “bucket list” courses.</p> <p>Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements.</p>
Connect and build community	<p>Take advantage of CNR’s Student Resource Center for a supportive environment for academics and daily student life.</p> <p>Join a CNR student group such as Microbial Sciences Association or Planty Social.</p> <p>Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect.</p>	<p>Start attending CNR undergraduate events.</p> <p>Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</p> <p>Connect with a community of biology students in the Biology Scholars Program.</p>	<p>Help other students as a CNR Peer Advisor or Student Ambassador.</p> <p>Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader to welcome new students to UC Berkeley.</p> <p>Seek mentorship from your professors, faculty, and graduate student instructors.</p>	<p>Join a professional organization related to your interests.</p> <p>Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.</p>
Discover your passions	<p>Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course.</p> <p>Apply for a research position through SPUR.</p> <p>Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.</p> <p>Learn about research opportunities for CNR students.</p>	<p>Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.</p> <p>Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP or SMART.</p> <p>Check out research by your peers at a CNR poster session.</p>	<p>Apply for a CNR Travel Grant to fund travel for academic conferences or research.</p> <p>Find research and funding opportunities in the OURS database, SPUR, or URAP.</p> <p>Consider applying to the NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates.</p>	<p>Teach your own DeCal course.</p> <p>Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study</p> <p>Present your research at a CNR poster session or submit it to the Berkeley Scientific Journal.</p> <p>Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.</p>
Engage locally and globally	<p>Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.</p> <p>Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.</p> <p>Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.</p>	<p>Contribute to a community organization with an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.</p> <p>Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program.</p> <p>Check out the Moorea program for fieldwork opportunities abroad.</p>	<p>Look into the Career Center’s list of health volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Explore science and policy in Washington DC with UCDC or Cal in the Capital.</p>	<p>Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.</p> <p>Attend a conference such as the Clinton Global Initiative: University Conference. Look into travel grants from CNR and ASUC.</p>
Reflect and plan your future	<p>Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.</p> <p>Check out the Career Center Yearly Planner.</p> <p>Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.</p> <p>Check out the Genetics and Plant Biology Career Snapshot.</p>	<p>Take advantage of career and pre-health advising for CNR students.</p> <p>Explore career fields through the Career Connections Series or a winter externship.</p> <p>Learn about graduate and professional school. See Step-by-Step for planning help.</p> <p>Plan internships and attend internship fairs.</p>	<p>Conduct informational interviews.</p> <p>Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.</p> <p>Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.</p> <p>Attend career and graduate school fairs such as the STEM Career & Internship Fair.</p>	<p>Attend Job Search Essentials workshops.</p> <p>Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.</p> <p>Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.</p> <p>Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</p>

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Jobs and Employers

Analyst, Cornerstone Research
Lab Tech, Foriphyte
Research Asst., LBNL
Res. Assoc., Innovative Genomics Inst.

Graduate Programs

Biochemistry, PhD
Horticultural Science, Masters
Molecular Biology, PhD
Plant Biology, PhD
Soil Science & Agronomy, Masters

Examples gathered from the **Career Destinations Survey** of recent Berkeley graduates.