

Natural Resources



Photo credit: Natalea Schager

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.

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 meb.ugrad@berkeley.edu.

MOLECULAR ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

Bachelor of Science

Berkeley
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The **Molecular Environmental Biology** (MEB) major introduces students to the organization and function of biological organisms at the molecular, cellular, organismal, and ecological levels. Students learn how to apply biological principles to understand how organisms function in their environment.

MEB graduates acquire a broad foundation across a breadth of biological core areas, which gives them especially valuable scientific training. A classic pre-medical or pre-health science major, MEB prepares students well for graduate education in pre-health fields and in biological research, as well as a variety of careers related to biology and the environment.



Photo Credit: Kimberly Cattarusa-Bernard

“ *Molecular Environmental Biology is a fantastic way to get a taste of everything Cal has to offer in terms of biology. Animals, insects, microbes, plants - you name it.* ”

– Jonathan Huang, MEB student

STRUCTURE OF THE MEB MAJOR

The lower division coursework provides a strong foundation in biological principles, and the upper division areas introduce students to the organization and function of biological organisms at the molecular, cellular, organismal, and ecological levels.

The major also offers specialization through six Areas of Concentration: 1) animal health and behavior, 2) biodiversity, 3) ecology, 4) environmental and human health, 5) insect biology, and 6) global change biology.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Apply to the **Sponsored Project for Undergraduate Research (SPUR)** program to pursue joint research with a faculty member.
- Conduct field research in French Polynesia through the **Moorea program**.
- Present your research at a CNR-sponsored **Poster Session**.

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

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DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR	WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
Explore your major	<p>Familiarize yourself with MEB major requirements.</p> <p>Meet with the MEB undergraduate adviser and sketch out a four-year plan.</p> <p>Enroll in a Freshman Seminar or DeCal.</p> <p>Consider taking some lower division courses over the summer.</p>	<p>Consider adding a minor or a summer minor.</p> <p>Review the CNR guidelines for study abroad.</p> <p>Finish the majority of your lower division courses.</p>	<p>Choose an emphasis in MEB and enroll in related courses - some classes count in several emphases.</p> <p>Start with Area B classes - they are generally easier than Area A classes.</p> <p>Begin Area A courses. Pre-Health students should enroll in MCB 102.</p>	<p>Gain hands-on skills with courses in Statistics or field biology.</p> <p>Connect your major to career opportunities focusing on areas of concentration within your major.</p>	<p>Jobs and Employers</p> <p>Analyst, East Bay Regional Parks Comm. Health Fell., Horseshoe Farm Field Technician, UC Berkeley Lab Assistant, UC Berkeley Ophthalmic Tech., East Bay Retina Research Assistant, LBNL Research Assoc., Gladstone Institutes</p> <p>Graduate Programs</p> <p>Dentistry Ecology Education Entomology Medicine Molecular Biology Nursing Optometry Physician Assistant Public Health Toxicology Veterinary Medicine Zoology</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>Get involved with one of the many student groups at CNR.</p> <p>Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect.</p>	<p>Get to know CNR peer advisors.</p> <p>Attend Student Environmental Resource Center meetings to engage with sustainability issues on campus.</p> <p>Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</p>	<p>Become a CNR Peer Advisor or Student Ambassador and help other CNR students.</p> <p>Network with faculty and graduate student instructors to find a mentor who is conducting research on a topic that interests you.</p>	<p>Reach out to graduate student instructors who can offer guidance about post-graduation opportunities and serve as mentors.</p> <p>Become a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.</p>	
Discover your passions	<p>Apply for a research position through the SPUR program.</p> <p>Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships to learn about student programs and resources.</p> <p>Explore the Berkeley Natural History Museums.</p>	<p>Apply for a new SPUR project or the Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program.</p> <p>Go to faculty office hours to learn about their research and opportunities for collaboration.</p> <p>Consider applying to NSF REU Programs.</p> <p>Follow a Course Thread of your interest.</p>	<p>If eligible, apply to the CNR honors program to pursue a year-long independent research project under the guidance of a faculty member.</p> <p>Apply for funding in order to initiate your own project through SPUR.</p>	<p>Complete any "bucket list" courses that you still wish to take.</p> <p>Consider submitting to the Berkeley Scientific Journal.</p> <p>Present your research at a CNR poster session.</p> <p>Teach your own DeCal course.</p>	
Engage locally and globally	<p>Learn about service and leadership opportunities with the Public Service Center and LEAD Center.</p> <p>Explore study abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.</p>	<p>Go to events and seminars held on campus to learn about current research.</p> <p>Look into study abroad programs if you are interested in conducting field work abroad.</p> <p>Apply for internships or shadowing opportunities.</p>	<p>Apply for a CNR Travel Grant to fund travel for academic conferences or research.</p> <p>If interested in environmental policy, look into UCDC in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>Consider the Alternative Breaks program to go on service trips over spring or winter break.</p>	<p>Attend a conference such as the Clinton Global Initiative: University Conference. Look into travel grants from CNR and ASUC.</p> <p>Look at fellowship and gap year opportunities.</p>	
Reflect and plan your future	<p>Explore the resources at the Career Center.</p> <p>Join Handshake to find Berkeley-specific career opportunities and workshops.</p> <p>Create a LinkedIn profile and resume.</p> <p>Connect with alumni through the Career Connection Series and Cal Alumni Externship program.</p>	<p>Check out the MEB Career Snapshot for information about career options.</p> <p>Conduct informational interviews with people in careers you are curious about.</p> <p>Take advantage of special advising in CNR on career resources and opportunities.</p>	<p>Attend a job search essentials workshop.</p> <p>Applying to grad school? Take GRE/MCAT/DAT over the summer and start asking for recommendation letters.</p> <p>Research potential graduate programs.</p> <p>Attend a STEM-focused career fair.</p>	<p>Attend Employer Information Sessions and network with professionals from a variety of industries.</p> <p>Pursue On-Campus Recruitment.</p> <p>Explore TAMU, ECOLOG, and EvoDir for jobs.</p> <p>Look into the centralized SOPHAS grad school application for public health.</p>	<p>Examples gathered from the Career Destinations Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.</p>