



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 Rausser College majors are located in the Office of Instruction and Student Affairs in 260 Mulford Hall.

Visit nature.berkeley.edu/advising/meet-rausser-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 ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.

Berkeley

Rausser College of Natural Resources
260 Mulford Hall #3100
Berkeley, CA 94720-3100
nature.berkeley.edu

GENETICS AND PLANT BIOLOGY

Bachelor of Science

Berkeley

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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

GENETICS AND PLANT BIOLOGY

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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>Meet with your college advisor to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Review major and college requirements.</p> <p>Talk to the college's 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 college 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 Rausser College 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>	<p>Jobs and Employers</p> <p>Analyst, Cornerstone Research Lab Tech, Foriphyte Research Asst., LBNL Res. Assoc., Innovative Genomics Inst.</p> <p>Graduate Programs</p> <p>Biochemistry, PhD Horticultural Science, Masters Molecular Biology, PhD Plant Biology, PhD Soil Science & Agronomy, Masters</p> <p>Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.</p>
Connect and build community	<p>Take advantage of the college's Student Resource Center.</p> <p>Join a 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 events in the college.</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 Rausser College Peer Advisor.</p> <p>Become a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.</p> <p>Seek mentorship from your professors, faculty, and graduate student instructors.</p>	<p>Join a professional association 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 Rausser College students.</p>	<p>Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.</p> <p>Assist faculty in their research through URAP.</p> <p>Check out research by your peers at a college poster session.</p>	<p>Apply for a Rausser College 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 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 the college and ASUC.</p>	
Reflect and plan your future	<p>Visit Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library.</p> <p>Develop a plan for getting career ready.</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 Rausser College 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>Utilize job board tools in your job search.</p> <p>Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.</p> <p>Attend Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.</p> <p>Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</p>	

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