The UC Davis College of Biological Sciences (CBS) is one of two colleges in the nation dedicated to the study of biological sciences. The college’s faculty, researchers, and students explore fundamental questions about life. Breakthroughs in medicine, nutrition, agriculture, and the environment all depend on understanding life’s building blocks and how they fit together. Many CBS faculty have been recognized for excellence by prestigious academic organizations, including the American Academy of Arts and Science, the National Academy of Sciences, and the California Academy of Sciences. Students in CBS are encouraged to engage in research and outreach with faculty and peers in an effort to ensure a rich academic experience and advance students’ professional opportunities.

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Interested in a tour of CBS? Email: cbsundergrads@ucdavis.edu

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Visit us online at:
basc.ucdavis.edu
Follow us on Facebook:
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College of Biological Sciences Majors

**Foundation Courses:** Biology 2ABC; Math 17ABC or 21AB; Chemistry 2ABC; (Organic) Chemistry 8AB or 118ABC; Physics 7ABC or 9ABCD. For course descriptions and complete degree requirements, please reference the UC Davis General Catalog: catalog.ucdavis.edu. Speak with an advisor to discuss the difference between a Bachelors of Science and a Bachelors of Arts.

**Biological Sciences:** Providing excellent preparation for graduate or professional study or for a career in virtually any field, the biological sciences program at UC Davis gives you access to world-class faculty, exciting research and internship opportunities and a wealth of academic and laboratory resources.

**Biochemistry & Molecular Biology:** This major brings faculty members with interdisciplinary strengths in biochemistry, genetics, and cell biology into a dynamic group that addresses issues in basic biology at the molecular and cellular level. Teaching and research activities in the department transcend phyletic separations among plants, animals, and microorganisms.

**Cell Biology:** This major integrates principles from many disciplines, including chemistry, physics, genetics, biochemistry and physiology, for a more complete understanding of cell function. Emphasis is placed on how cellular organization and function contribute to the development, maintenance and reproduction of adult organisms. Cell Biology students are provided with a comprehensive understanding of the cell, the basic structural and functional unit of all living organisms.

**Evolution, Ecology & Biodiversity:** This multi-disciplinary and highly collaborative community of faculty, students, post-doctoral researchers and staff are dedicated to understanding the evolution and ecology of populations, species and communities. Research programs span all levels of biological organization, ranging from the evolution of genes and genomes, to the diversification of species over time, to the structure, function and biogeography of ecological communities.

**Genetics & Genomics:** Students will use molecular genetics to study the biology of individual microbes and use microbial and non-microbial models to study specific cellular processes, including recombination, stress responses, aging, cancer, DNA repair, and mutagenesis.

**Marine & Coastal Science:** In the Marine Ecology and Organismal Biology intercollegiate track of this intercollegiate majors, students enjoy major coursework, a fieldwork experience and diverse research opportunities that highlight the ecological processes determining the distribution of organisms and the patterns and mechanisms of evolution in the ocean.

**Microbiology:** This branch of biology studies bacteria, archaea, fungi and yeasts, algae, protists, and viruses. These microorganisms are ubiquitous in nature and play a crucial role in agriculture, biotechnology, ecology, medicine, and veterinary science. The ease and power of simultaneous genetic and biochemical analysis of microbes led to the emergence of the new disciplines of molecular biology and molecular genetics, and the industry, biotechnology.

**Neurobiology, Physiology & Behavior:** This field promotes the understanding of vital functions common to all animals. All animals perform certain basic functions—they grow, reproduce, move, respond to stimuli and maintain homeostasis. Research focuses on functional mechanisms; the control, regulation, and integration of these mechanisms; and the behavior that relates to these mechanisms at the levels of molecules, the cell, the organ system and the organism, including at the human ecological level.

**Plant Biology:** This major includes cellular and molecular plant biology and the traditional areas of botany such as anatomy, morphology, systematic, physiology, mycology, phycology, ecology and evolution. Research on plant biology relies on approaches in molecular biology, genetics and biochemistry to identify and characterize plant genes and to investigate plant structure, function and development.
The Biology Academic Success Center (BASC)
basc.ucdavis.edu

The BASC is a comprehensive academic advising center for the College of Biological Sciences. It offers CBS students the academic support necessary to succeed as Aggies. The BASC provides services to students who are interested in one of the nine CBS majors, or completing one of the seven minors. The Center’s services include advice about general education and major requirements, as well as guidance related to research, personal development, campus or community involvement, and future careers. The BASC’s goal is to help students reach their full academic and personal potential.

First-Year Experience Program

To create a sense of local community, freshmen are divided into cohort groups that attend a weekly seminar, and participate in field trips and/or social functions together. During weekly seminars, students learn about campus research opportunities directly from faculty presentations. These conversations are designed to introduce students to the breadth of biological questions open to investigation for the future. Each cohort is named after one of the major branches of the Tree of Life. The mascot for each cohort is an organism that has advanced our understanding of biology.

“I feel extremely grateful that this program exists. I am shy and have little experience approaching faculty/people of stature/importance and I believe this program will give me the tools to begin those conversations.” —CBS student

The following minors are offered by departments in the College of Biological Sciences:

- Biological Sciences
- Evolution, Ecology & Biodiversity
- Exercise Biology
- Human Physiology
- Neuroscience
- Plant Biology
- Quantitative Biology & Bioinformatics

A minor is earned with approximately 18-24 units of upper division coursework. UC Davis offers a total of 114 minors. Speak with an advisor to learn more.