

How to Apply

Applications for admission are accepted on-line from September through early December. Deadlines are posted at pmb.berkeley.edu. Students may only apply to one program at a time at Berkeley.

Application requirements include:

- Completed online Graduate Application for Admission
- Transcripts of all college-level work
- Resume
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official General GRE test scores
- Official TOEFL test scores (for international students)

The department recommends, but does not require, the GRE Subject test in biology (B24) or biochemistry, cell and molecular biology (B22).



University of California
Berkeley

Graduate Programs in Plant Biology and Microbiology

Full descriptions of our faculty, research activities, and graduate program can be found at pmb.berkeley.edu.

For more information contact
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The Department of Plant & Microbial Biology @ Berkeley

PMB is committed to the University of California's mission of dedicated research and to providing a superior education in plant biology, microbiology, and related life sciences. Berkeley is a premiere institution for ground-breaking research and academic excellence.



Graduate Program in Plant Biology

With an increasing awareness of environmental problems, global changes, and emerging food needs, plants are a focal point for new research initiatives and educational training programs. The challenges of understanding the biology of plants, their development, and responses to the environment will continue to fuel the expansion of plant research well into the future. The plant biology program focuses on contemporary basic plant research, design of biotechnologies, and plant-microbe interactions by utilizing molecular, cellular, genetic, genomics, biochemical, physiological, developmental, evolutionary, and structural biology approaches.

Graduate Group in Microbiology

The Graduate Group in Microbiology (GGM) provides access to diverse disciplines through an integrated program of study. The discipline of microbiology at Berkeley encompasses



biochemistry, physiology, molecular biology, genetics, cell biology, developmental biology, pathogenesis, ecology, and evolution. Microbiology students develop an understanding of microbial biology from single molecules to cells to complex ecosystems and which spans the spectrum of beneficial and pathogenic model systems.

About our Graduate Programs

Our graduate programs are designed to enhance student preparation, engagement, and research training. Students experience the excitement of discovery in fundamental and applied research, and the satisfaction of teaching in the classroom.

Rotations - Students rotate through three research laboratories in the first academic year. The rotations give students the opportunity to explore areas of interest for their doctoral research.

Core Classes - Students take a two-semester core course comprised of six modules, which cover topics in either plant biology or microbiology.

Seminars - Students enroll in two graduate-level seminar courses with emphasis on student presentations and faculty discussions.

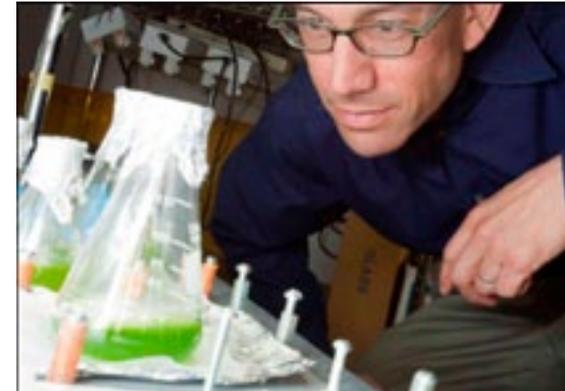
Qualifying Exam - This exam assesses a student's broad knowledge of plant biology or microbiology and in-depth knowledge in their research area.

Teaching Experience - Students serve as a graduate student instructor (GSI) for two semesters.

Dissertation - After passing the qualifying exam, students select a three or four member

committee to serve as the dissertation committee.

Finishing Talk - Students present their dissertation project at a departmental seminar.



Admissions Review

The department conducts one admission review per year for fall semester entry. We admit students seeking a doctorate degree based on:

- Grades and coursework at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Letters of recommendation
- Standardized examination scores
- Statement of Purpose
- Personal history statement
- Other research documentation
- Academic potential and accomplishment

Applicants selected for an on-campus interview attend our interview weekend at UC Berkeley in late January.

Funding is provided to all admitted students.