Students are admitted to UCSC with a "proposed major" in most cases, and later petition to officially declare the major. Admission to UCSC does not guarantee acceptance into a particular major. Students must be declared in a major by the end of the second year (or equivalent), so learning about and preparing for a major is a primary goal for first-year students.

### Major: BIOINFORMATICS

**Importance of an early start:** This is a course-intensive and/or highly sequential program, and students who intend to pursue this major must begin taking classes for the major in their first term at UCSC.

**Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major:** Admission to this major is selective. Students will be accepted to the major based on their grade point average in selected introductory courses. Detailed information about admission to this major will be available to students in the 2015-16 general catalog and also on the BSOE undergraduate advising website ([http://ua.soe.ucsc.edu](http://ua.soe.ucsc.edu)) in the fall.

**Frosh who intend to pursue this major should do the following things prior to the beginning of fall term...**

- Determine your Math Placement by completing an assessment at [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-aleks-overview.html](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-aleks-overview.html). If you have completed a college-level math course, or have scored 3 or better on an AP or IB calculus exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment.

- See [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-course-credit.html](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-course-credit.html) for information on placement based on college courses, and [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-test-credit.html](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-test-credit.html) for information on placement based on AP exams.

- Students with college-level transferable courses must mail or email a copy of the transcript to Baskin School of Engineering Undergraduate Advising Office by July 1, in addition to providing the official transcript to the UCSC Admissions Office. Students without a prior programming background are recommended to take CMPS 5P, Intro. to Programming in Python, which is offered in Winter and Spring quarters.

- Attend summer orientation and review degree requirements.

**Skills important for success in this major:** Mathematics, science, problem solving, design, and writing. A desire to apply science and technology to solving problems of global health and medicine.

**Links to More Information:**

- [http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/) (general info)
- [http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/](http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/) (major requirements, course descriptions, etc.)
- [http://www.bme.ucsc.edu/bioinformatics/](http://www.bme.ucsc.edu/bioinformatics/) (program website)

**Questions? Contact an Adviser!** Baskin School of Engineering Undergraduate Advising 459-5840 or advising@soe.ucsc.edu

BSOE Undergraduate Affairs Office  225 Baskin

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**Fall:**

- Math 3, Precalculus, or Math 19A: Calculus for Science, Engineering, and Math

**Winter:**

- and one of the following:
  - CHEM 1A: General Chemistry, OR
  - CMPS 12A/L: Intro. to Programming (accelerated) OR
  - BME 80G, Bioethics

**Spring:**

- Students without a prior programming background are recommended to take CMPS 5P, Intro. to Programming in Python, which is offered in Winter and Spring quarters.

**Other information:**

- Links to More Information:
  - [http://www.bme.ucsc.edu/bioinformatics/](http://www.bme.ucsc.edu/bioinformatics/) (program website)
  - [http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/) (general info)
  - [http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/](http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/) (major requirements, course descriptions, etc.)

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**BSOE Undergraduate Affairs Office**  225 Baskin  459-5840

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