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.

**PLANT SCIENCES, B.S.**

This is a course-intensive and/or sequential program, and students who intend to pursue this major must begin taking classes for the major sometime in their first year at UCSC.

### Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major:

To qualify for this major, students must pass with a grade of C or better the following courses or their equivalents: CHEM 1A, CHEM 1B, BIOL 20A, BIOE 20B, and BIOE 20C, and MATH 11A or 19A. Students with two or more grades of NP, D, or F in the policy courses are not eligible to declare. The math courses will not be included in the calculation of the maximum number of C-, D+, D, D-, F or NP grades for admission to the major.

### Importance of an early start:

To determine your math placement by completing an assessment in ALEKS as soon as possible, and by July 16 at the very latest. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu) for information about ALEKS. If you completed a college-level math course, or scored 3 or better on an AP calculus exam, or 5 or better on an IBH mathematics exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/) for information on placement based on college courses or AP/IBH.

### 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 in ALEKS as soon as possible, and by July 16 at the very latest. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu) for information about ALEKS. If you completed a college-level math course, or scored 3 or better on an AP calculus exam, or 5 or better on an IBH mathematics exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/) for information on placement based on college courses or AP/IBH.

### Skills important for success in this major:

- Critical and logical thought, complex problem solving using scientific rules and methods, deductive and inductive reasoning.

### Sample first year plan:

**Fall:** BIOE 20C: Ecology and Evolution  
MATH 11A: Calculus with Applications

**Winter:** MATH 11B: Calculus with Applications and  
CHEM 1A: General Chemistry

**Spring:** BIOL 20A: Cell and Molecular Biology and  
CHEM 1B: General Chemistry

### 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.)  
- [https://www.eeb.ucsc.edu/academics/undergrad/majors-academic-planning/](https://www.eeb.ucsc.edu/academics/undergrad/majors-academic-planning/) (program website)

### Questions?  
Contact an Adviser!

Betty O'Donnell and Karina Frazier  
eebadvising@ucsc.edu  
105 Coastal Biology Building  
Coastal Science Campus

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