

Berkeley Summer Sessions

FRESHMAN & TRANSFER EDGE 2020



STUDENT HANDBOOK

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Congratulations on your acceptance to UC Berkeley, and welcome to Freshman/Transfer Edge! Your participation in this program gives you an early start to your Berkeley experience by offering you the chance to take courses that fulfill breadth and prerequisite requirements ahead of most incoming students, learn about campus and its many resources before the fall rush, and connect with peers to build your campus community. In addition to your summer coursework, we'll also provide virtual programming that includes online workshops designed to familiarize you with the best Berkeley has to offer, including mentorship, internship opportunities, campus organizations focused on professional development, and fun social activities. Through this program, you will build a strong foundation for your time here at Berkeley.

WHO'S INVOLVED

Berkeley Summer Sessions & Study Abroad: Program Coordination

The Freshman and Transfer Edge programs are coordinated by Summer Sessions & Study Abroad office staff at the University of California, Berkeley.

If you have any questions regarding registration, course enrollment, program-related events, billing, or other logistical aspects of the program, please contact:

Berkeley Freshman/Transfer Edge – Sara Assadi-Nik, Program Coordinator

Address: 1995 University Ave, Suite 130, Berkeley, CA 94704

Email: summeredge@berkeley.edu

[Virtual Advising Options](#)



NEXT STEPS CHECKLIST

TASK	INSTRUCTIONS	DEADLINE
<p>1. Register for your summer courses</p>	<p>After selecting Freshman/Transfer Edge in your CalCentral Notification list, your summer enrollment card will be activated within 12 hours. To check if your summer term has been activated, log on the My Academics page of your CalCentral account and see if the summer term appears. Once the summer term populates, you are able to enroll in courses. Please refer to the CalCentral Registration Guide for further instruction.</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>2. Add yourself to the Freshman/Transfer Edge Facebook Group</p>	<p>Please go to Facebook to add yourself to the official Facebook group. This will be a way for you to connect with your cohort and receive announcements and updates from program staff.</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>3. Complete the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 FAFSA</p>	<p>Please go to https://fafsa.ed.gov/ to complete this step. The 2019-2020 FAFSA will determine your Financial Aid Eligibility for Summer 2020 and the 2020-2021 FAFSA will determine your eligibility for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021.</p>	<p>June 1, 2020</p>
<p>4. Login to CalCentral to ensure you have submitted all necessary Financial Aid documentation</p>	<p>Log in to CalCentral (CalNet ID required) and review your Tasks to ensure that your FAFSA has been received and that you have submitted all required documents.</p>	<p>By indicated deadlines on CalCentral</p>
<p>5. Complete tasks on CalCentral</p>	<p>There are various items you will need to complete on CalCentral as a new UC Berkeley student. These will be listed in the Tasks section of your Dashboard.</p>	<p>By indicated deadlines on CalCentral</p>

SELECTING & REGISTERING FOR COURSES

After selecting Freshman or Transfer Edge in your CalCentral Notification list, your summer enrollment card in CalCentral will be activated within 12 hours. To check if your summer enrollment has been activated, log on to the My Academics page of your CalCentral account and see if the summer term appears. Once the summer term populates, you are able to enroll in courses. Enrollment in Summer Sessions courses is on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is in your best interest to register for courses as soon as possible. Keep in mind that to be eligible for summer financial aid, you are required to enroll in a minimum of six units.

Note that you are able to enroll in courses in any summer session, however, most online welcome and programming activities for Freshman and Transfer Edge students will take place during Sessions C and D.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, summer sessions at Berkeley will be operating remotely during summer 2020. As such, all courses you will be able to take through Freshman and Transfer Edge will be run virtually. As we are in the special circumstance of operating our summer sessions courses remotely this year, it's important for program participants to best understand how these courses will be operated in the virtual realm.

When selecting your courses, it's important to recognize the distinction between courses that are operated remote versus online:

Remote Courses

- Designed to be synchronous, meaning held at the same day and time on a weekly basis, and usually held in a face-to-face format.
- Due to COVID-19, these courses have been temporarily shifted to a remote delivery mode, allowing access to these courses throughout the remote 2020 summer session.
- Remote courses will differ from the existing online courses in that they may require synchronous sessions that will be difficult for students located out-of-country to attend.

Departments are asked to be accommodating of students by:

- Being as asynchronous as possible.
- Being as transparent about the course structure as possible in the syllabi and with students.
- Offering two sittings of exams, one in the early AM and one in late PM (Pacific Time).

Online Courses

- Are courses that have been designed to be asynchronous, meaning you are able to access online modules on a weekly basis, but move at your own pace outside of a traditional set date and time.
- Online courses are based in careful instructional design focused on both content and interaction. Lectures are delivered through videos with high production value and interactive course discussions, and facilitated through online platforms.

When choosing your classes, it's important to keep this distinction in mind, and make sure to look through course syllabi and class notes on the course schedule to identify which style the course will be taught in and which best matches with your learning style. **Read the syllabus closely and refer to the Class Notes, which will provide information on the instructional delivery of the course.**

Explore courses on the [Berkeley Academic Guide](#), where you can filter results by Session, Major, and Breadth Requirements. When considering classes to take, it may be helpful to review the general undergraduate graduation requirements. Each college and school within UC Berkeley has its own requirements. Check with your specific college, school, and/or major for further details. If you are enrolling in a course for your intended major, you must take that course for a letter grade.

For in depth instructions on how to register for summer courses through CalCentral, please refer to your CalCentral Registration Guide.

FRESHMAN EDGE SPECIFIC COURSE(S)

Letters and Science W1: Exploring the Liberal Arts

Letters and Science W1 is an online course for *incoming freshmen students*, particularly those who are excited to be at UC Berkeley but uncertain of where to start their explorations. Taking L&S W1 over the summer will give you the best possible start on your education, and help you make the most of your four years at Cal.

This online course provides an introduction to the intellectual landscape of the College of Letters and Science, revealing the underlying assumptions, goals and structure of a liberal arts education. Guest speakers, drawn largely from the faculty and recent graduates of L&S, will shed light on the nature and attractions of their disciplines.

Topics will be both theoretical and practical: for example, you'll learn why the L&S breadth requirement exists and also get a sense of which disciplines would be most engaging for you to pursue while satisfying breadth.

The deadline to register/add this course is **5PM** (Pacific Standard Time) on **Friday, June 19, 2020**. For more information on Letters and Science W1 visit the [Exploring the Liberal Arts website](#). **Please Note:** Incoming freshmen enrolling in L&S W1 will be considered part of the Freshman Edge program, even if L&S W1 is the only course you take.

The Berkeley Changemaker – A Discovery Experience – L&S C12

This course is rooted in the belief that all Berkeley students are in the process of becoming *Berkeley Changemakers*. Changemakers make their impact everywhere on the campus intellectual landscape – through scientific breakthroughs, artistic imagination, social action projects, and entrepreneurial ventures. It is a course for entering students, who will learn to employ creative and critical thinking to imagine better futures, and then develop leadership skills to mobilize others to help create them. The ultimate goal of the course is to help incoming students discover their own identity as *Berkeley Changemakers* through shaping their educational experience at UC Berkeley.

Taught by an all-star team of 18 UC Berkeley faculty members, representing 15 diverse departments and 6 schools across our campus. Our guest faculty includes Chancellor Carol Christ, former Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, and 8 Distinguished Teaching Award winners.

Make sure to register for this course by the **July 24th deadline**. Make a note of the Class Number 15703 – you will need it to complete the enrollment process. For more information on this course, visit [The Berkeley Changemaker website](#).

Please Note: Freshman Edge students who take either L&S W1 – Exploring the Liberal Arts and/or L&S C12 – The Berkeley Changemaker™: A Discovery Experience and pass will earn **one unit of free summer tuition** to be applied to your account to use in Summer 2021! If you do decide to take both courses you would only earn one unit of free summer tuition for 2021, not two.

TRANSFER EDGE SPECIFIC PROGRAMS

NEW! TRANSFER CONNECT– Mentorship Program

All Transfer Edge students are invited and encouraged to enroll in Transfer Connect, a one-unit course that will help you build community and confidence as you begin your time at Cal. Transfer Connect is a version of the popular Berkeley Connect mentoring program, specially designed just for Transfer Edge students. Through Transfer Connect you will be matched with a UC Berkeley graduate student who will be your personal mentor for the summer, and placed in a small group of transfer student peers who will meet weekly for virtual discussions facilitated by your mentor. Through one-on-one and group mentoring, you will start to build your support network and chart your path at Berkeley. Students report that Berkeley Connect mentoring helps them connect with other students and with professors; increases their understanding of the research university and their awareness of resources available on campus; and boosts their sense of belonging at UC Berkeley. **To sign up for Transfer Connect, log into CalCentral and enroll in any section of English 198BC during Summer Session D.** For questions about Transfer Connect email berkeleyconnect@berkeley.edu.

CE3 Transfer Transition Program

Are you a student in the CE3 Transfer Transition Program (TTP)? Students enrolled in TTP will have a program-specific orientation and will receive specific information about that orientation. TTP students are not required to attend any other Summer Session orientation. If you are a TTP student, and you have questions, please contact Luisa Giulianetti, TTP Coordinator, at lgiulian@berkeley.edu.

Haas Pre-Core Program

Transfer students who have accepted their offer of admission to Haas are invited to participate in the Haas Summer PreCore Program. The program offers two 6-week courses during Session D for newly admitted Haas transfer students (2 sections of UGBA 196). The program helps students refresh skills they need during their two years of classes at Haas and is intended to better prepare students for the rigorous coursework of the fall semester. After opting in to Transfer Edge, an email with further information about Pre-Core registration will be sent on a rolling basis from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The Pre-Core office will enroll students in coursework and students will be unable to enroll themselves. If you have any further questions regarding Pre-Core coursework, please contact a Haas advisor at 510-642-1421.

PAYMENT, CANCELLATION & ACADEMIC DEADLINES

It is important to understand the deadlines around summer course withdrawal and associated fees. Freshman and Transfer Edge students pay UC Berkeley undergraduate tuition of \$419 per unit. There are no registration fees or program fees, and there are no out-of-state or international fees for Freshman Edge or Transfer Edge participants.

In addition, all UC students pay a one-time only campus fee of \$352, which covers the cost of [ASUC](#) and other student services.

This is a mandatory fee paid for campus services and passed via referendum by the student body of the University. All UC students not registered on the Berkeley campus for Spring 2020 also pay \$40 for the [2020 Class Pass](#), which allows free access to all [AC Transit buses](#) and campus shuttles.

Fees are not due at the time you select the program. You will receive a bill for your Summer Sessions fees, which will appear on your [CalCentral](#) My Finances tab under Billing Summary. Fees will be posted around the third week of the month, and payable by the 15th of the following month.

Please Note: We understand the change in delivery of courses to remote and online may not work for all students. In light of this, **we have extended the deadlines to drop or withdraw and receive a refund through the first two weeks of a course for Session A-D.** This means students taking classes in Session A,B,C, or D have the opportunity to try a course for two weeks and can drop or withdraw and receive a refund of tuition & the Campus Fee. For students enrolled in a course during 3-week Session E or F, our standard refund deadline would apply.

For more information about important enrollment and cancellation deadlines visit our [Summer Sessions Schedule and Deadlines](#) page. For more information about fees and the Summer Sessions refund policy please go to our [Fees](#) and/or [Refund Policy](#) page or reach out to program staff if you need clarification.

FINANCIAL AID

To apply for financial aid, you will need to complete both the 2019-20 and 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application no later than June 1, 2020, and include UC Berkeley's federal school code (001312) on the applications. **Note:** We strongly encourage FAFSA filers to use the [IRS Data Retrieval](#) Tool to ensure the accuracy of your application information. Please visit [Financial Aid](#) for more information. Pose questions to the aid office by '[opening a case](#)' online through Cal Student Central.

1. **Complete the 2019-20 AND 2020-21 FAFSA or Dream Act Application no later than June 1, 2020.** Completing the FAFSA or Dream Act Application, along with your summer enrollment, allows the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office to determine your aid eligibility for the summer term on the UC Berkeley campus.
2. Enroll in a minimum of six units for summer.
3. **Login to [CalCentral](#) (CalNet ID required) two to three business days after enrolling in your courses.** Under My Finances, select 2019-20 from the drop-down menu under Financial Aid and Scholarships and click *View Awards*.
4. **Review your Communications and Tasks** to ensure that we have received your 2019-20 FAFSA or Dream Act Application and that you have submitted all required documents.
5. You can also review your financial aid awards and Cost of Attendance for summer on this page as well.
6. To learn more:
 - Review [Summer Aid](#) information and [Summer Aid Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - Understand how your aid will be disbursed with [Financial Aid Payments and Refunds](#)

PREPARATORY WEBINARS & SUMMER VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Pre-Arrival and Welcome Webinars

In late April (Freshman Edge) and late May (Transfer Edge), we will hold a pre-arrival webinar focused on providing information that will help you enroll in courses, seek advising, keep on top of important registration and enrollment deadlines, learn more about campus housing and meal plans, and get acquainted with key campus resources.

For all Freshman and Transfer Edge students, we will hold a welcome webinar, focused on preparing you to arrive on campus and make the most of your summer at Berkeley. We'll share tips and reminders for navigating your first week on campus, review important instructions regarding housing move-in, cover where to purchase textbooks, how to obtain your Cal1 card, and share the schedule for our summer activities.

Summer Programming

Throughout the summer, we'll host a variety of virtual programming for Freshman and Transfer Edge students. You'll be able to take advantage of online workshops designed to familiarize you with the best Berkeley has to offer, including study abroad, financial wellness, campus organizations focused on professional development, and fun online socials to help you connect with peers and build your campus community.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

DATE	DESCRIPTION
April 28, 2020	Freshman Edge – Pre-Program Webinar
May 12, 2020	Transfer Edge – Pre-Program Webinar
May 19 and June 18, 2020	Freshman & Transfer Edge – Welcome Webinar (May 19 Sessions A/B and June 18 Sessions C-E)
May 27, June 10, June 24, July 7	Virtual Social Events
June 22, 2020	Session C begins
July 6, 2020	Session D begins
July 14, 2020	Summer Minors and Study Abroad Workshop
July 21, 2020	Financial Wellness Workshop
July 28, 2020	Career Center Presentation
August 4, 2020	Virtual Summer Send-Off Social

Please note: This is a preliminary calendar. Specific event details will be given out as we come closer to the date. Dates and programming are subject to change.

SUMMER HOUSING

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, summer sessions is being operated remotely, as such, students should not expect to be on campus. In the event that you are in need of summer housing on campus, please refer to the summer housing website for the most up to date information. Summer campus housing remains available for those in need of it.

Summer housing is offered through the Summer Sessions Housing Office, not through the Freshman/Transfer Edge program. Please refer all questions regarding housing to the [Summer Sessions Housing Office](#). For more information about Summer Sessions housing, including housing rates and dates, important deadlines, and application instructions, please visit the [Summer Sessions Housing webpage](#). You can read FAQs about applying for Summer Housing as a Freshman/Transfer Edge student [here](#).

ACADEMIC & OTHER ACCOMODATIONS

Registering with DSP

The Disabled Students' Program (DSP) is committed to ensuring that all students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities at UC Berkeley. DSP offers a wide range of services for students with disabilities. These services are individually designed, and based on the specific needs of each student as identified by disability specialists, development counselors, and accessibility experts.

Students are encouraged to disclose to Berkeley any accommodations (physical, academic, psychological etc.) they may need as early as possible. Though these matters sometimes may seem personal, it is in your best interest to disclose any necessary support you need to the university as soon as possible, so that adequate steps can be taken to allow you to thrive as a student at Berkeley. In order to request accommodations, please visit the UC Berkeley [Disabled Students' Program](#) (DSP) website and follow the steps for "New Students".

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you are an international student who is admitted for fall semester and registering for summer courses through Freshman or Transfer Edge, there are special instructions that you must follow in accordance with the policies of the [Berkeley International Office](#). You must enroll in [full-time](#) units and request an I-20 or DS-2019 that starts in summer and covers your degree program. Please follow the instructions available on the Berkeley International Office website for students '[Starting in Summer](#)'.

Please Note: The Summer Sessions & Study Abroad office does not issue student visas or [Nonimmigrant Information Forms](#) (NIF). For questions about the NIF or visa application, documentation requirements, or processing stages, please contact the [Berkeley International Office directly](#), as they are the University office that issues these documents.

To learn more, please refer to the following resources:

- How to obtain the [Nonimmigrant Information Form](#)
- Review Berkeley International Office [Student Visa](#) webpage
- Explore resources, tips, and helpful information for [new students](#)

CAMPUS RESOURCES

[Cal 1 Card](#)

The Cal 1 Card is UC Berkeley's official photo ID card and access card to many campus resources. It functions as a key card to residence halls and campus buildings and as a meal card to Cal Dining locations. It can also be used as a debit card to make purchases at a variety of on and off-campus vendors. For more information and to add funds to your Cal 1 Card debit account, please visit the [Cal 1 Card website](#).

[Campus Safety](#)

Berkeley offers comprehensive free night safety services: BearWalk Escort (trained student employees of UCPD, uniformed and radio-equipped), night shuttle buses, and door to door service. Bear Walk provides a walking escort to nearby residences, public transportation or parking facilities during evening hours. All services are free and available to all.

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#)

The mission of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is to support the academic mission of the University by providing comprehensive counseling services to assist students with a variety of concerns including academic success, life management, career and life planning, and personal growth and development. For more information visit the [CAPS website](#).

[UC Berkeley Parking and Transportation](#)

Everything you need to know about parking and transportation options in and around Berkeley, including the Campus Shuttles, Night Shuttles, and local public transportation, can be found at UC Berkeley's Parking and Transportation [website](#).

[The Student Learning Center](#)

The Student Learning Center (SLC) is a community of 18 professional staff with disciplinary expertise, 300 trained undergraduate peer tutors, and 20 Graduate Student Instructors. The SLC is dedicated to fostering academic excellence and is driven by the philosophy that students working with students promotes academic and personal success. Summer services include study groups and drop-in tutoring in math, science, and statistics; tutoring and coaching in writing, and a study lounge.

[The Transfer Student Center](#)

The Transfer Student Center provides services to assist students who transfer to Cal from other colleges and universities with navigating the academic and cultural landscape of this research university. Their programs and services focus on supporting a successful transition, helping transfers build connections and community, and assisting students as they explore and pursue their academic and career goals.

[University of California, Berkeley Library](#)

Listed among the top 10 libraries in the US by the American Library Association, Berkeley's library, consisting of over 30 libraries on campus, offers more than 11 million volumes (including books, microforms, maps, newspapers), and a wide variety of tools to help students complement their classroom education. Students looking for a quiet place to study will find that the libraries are an ideal environment.

[Computer Centers](#)

The general access computer facilities provide convenient and secure on-campus computing facilities for students. Staff provides up-to-date and relevant software and hardware coupled with outstanding customer service and technical support. All general access computer facilities are equipped with software offerings, scanners, color/monochrome printing, and laptop charging stations.

[Cal Student Central](#)

At Cal Student Central, ask questions and take care of key university business all in one place. This is the central location to seek help and ask questions about financial aid and scholarships, fees and billing, payments, disbursements, registration and enrollment. Visit the office in Sproul Hall or [open a case online](#).

[University Health Services](#)

University Health Services (UHS) provides comprehensive medical, mental health and health promotion services to all Cal students. Students can use the medical services just as they would their regular doctor's office and urgent care center. Board-certified physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, a nutritionist, and nurses staff the facility. A comprehensive counseling center, staffed by psychiatrists, psychologists and licensed therapists, offers individual and group counseling, and includes a complete career counseling center.

[Gender Equity Resource Center](#)

The Gender Equity Resource Center, fondly referred to as GenEq, is a UC Berkeley campus community center committed to fostering an inclusive Cal experience for all. GenEq is the campus location where students, faculty, staff and alumni connect for resources, services, education and leadership programs related to gender and sexuality.

[Recreational Sports](#)

Cal Recreational Sports is dedicated to enhancing the knowledge, wellness, fitness, personal skills and quality of life for students, faculty, staff, and the community. Rec Sports provides facilities, programs, activities and the opportunity for cooperative and competitive play.

[Recreational Sports Facility](#)

The (RSF) on campus is the University's largest, most complete fitness center with an Olympic-sized swimming pool, 3 weight rooms, seven basketball courts, seven racquetball courts, six squash courts, treadmills, elliptical trainers, stairmasters, rowing machines, and stationary bikes. Additionally, there is space reserved for volleyball, group exercise classes, martial arts, and table tennis.