



**SUMMER  
SPRINGBOARD**  
Look Inward. Go Upward.

# DNA, DATA AND DISCOVERY

**New student admissions for  
Summer 2026 are open.**

## 2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.



## Program Highlights

- Discover the importance of genetic research as it pertains to various aspects of daily life
- Gain hands-on experience analyzing biological data
- Learn to utilize cutting-edge bioinformatics tools and R programming
- Access, process and interpret genetic and environmental datasets to investigate ecological and evolutionary questions
- Develop skills in data visualization and scientific communication to clearly present analytical findings
- Explore real-world applications of bioinformatics across ecology, conservation, healthcare and biotechnology

## 2026 Dates

[UC Santa Barbara](#)

Session 1: July 19 - 31



## Academic Program Overview

What could be more important than investigating DNA to explore the mysteries of life in our past, present and future? Bioinformatics is a fascinating interdisciplinary field that combines biology and data analytics to discover the essence of life and, potentially, revolutionize healthcare and agriculture. From genomes to ecosystems, big data is transforming how we study the flourish of human, animal and plant life. As the ability to generate large-scale biological datasets expands, so does our need for researchers who can turn information into insight.

With real-world applications in biotechnology, healthcare, agriculture, environmental science and data analysis, bioinformatics is at the leading edge of interdisciplinary research. Through hands-on research experiences, students will sharpen their critical thinking, learn to interpret complex data and explore big-picture questions in ecology and evolution.



## Excursions

- DNA Lab at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural history
- Plant Genomics Lab at the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens

## Instructors

### Haley Goss

Hayley Goss is a marine molecular ecologist and Ph.D. candidate at UC Santa Barbara. Through her research and teaching, she emphasizes bridging molecular biology and applied conservation through accessible, data-driven approaches. Her research uses genetic data and bioinformatic analysis to examine how environmental variables and human-made structures influence population structure across ecosystems.

## Tuition Information:

### Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes:** optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price:** \$5,798

### Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for \$125 per day
- **Price:** \$3,298

## Supplements:

- **Application fee:** starting at \$99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan:** Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click [here](#) for more info.



## Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm, Monday-Friday. During week two students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to additional academic time (excursions, speakers).



## Typical Schedule

|                |                                                 |  |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| 8AM            | Breakfast                                       |  |
| 9AM            | Academic Course /<br>Commuter Student Arrival   |  |
| 12PM           | Lunch                                           |  |
| 1:30PM         | Academic Excursions or<br>Recreational Activity |  |
| 3:30PM         | College Readiness<br>Workshop or True You       |  |
| 5PM-<br>6:30PM | Commuter Student<br>Departure                   |  |
| 6PM            | Dinner                                          |  |
| 7PM            | Clubs                                           |  |
| 10:30PM        | Night Checks                                    |  |

[More info on Airport Transfer](#)

[More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service](#)

[Apply Now!](#)

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