

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.

Neuroscience + Behavioral Biology Infosheet

New student admissions for Summer 2027 are open.

2-Week Course

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

Program Highlights

- Conduct hands-on neuroscience research, including mammalian brain dissection
- Explore sensory perception, neural communication, and brain function
- Study brain injury and neurological disease and their effects on the nervous system
- Learn professional research methods, experimental design, and data analysis
- Explore neuroscience careers in medicine, biotechnology, psychology, and engineering

2027 Dates

Berkeley:
- Session 2: June 20 - July 2
- Session 4: July 5 - July 17*
- Session 6: July 18 - July 30

Georgetown:
- Session 1: June 20 - July 02

UC Santa Barbara:
- Session 1: July 18 - July 30

*Sessions starting July 5th will start on Monday, not Sunday (due to the holiday). During the first week, classes meet Tuesday through Friday, followed by Monday through Friday in week two.

Academic Program Overview

This comprehensive neuroscience and behavioral biology program gives high school students hands-on experience investigating how the brain and nervous system regulate thought, emotion, and behavior. Through interactive activities, experiments, and a mammalian brain dissection, students explore neural communication from the molecular level to complex behaviors.

Students begin by building model neurons and use electronic simulations to understand action potentials and neural signaling. The course examines all five sensory systems—vision, hearing, smell, touch, and taste—through hands-on activities that demonstrate how the brain processes sensory information. Students also explore neuroanatomy and investigate how brain injuries and neurological disorders disrupt nervous system function. The curriculum emphasizes real-world neuroscience research methods, including experimental design, model systems, ethical considerations, and modern laboratory techniques. Students analyze scientific literature and engage in discussions of diverse neuroscience career pathways, including academic research, biotechnology, medicine, psychology, and biomedical engineering.

Excursions

Students in Berkeley have visited the Bunge Lab, Smith Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, the Computational Psychiatric, Neuroimaging and Sleep Lab, and toured Berkeley's Henry H. Wheeler Jr Brain Imaging Center.

Instructors

Berkeley - Lucas Encarnacion-Rivera

Lucas is a PhD candidate and an emerging leader in computational and systems neuroscience at Stanford University, where he combines cutting-edge dynamical systems modeling with computational ethology to unlock new insights into motivation and movement disorders. As a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow working under pioneering neuroscientists Dr. Karl Deisseroth and Dr. Liqun Luo, he is working on innovative approaches to understanding complex brain functions. He also holds his BS in neuroscience from Emory University.

Georgetown - Dr. Gabriela Rosenbaul

Gabriela Rosenblau is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at George Washington University, where she researches the cognitive and neurobiological mechanisms underlying social interactions,
with a focus on Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Tuition Information:

Apply by November 30 to lock in the lowest prices of the year. Tuition increases on December 1

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**:
  - Berkeley: $6,298
  - Georgetown & UC Santa Barbara: $5,798

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5:15pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Prices:**
  - Berkeley & UC Santa Barbara: $3,298
  - Georgetown: $2,998

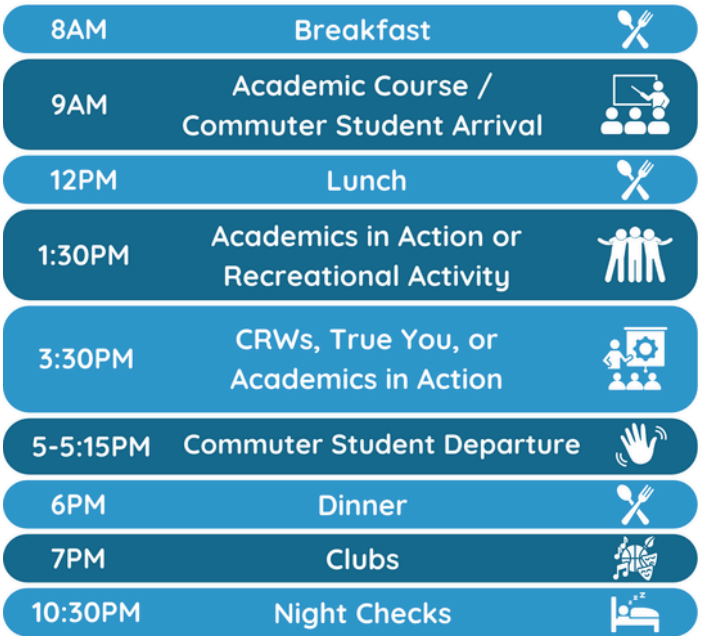
Supplements:

- **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. Afternoons in both weeks are dedicated to students' preferred College Readiness Workshops (CRW), True You, and Academics in Action, with Academics in Action including academic excursions, guest speakers, and course-related activities, such as an instructor-led project or student-led, independent study.

Typical Schedule



Schedule above is a sampler; real schedules may vary based on program and academic track.

More info on Airport Transfer

More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

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