

The Equitable Agriculture and Environmental Management Program

Application Deadline May 1, 2024

Apply here: [Equitable Agriculture Summer Workshop Application](#)

Together, the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) and the University of Arizona (UA), both Hispanic-Serving Institutions, are working towards building sustainability and justice concerns into STEM education in agriculture with a specific focus on recruiting, retaining, and supporting underrepresented (UR) students. The two year program emphasizes environmental justice as a starting point and provides career-relevant skills and internships.

This comprehensive program includes summer coursework, career development, learning communities, and internships for undergraduate students and support for graduate students from underrepresented backgrounds pursuing Master's or Ph.D. degrees.

- Start with summer coursework on Equitable Agriculture and Environmental Management. Scholarships are available!
- Engage over the next academic year with research.
- Get valuable career development workshops on resumes, interviewing, and applying to jobs and internships.
- Continue into a paid summer internship, paired with a graduate student in a partner organization like the US Department of Agriculture, a non-profit, or an agriculture business.

Skills:

In this program, you will have the opportunity to acquire proficiency in GIS, R Programming, and Statistics and Causal Inference. This will enable you to:

- Develop innovative tools and applications for efficient data analysis.
- Address contemporary issues in agriculture and environmental science through a geospatial approach.
- Advance equitable and sustainable agriculture by making informed decisions grounded in statistical and causal inference analyses.

Prerequisites:

- Interest in sustainable and equitable agriculture.
- Be a 3rd or 4th standing student or Transfer student.
- Have basic knowledge of a programming language. R is preferred.
- Completion of two years of college coursework in a related field, including STEM fields, including a quantitative sequence (Calculus and/or statistics)

DETAILS:

Summer Coursework:

In summer 2024 and summer 2025, we will support four students from UCSB and four students from UA to attend a two week intensive course in equitable and sustainable agriculture. In addition to topics regarding agriculture policy, equity, and sustainable agricultural practices, the coursework will catapult students into the use of data.

Scholarship/Stipend

There are a limited number of scholarships available for students who get accepted to the program. Please indicate in your application whether you would like to be considered for a scholarship. The scholarship will cover the cost of housing and will provide students with a stipend.

Housing:

Upon acceptance to the program, Housing will be provided for the duration of the program. You must indicate that you want to be considered for housing in the application. Only students enrolled in the program are eligible to receive housing.

Research:

Interested students will participate throughout the school year in agricultural research projects related to equity and sustainability. They will be mentored by faculty and PhD students to develop research and writing skills.

Internships:

Within the Bren Environmental Leaders (BEL Fellows) program of paired summer internships between diverse undergraduate students and graduate student mentors, we will support 16 students in mentoring pairs in summer internships. These internships, with partner organizations and agricultural researchers, will help students develop professional skills and gain valuable experience and mentoring.

Why UCSB and UA?

UCSB stands out with its prestigious environmental sciences program and renowned multidisciplinary approach. Integrating agriculture into UCSB's existing strengths equips graduates to lead efforts in solving environmental, economic, and social challenges in the food system. The institution's substantial population of first-generation students with familial ties to agriculture ensures that these unique insights enrich STEM education.

UA, as the first federally recognized Hispanic Serving Institution in Arizona, is dedicated to meeting the educational needs of its diverse communities. The institution's Seal of Excelencia recognition underscores its commitment to Latinx student success. UA, like UCSB, enrolls many first-generation students with connections to the agriculture and food industries, providing opportunities to leverage these experiences in their educational journey.

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Kathy Baylis: baylis@ucsb.edu

Sarah Anderson: sanderson@bren.ucsb.edu

Ashley Larsen: alarsen@ucsb.edu

Anna Josephson: aljosephson@arizona.edu

Jeffrey Michler: jdmichler@arizona.edu

Esau Casimiro Vieyra: ecasimirovieyra@ucsb.edu