



# UC Irvine Cell Biology

## Developmental and Cell Biology, B.S.

### Major Description

This Developmental and Cell Biology major is intended to provide students with intensive training in cutting-edge approaches to understanding the structure and function of cells and how they interact to produce a complex organism. In-depth training in the molecular basis of cell and developmental biology is coupled with integrating knowledge obtained from the recent explosive advances in genomic technology to provide a strong working understanding of how to approach problems in basic research. Majors are provided intensive training aimed at preparing them for graduate programs in modern developmental and cell biology or other biomedical sciences.

### Starting Your Cell Biology Degree

#### Lower-Division Major Requirements in Cell Biology

From UC's perspective, community college is where you begin working on the first two years of your bachelor's degree. This includes taking lower-division coursework specifically related to your field of study that may be applied toward graduation in your major.

Listed below are the lower-division requirements for **Developmental and Cell Biology, B.S.** that may be satisfied with approved community college courses unless otherwise noted. To find out which of these requirements are shared by other UC campuses, see the UC Statewide Transfer Preparation Path in Cell Biology.

- General Biology (full sequence for Biological Science majors)
- General Chemistry (full sequence)
- Organic Chemistry (full sequence)
- Calculus (full sequence; Statistics may be substituted for second term of Calculus)
- Calculus-based Physics (full sequence)

#### !!! IMPORTANT !!!

All of these requirements do not necessarily have to be completed **before** you transfer. See the next section of this path for what you must do to be competitive for admission.

#### FIND YOUR COURSES

Every course at your community college that can be used to meet any of the lower-division major requirements is listed at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

## Becoming Competitive for Admission to Cell Biology

### Selection Requirements

Important information on selection requirements for admission to the major, including what this campus advises applicants to complete—and by when and with what GPA—is outlined below. It is important to note that meeting these requirements does not necessarily guarantee admission to the campus or major. Majors designated as “highly selective” receive many more qualified applicants than there are spaces available. The stronger your major preparation, the more competitive you will be for these slots.

- A **highly selective** major; you **must** have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher. If you are interested in this major you should apply to Biological Sciences.
- To enter the Biological Sciences major, junior-level applicants with the highest grades overall and who satisfactorily complete course prerequisites will be given preference for admission. The Developmental and Cell Biology major is available to Biological Sciences majors generally one year after transfer and upon completion of course requirements.
- Prior to transfer, all applicants **must** complete General Chemistry (full sequence) with laboratory with a minimum grade of B in each course and General Biology (full sequence for Biological Science majors) with a minimum grade of C in each course. You are advised to complete as many lower-division major-preparation courses as possible prior to transfer.
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## Satisfying General Education in Cell Biology

### General Education Requirements

While all UC campuses urge you to focus on your lower-division major requirements while in community college, it is important to remember that general education (GE), or “breadth,” requirements for your bachelor’s degree may also be met with approved community college courses. In fact, some majors require completion of lower-division GE coursework as part of your preparation prior to transfer. The good news is you may be able to double-count some of your lower-division major coursework for related GE requirements.

The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) is a series of courses at California community colleges that students may complete to satisfy GE requirements. Certain students, however, may not be well served by following this GE option. Specific information about satisfying GE requirements as a Cell Biology major is listed below.

- You are advised to complete IGETC prior to transfer.

## Related Majors

Preparation for the following majors may be similar to the Cell Biology major described above (consult the campus catalog and [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)).

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, B.S.
- Biological Science, B.S.
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, B.S.
- Genetics, B.S.
- Microbiology and Immunology, B.S.
- Neurobiology, B.S.
- Plant Biology, B.S.