UC RIVERSIDE
College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

DEPARTMENTS
Biochemistry
Botany and Plant Sciences
Chemistry
Earth and Planetary Sciences
Entomology
Environmental Sciences
Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology
Mathematics
Microbiology and Plant Pathology
Molecular, Cell, and Systems Biology
Nematology
Physics and Astronomy
Statistics

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS
Life Sciences Majors
Biochemistry
Biology
Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology
Entomology
Microbiology
Neuroscience
Plant Biology

Mathematical Sciences Majors
Data Science
Mathematics
Mathematics for Teachers of Secondary School
Statistics

Physical Sciences Majors
Chemistry
Earth Sciences
Environmental Sciences
Geology
Geophysics
Physics

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Biophysics
Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology
Chemistry
Earth and Planetary Sciences
Entomology
Environmental Sciences
Environmental Toxicology
Evolutionary Biology Joint Doctoral Program
Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics
Mathematics
Microbiology
Neuroscience
Physics
Plant Biology
Plant Pathology
Statistics and Applied Statistics

CNAS.UCR.EDU

The College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) is home to world-renowned scholars pursuing research that deepens our knowledge of the universe we live in and improves the quality of life for inhabitants of the state, the nation, and the world. Central to this research is educating the students who come to CNAS to learn science, and who leave with an integrated grasp of how they can change the world. These students, and the faculty who teach them, benefit from a structure that is unique among land-grant colleges: CNAS' 13 departments encompass the life, physical, mathematical, and agricultural sciences. This structure encourages an extraordinary degree of collaboration, reflected in the interdisciplinary research centers and the many cooperatively taught degree programs. Modern science is team-based, and CNAS embodies that principle in everything it teaches and practices.

BY THE NUMBERS

UCR #3
in Hispanic & Latino STEM graduates in the nation
(National Science Foundation)

2 NOBEL LAUREATE FACULTY MEMBERS

UCR #1
in social mobility
(US News & World Report 2025)

18 NATIONAL ACADEMIES MEMBERS

TOP 1%
IN THE WORLD
(EDURANK'S 2025 BEST UNIVERSITIES)

CNAS has produced more than **40** different citrus varieties, including the popular Tango mandarin, commonly marketed under the Cuties brand

2025 U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
BEST GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES
Top 1% in Plant and Animal Science
Top 7% in Geosciences
Top 7% in Environmental/Ecology
Top 7% in Physics
Top 8% in Chemistry
Top 9% in Biology and Biochemistry
Top 10% in Molecular Biology and Genetics
Top 10% Best Global Universities
Top 12% in Agricultural Sciences

ABOUT UC RIVERSIDE
Located on nearly 1,200 scenic acres in Inland Southern California and distinguished by more than 60 years of high-impact research, UCR is a living laboratory for the exploration of issues critical to growing communities. One of the most diverse, inclusive institutions within the prestigious 10 campus University of California system, UCR serves as an incubator of new knowledge, an engine of social mobility, and an economic powerhouse. For more information about UC Riverside, please visit www.ucr.edu.

UC Riverside College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences
CNAS Office of the Dean | 900 University Avenue | Riverside, CA 92521 | @UCRCNAS

UC RIVERSIDE | College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

CNAS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

California Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP) encourages underrepresented students in the STEM fields to successfully complete science degrees and further pursue their studies at the graduate and professional level. (ue.ucr.edu/initiatives/camp)

Research in Science and Engineering (RISE) is a summer research program that prepares students for graduate and professional study by providing valuable research experiences, training, seminars, meetings with the Divisional Dean, and professional development workshops. (rise.ucr.edu)

Maximizing Access to Research Careers Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (MARC U-STAR) provides structured training programs to prepare high-achieving, underrepresented students for doctoral programs in biomedical research fields. (marcu.ucr.edu)

Mentoring Summer Research Internship Program (MSRIP) is a summer research program designed for rising juniors, seniors (and some rising masters students) from educationally and/or economically disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue their Ph.D. (apro.ucr.edu/undergrad/msrip)

Next Generation Plant Biology Summer Research Program is a NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program provides opportunities for students interested in the cellular and molecular biology of plants to perform research using next generation technologies. (cepceb.ucr.edu/research-training/reu)

Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Agriculture (AI4SA): A key part of the AI4SA program is the Digital Agriculture Fellowship, which is designed for undergraduate students to gain hands-on experience in agriculture and research, and to provide the guidance necessary for entering the U.S. agricultural workforce. (ai4sa.ucr.edu)

Building Bridges to the Professoriate (BB2P) fosters collaboration between California State University, Fullerton and Fresno State University with the UCR to increase student engagement in undergraduate and graduate research in science and mathematics among underrepresented minorities (URM). (cnasgrad.ucr.edu/bb2p)

The majority of undergraduate students join research labs for hands-on experience in science research. Learn more about undergraduate research opportunities at cnas.ucr.edu/student-research-opportunities.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS

The CNAS Learning Communities program is designed to build community and academic excellence amongst first-year science students through the collaboration of faculty, advisors, and peers at UC Riverside. Learning Communities facilitate an environment where students feel they belong in a community of scholars. (cnasscholars.ucr.edu/cnas-scholars-learning-community)

The Science Ambassador Program empowers undergraduate students by developing communication and leadership skills. These students represent CNAS programs at official functions, make presentations, and serve as a student liaison to various communities both on and off campus with an emphasis on recruitment. (scienceambassadors.ucr.edu)

CNAS Transfer Connections provides support and advancement opportunities for community college transfer students through workshops and peer mentoring, as well as academic and professional skill building activities. (cnastransfer.ucr.edu)

California Teach/Science-Math Initiative (SMI) prepares students for careers in teaching. SMI aims to increase the number of math and science teachers who are prepared to meet the educational needs of diverse learners and dedicated to teaching in high need schools. (smi.ucr.edu)

In addition to the above programs, several of our majors offer capstone courses that provide extensive hands-on training to students to prepare them for high paying skilled jobs. Discover more student success programs at cnas.ucr.edu/student-success-programs.

CNAS GRADUATE STUDENTS

Majority of CNAS graduate students pursue Ph.D. degrees. They are well supported by a variety of multi-year funding opportunities that include stipends, payment of the majority of tuition and fees, training grants, teaching assistantships, and appointments as a graduate student researcher. The CNAS Graduate Student Affairs Center (cnasgrad.ucr.edu) provides assistance to both applicants and enrolled graduate students. Examples of college mentoring, fellowship, and graduate student success programs are indicated below.

GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING & FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Career Mentoring of Underrepresented STEM Students for the Professoriate (CUSP) is a University of California HSI Doctoral Diversity Initiative that provides mentoring and career development to graduate students who are interested in becoming professors and are from groups typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). (cnasgrad.ucr.edu/cusp)

Plants 3D National Research Training (NRT) Program is a NSF-funded graduate training program enables biologists, engineers, and computational scientists to combine plant and microbial biology with engineering technologies to discover, design, and deploy plant-inspired solutions for agriculture and biotechnology. (plants3d.ucr.edu)

T32 Training Grant in Environmental Toxicology is a NIH-funded graduate training program provides trainees with high-quality research training and a curriculum of study in subjects related to environmental toxicology, chemistry, statistics and research ethics.

Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Training Grants are Department of Education funded training grants provide support to trainees in 6 different college programs: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Evolution, Ecology and Organismal Biology; Entomology; Microbiology and Plant Pathology; Neuroscience; and Plant Biology.

TRANSCEND is a California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) funded training grant educates students in stem cell biology, engineering, bioethics, and science to policy, allowing them to contribute to the creation of new knowledge in stem cell biology and regenerative medicine. (transcend.ucr.edu)

GRADSUCCESS

Graduate Writing Center provides writing support through workshops and individual consultations. (gwc.ucr.edu)

Teaching Assistant Development Program provides pedagogical training and professional support for teaching development. (tadp.ucr.edu)

University Teaching Certificate is for graduate students interested in careers as professional teachers and researchers. (tadp.ucr.edu/university-teaching-certificate)

Graduate Student Mentorship Program supports incoming Ph.D. students with network of peer and faculty mentors. (gradmentors.ucr.edu)

05/21/25

QUESTIONS WHEN APPLYING

UCR Undergraduate Admissions
admissions.ucr.edu
admissions@ucr.edu

UCR Graduate Admissions
graduate.ucr.edu
grdadmis@ucr.edu

QUESTIONS ONCE ADMITTED

CNAS Undergraduate Academic Advising
cnasstudent.ucr.edu
cnasstudent@ucr.edu

CNAS Graduate Student Affairs Center
cnasgrad.ucr.edu
cnasgrad@ucr.edu

UCR