

Plant Futures Spring 2022

The future of food is plants

Faculty Leader: Will Rosenzweig [wbrose@berkeley.edu]

Mode of Instruction: Synchronous and Asynchronous

 [plantfuturesinitiative](https://www.instagram.com/plantfuturesinitiative)

Enrollment information: Please see below. Contact Jordan Bennett, jordan_bennett@berkeley.edu with any questions about course registration.



Course Overview

The Plant Futures course is an innovative and collaborative effort between UC Berkeley Haas, Public Health, Engineering, Public Policy, and the Berkeley Food Institute that will bring together experts from a variety of fields and disciplines to highlight the significance of plant-based foods as a critical lever for food systems change. The plant-based food sector has grown in response to climate change, the pandemic, and a variety of public health concerns. Plant Futures will provide a unique opportunity for students to gain rapid and direct exposure from sector leaders and explore plant-forward opportunities through interdisciplinary team work, networking, and mentorship.

The Plant Futures Challenge Lab is a 3-unit course that includes the Introduction to Plant-Centric Food Systems Symposium and a semester-long challenge lab project. There is also an option for students to enroll in *only* the 1-unit symposium. Please note: *you cannot enroll in both courses*.

Plant Futures Symposium: Introduction to Plant-Centric Food Systems, 1 unit | Synchronous

All students please fill out the [Plant Futures Symposium Interest Form](#)

Friday, January 28, 8:30am-5:30 pm PST, and Saturday, January 29, 8:30am-5:30pm PST (Virtual)

+ Symposium Discussion Section Please select **one** of the options below & *note that we will have an alternative assignment available if you are unable to attend the discussion sections*

- Option 1 (In-Person): Friday, February 4, 2021, 9am-11am PST
- Option 2 (Remote): Thursday, February 3, 9am-11am PST

Weekend-long symposium, open to undergraduate and graduate students from all programs. The Symposium will provide an immersive, deep dive into the key issues emerging in the plant-based foods sector and will provide a networking component for students and industry leaders, in addition to a matchmaking session for students interested in participating in the optional adjunct course to the symposium. Guest presenters will come from leading organizations and institutions at the forefront of plant-forward innovation and research. Previous speakers include the founders of Beyond Meat, Oatly, Tofurky, Miyoko's Creamery, Califia Farms, and Veggie Grill; leading investors at Stray Dog Capital; the producer of The Game Changers documentary; speakers from the Good Food Institute & The Hartman Group, and many more.

Plant Futures Challenge Lab, 3 units | Synchronous + Asynchronous, Project-based

All students please fill out the [Plant Futures Challenge Lab Application](#).

- **Module 1:** Introduction to Plant-Centric Food Systems Symposium - *times listed above*
- **Module 2:** Applied Learning in Plant-Centric Food Systems - starts Thursday, February 4, meets weekly on Thursdays from 4:00pm - 6:00pm PST

The Challenge Lab includes the Plant-Centric Food Systems Symposium (Module 1) **and** the semester-long applied learning component (Module 2) that will meet synchronously (2 hours per week) & asynchronous (with teams) for the entire duration of the Spring semester. The Plant Futures Lab is open to undergraduate and graduate students from all programs, will require an application, and will be capped at 40 students. Students will form interdisciplinary teams and apply design thinking to solve plant-based food challenges related to product, policy, marketing and other interdisciplinary topics. Students will work closely with a mentor from one a professional partner from the plant-based sector throughout the semester. Enrollment information will be sent out after applications are reviewed in December. Each student is expected to attend all synchronous meeting times on Thursdays and to complete 80-100 hours/work over the course of the semester towards their challenge project. Past challenge lab partners include Califia Farms, Miyoko's Creamery, New Crop Capital, Tofurky, and Cal Dining.

Course Enrollment Information

Plant Futures Symposium: Introduction to Plant-Centric Food Systems, 1 unit

- **Undergraduate students** from all programs: enroll in **UGBA 192T.8 Class #19265** on CalCentral. Please fill out the [Plant Futures Symposium Interest Form](#) to receive instructions for event registration.
- **MBA Students:** Enroll in either the UGBA course listing on CalCentral OR the MBA course listing (available during add/drop in January). Please fill out the [Plant Futures Symposium Interest Form](#) to receive instructions for event registration.
- **Non-MBA Graduate students:** Enroll in either the UGBA course listing on CalCentral OR the MBA course listing (available in January). Please fill out the [Plant Futures Symposium Interest Form](#) to receive instructions to register for the event AND to receive enrollment instructions for the course.
- **ALL STUDENTS:** MUST register for a student Symposium ticket using a unique link we will share with you AFTER you fill out the Plant Futures Symposium Interest Form. Please do NOT register on the general public Symposium event page. Please note that only enrolled UC Berkeley students taking the course for academic credit may attend the Symposium for free.

Plant Futures Challenge Lab, 3 units

- **Undergraduate students** from all programs:
 - Enroll in: **UGBA 192T.22 Class #19268** on CalCentral
 - Please fill out the [Plant Futures Challenge Lab Application](#). Applications are accepted on a ROLLING basis, and the deadline to apply for Plant Futures Challenge Lab is: **December, 19, 2021, 11:59pm.**
 - We will notify you of acceptance to the course and whether you were matched to a project on a rolling basis, starting in early December.
- **Graduate students** from all programs: Please enroll in either the **UGBA course** listing (instructions above) OR the **MBA course** listing (instructions below).
 - Please fill out the [Plant Futures Challenge Lab Application](#). Applications are accepted on a ROLLING basis, and the deadline to apply for Plant Futures Challenge Lab is: **December, 19, 2021, 11:59pm.**

- We will notify you of acceptance to the course and whether you were matched to a project on a rolling basis, starting in early December.
- After acceptance into the course, you will be able to enroll in the MBA listing during add/drop in January.

Course Grading Policy & BFI Food Systems Certificate

- *ALL Haas undergraduate majors must take their Business (UGBA) courses for a letter grade.* Only non-Haas majors can opt to take UGBA for P/NP grading.
- Both graduate-level classes can count toward the BFI graduate food systems certificate only ***if*** they are taken for a letter grade.