Plant Futures Spring 2022

The future of food is plants

Faculty Leader: Will Rosenzweig [ wbrose@berkeley.edu ]
Mode of Instruction: Synchronous and Asynchronous

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

Friday, January 28, 8:30am-5:30 pm PST, and Saturday, January 29, 8:30am-5:30pm PST (Virtual)
+ Symposium Discussion Section (In-Person) - Please select one of the options below:
  ● Option 1: Friday, February 4, 2021, 8am-11am
  ● Option 2: Friday, February 4, 2021, 12pm-3pm

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

Please fill out the Plant Futures Application if you are interested in registering for the Plant Futures Challenge Lab
  ● 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
- **Graduate students** from all programs: Enroll in either the UGBA course listing on CalCentral OR the PH course listing, if you intend to use this towards the BFI Graduate Certificate in Food Systems. The UGBA course will NOT count towards the BFI Food Systems Certificate. Please check this flyer in mid-November for the PH course number.
- **ALL STUDENTS:** MUST register for a student Symposium ticket using a unique link we will share with you AFTER you register for the course. 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
  - 1. Add yourself to the waitlist.
  - 2. Please fill out the Plant Futures Application only if you are applying for the Plant Futures Challenge Lab. Application Deadline for Plant Futures Challenge Lab: December, 15, 2021
  - 3. Enrollment information will be sent out in mid-January, after all applications are reviewed
- **Graduate students** from all programs: Please enroll in either the UGBA course listing (instructions above) OR the PH course listing (instructions below), if you intend to use this towards the BFI Graduate Certificate in Food Systems. The UGBA course will NOT count towards the BFI Food Systems Certificate.
  - 1. Please fill out the Plant Futures Application only if you are applying for the Plant Futures Challenge Lab. Application Deadline for Plant Futures Challenge Lab: December, 15, 2021
  - 3. Enrollment information for the PH course listing will be sent out in mid-January, after all applications are reviewed

**Course Grading Policy**
- **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.