

# Welcome, MCDB Students!



Please open/bookmark our website for a copy of these slides, if helpful:

**[mcdb.ucla.edu/new-student-orientation/](https://mcdb.ucla.edu/new-student-orientation/)**



# New Student Orientation 2025

Maggie Schmall, Undergraduate Advisor, MCDB

Jason Giron, Undergraduate Advisor, MCDB

# MCDB Undergraduate Advisors



**Maggie Schmall & Jason Giron**

Email: [undergradmcbd@lifesci.ucla.edu](mailto:undergradmcbd@lifesci.ucla.edu)

Website: [mcbd.ucla.edu/undergraduate/advising](https://mcbd.ucla.edu/undergraduate/advising)

Offices: 128 & 126 Hershey Hall

# MCDB Major Requirements



- **FIVE UPPER-DIVISION CORE COURSES**
- **LABORATORY REQUIREMENT**
- **20 UNITS OF APPROVED UPPER-DIVISION ELECTIVES**

# MCDB Major Requirements



## Upper-Division Core Requirements

**CHEM 153A – Biochemistry: Introduction to Structure, Enzymes, and Metabolism**

**LIFESCI 107 – Genetics**

**MCDB 165A – Biology of Cells**

**MCDB 138 – Developmental Biology**

**MCDB 144 – Molecular Biology of Cellular Processes**

# MCDB Major Requirements



## Laboratory Requirement (Choose One)

1. MCDB 104AL – Research Immersion Lab in Developmental Biology
2. MCDB 187AL – Research Immersion Lab in Genomic Biology
3. MCDB 150AL – Research Immersion Lab in Plant-Microbe Ecology
4. MCDB 196B – Research Apprenticeship II  
+ MCDB 180B – Scientific Analysis & Communication II
5. MCDB 198C – Honors Research in MCDB  
Limited to students completing the Biomedical Research Minor
6. MCDB 196B, 198B/C, 199B/C  
+ MCDB 145 – Appreciation & Critical Review of Biomedical Research

# MCDB Major Requirements



## 20 Units of Approved Upper Division Electives

Category 1	5 units from Category 1
Category 2	5 units from Category 1 or 2
Category 3	10 units of Category 1, 2, or 3

# 60 Units of Upper-Division Coursework



- MCDB consists of about 49 upper-division units
- Therefore, you must take additional upper-division courses outside of the MCDB major
  - Any course numbered 100-199 = Upper Division
  - Minor



# Getting Involved in Research



- Biomedical Research Minor  
[biomedresearchminor.ucla.edu](https://biomedresearchminor.ucla.edu)
  - Introductory course required to apply
    - BMD RES 5HA, M6H, or 10H
- Undergraduate Research Center  
[sciences.ugresearch.ucla.edu](https://sciences.ugresearch.ucla.edu)
- Consult with your MCDB advisor for more information!

# Tips for New Students



- The Quarter System
- Course Load
- Prerequisites and Sequence of Courses
- When to Seek Advice
- College vs. Departmental Advisors
- Professors' Office Hours
- Current Contact Information

# Medical School Requirements



- 3 quarters of college-level **English** (AP does not always apply)
- 3 quarters of college-level **Math** (AP does not always apply)
- 1 year of **Biology with Lab**
- 1 year of **General Chemistry + Lab**
- 1 year of **Organic Chemistry + Lab**
- **Biochemistry** (CHEM 153A at UCLA)
- 1 year of **Physics + Lab**
- **Spanish** is highly recommended

# Stay informed about all things Pre-Health at UCLA

[prehealth.ucla.edu](https://prehealth.ucla.edu)  
information, services, and resources

 **PreHealthUCLA**  
upcoming events and opportunities



# Join the MCDB Undergraduate Listserv



- Send an email to [MCDBIO-L+subscribe@lists.ucla.edu](mailto:MCDBIO-L+subscribe@lists.ucla.edu)
- You will receive an email from the group. Select “Join this Group.”
- You will then be directed to the Google Groups website.
- Click “Ask to Join Group” near the top of the page.
- You will receive an email confirmation once your request has been approved.

# Additional Questions?



Send us an email!

**[undergradmcd@lifesci.ucla.edu](mailto:undergradmcd@lifesci.ucla.edu)**



# Thank you!