INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The main objective of the discipline of Cognitive Science is to provide a framework for bringing all the many disciplines that study the mind together into a cohesive whole. Students in our program draw on psychology, linguistics, computer science, philosophy, neuroscience, and anthropology, among other fields, to illuminate how the human mind works, and why it works the way it does. Many influential ideas within cognitive science originated at Berkeley. The program draws on over forty affiliated faculty from a variety of departments, and is closely integrated with cognitive science research efforts across the campus.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Do a deep dive into a research topic with the Cognitive Science Honors program.
• Add an international perspective by studying abroad in Cognitive Science.
• Help other students in the major as a Cognitive Science Peer Advisor.
• Attend the Cognitive Science Student Association’s Annual Conference.

THE COGSCI CURRICULUM

UC Berkeley is one of relatively few institutions to offer an undergraduate major in Cognitive Science. The major curriculum moves from a broad introductory survey course to a six-course distribution requirement covering the philosophy of mind, cognitive psychology, linguistics, computational modeling and artificial intelligence, neuroscience, and various social sciences. After fulfilling their distribution requirements, students have the opportunity to concentrate further study in an area of their choosing, and, if eligible, complete an honors thesis. Some course requirements for the CogSci major can be difficult to enroll in due to high demand. The Cognitive Science peer and staff advisors are available to provide guidance for course enrollment.

I love being able to take classes from different disciplines—definitely expands your brain tremendously both in terms of knowledge and the people you meet.”

– 2018 CogSci Graduate

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day
Come to Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Events
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit cogsci.berkeley.edu for news and updates. The CogSci Student Association also holds special events for students. Info can be found at cogsci.berkeley.edu/people/cognitive-science-student-association.

ADVISING

Peer Advisors are available Fall and Spring semesters to answer questions about the major. Contact them at askcogsci@berkeley.edu or visit cogsci.berkeley.edu/peer-advising.

Staff Advisors Catherine Byrne (clbyrne@berkeley.edu) and Mackenzie Moore (mackenziemoore@berkeley.edu) are available by appointment for advising. Please use the CalCentral appointment system to schedule.

Photo credit: CSSA

Photo credit: CogSci Department
**COGNITIVE SCIENCE**

**Design Your Journey**

**Bachelor of Arts**

**Explore**

**Your Major**
- Familiarize yourself with major requirements and college requirements.
- Map out a 4-year plan on CalCentral.
- Enroll in Freshman Seminars on interesting topics.

**Connect**

**Build Community**
- Connect with CogSci peer advisors to learn more about the major.
- Attend the Calpalooza student fair and explore student organizations on CalLink.
- Form a study group at the Student Learning Center.

**Discover**

**Your Passions**
- Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships to learn about research opportunities and resources on campus.
- Take L&Ss for an introduction to the College.
- Explore new topics in student-facilitated DeCal courses.

**Engage**

**Locally and Globally**
- Explore volunteering opportunities on campus.
- Learn about community service with the Public Service Center.

**Reflect**

**And Plan Your Future**
- Visit the Career Center and use the Yearly Planner to guide your career path.
- Join Handshake to find Berkeley-specific internship opportunities and development workshops.
- Shadow alumni in the Winter Externship Program.

**First Year**
- Complete the declaration requirements and declare the major.
- Reference the sample program plan to plan your upper division requirements.
- Plan now if you are considering a minor or summer minor or plan to study abroad.

**Second Year**
- Meet other students in the Cognitive Science Student Association.
- Build relationships with professors and graduate student instructors.
- Connect with campus organizations, student government, and co-curricular activities through the LEAD Center.

**Third Year**
- Identify upper division electives from the Cognitive Science comprehensive course list.
- Check in with a major advisor about major requirements.
- If eligible, consider the Cognitive Science Honors Program.

**Fourth Year**
- Finish all upper division requirements and electives.
- Check in with a college advisor to ensure you are on track to fulfill all college and campus requirements.
- Keep checking your APR for college, university and major requirement satisfaction.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**

**Jobs and Employers**
- Application Programmer, AT&T
- Cloud Engineer, Revature LLC
- Computational Linguist, Iberta
- Data Analyst, MoneyLion Inc
- Designer, Adobe
- Designer, Redshift Digital
- Front End Developer, IBM
- Fulbright Scholar, U.S. Dept. of State
- Logistics Manager, U.S. Navy
- Partnership Asrs. Coord., Med America
- Project Engineer, Voyajo
- QA Engineer, Voyager QA
- Research Coordinator, Stanford Security Program
- Visa Software Engineer, Amazon Web Developer, AXA Rosenberg

**Graduate Programs**
- Artificial Intelligence
- Biostatistics
- Cognitive Psychology
- Computer Science
- Education
- Engineering Information Technology
- Linguistics
- Neurobiology
- Neuroscience
- Public Health
- Visual and Performing Arts

**Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.**

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