THEME PROGRAMS IN RESIDENCE HALLS

Be a big part of a small community. Theme Programs bring together students with a shared identity, interest, or academic area into unique living and learning environments. The programs combine all the opportunities of a large university with all the benefits of a small, close-knit community.

What experiences can you expect in a living and learning environment?

Activities center around the thematic connection and may include off campus excursions, workshops, faculty dinners, study groups, social events, and other opportunities to foster shared experience around similar identities, interests, and/or values.

Students participate in a weekly for-credit seminar, semester retreats, community service, and leadership activities all tied to the Theme Program, which is co-sponsored by an academic department.

Learn more at: themeprograms.berkeley.edu

How to Join

1. CHOOSE YOUR THEME PROGRAM
Explore all seven Theme Programs at themeprograms.berkeley.edu, and review each program’s requirements and expectations. They’re optional, and there’s no extra cost beyond the cost of your housing.

2. APPLY FOR UC BERKELEY HOUSING BY THE DEADLINE
Fill out your housing application online at housing.berkeley.edu. You’ll need to answer supplemental essay questions for each theme program you apply to. A selection committee will review applications, and you’ll be notified when you receive your housing offer.

3. BE EXCITED ABOUT YOUR FUTURE!
Being a part of a Theme Program can help you find your community, explore your identities, and build connections across campus and beyond.

“
You will make lifelong friends. You will have a sense of community and feel at home all year long. You will always be reminded of how important your voice and presence is.”

Elleasse Taylor | Political Science major, African American Theme Program (AATP)
OUR THEME COMMUNITIES

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN THEME PROGRAM (AATP)
Exploring Issues Related to the African Diaspora
AATP provides a community for students to explore Black experiences at Berkeley. The academic seminar, programs, community-service projects, and resources encourage solidarity and unity among Black students of all backgrounds, cultivating a broader understanding of social issues within a global context.

THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN THEME HOUSE (APATH)
Dedicated to the Asian Pacific American Experience at Berkeley
APATH is a community for students who have an interest in Asian American and Pacific Islander history, culture, and contemporary issues. The program offers a dynamic environment for interaction and learning through academic and social activities such as weekly seminars, group discussions, cultural events, and community service.

CASA MAGDALENA MORA THEME PROGRAM (CASA)
A Familia Exploring Chicano and Latinx Identities and Culture
CASA’s mission is to create a safe, welcoming, and affirming space where Chicano and Latinx students successfully transition into life at Berkeley. The CASA seminar, retreats, and community service aim to engage students in critical thinking about the social issues impacting Latinx and Chicano students at Berkeley, and within the larger societal/global context.

THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT THEME HOUSE (GETH)
Creating an Environmentally Just and More Sustainable Way of Life
GETH provides a small community experience for students committed to protecting the environment, and creating positive environmental changes. GETH students learn about sustainable living, environmental social justice, and contributing back to our environment.

NATIVE AMERICAN THEME PROGRAM (NATP) + NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER PILOT PROGRAM
Building Native Community to Foster Future Indigenous Leaders
NATP provides a unique opportunity for students to be part of a close-knit network, share experiences, and engage in being part of the Native community at Berkeley. The program immerses students in indigenous scholarship and history and engages students in critical thinking around identities.

UNITY THEME PROGRAM
Exploring Diverse Genders and Sexualities in Community
The UNITY Theme Program focuses on building an affirming community of LGBTQIA+ students and their allies who are interested in exploring gender and sexual diversity through an intersectional lens. The academic seminar, programs, and resource center encourage students to reflect on queer/trans identity, history, representation, and community, and to develop queer leadership that integrates education, advocacy, and activism.

WISE: EMPOWERING WOMXN IN STEAM
Exploring the Intersections of Gender with Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics
WISE is a community of womxn exploring their interest in science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) fields, and intersections of social identity in their profession. WISE welcomes all who experience life through the lens of womxn in body, spirit, and identity—past, present, future, and fluid.

Learn more: themeprograms.berkeley.edu