



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, retreats,

community service, and leadership activities all tied to the Theme Program, which is co-sponsored by an academic department. Programs and services may be modified to align with public health guidance and campus expectations surrounding COVID-19.

LEARN MORE AT:
themeprogams.berkeley.edu



“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)

How to Join

1

CHOOSE YOUR THEME PROGRAM

Explore all eight Theme Programs at themeprogams.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 of your admission to the theme program 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.

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.

BLOOM: ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY PROGRAM (AACP)

Dedicated to the Asian American Experience at Berkeley

Bloom focuses on developing a community of connection and support for students interested in engaging with their peers on contemporary issues, culture, and history of Asian Americans. Grounded in the history of the Asian American Movement and its origins at Cal, Bloom offers a dynamic environment for interaction and learning through academic and social activities such as weekly seminars, field trips, academic support, and community events to ensure that all students are able to bloom during their first year on campus.

CASA MAGDALENA MORA THEME PROGRAM (CASA)

A Familia Exploring Chicanx and Latinx Identities and Cultura

CASA's mission is to create a safe, welcoming, and affirming space where Chicanx 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 Chicanx students at Berkeley, and within the larger societal/global context.

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 science research, environmental social justice, and contributing back to our environment.

NATIVE AMERICAN THEME PROGRAM (NATP)

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.

SOUTH ASIAN, SOUTHWEST ASIAN, AND NORTH AFRICAN (SSWANA) LIVING COMMUNITY PILOT

Dedicated to the SSWANA Experience at Berkeley

The newly piloted SSWANA Living Community is an enriching opportunity for students that are interested in further exploring SSWANA culture, identity, and historical and contemporary issues. The program cultivates a small community experience in a large university by providing a fun and unique space for students to explore their identities through community, education, and empowerment. The program is located within the Bloom Asian American Community Program.



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.