

Biotechnology Career Readiness Map

First Years (First -Sophomore Years)

- Learn from guest lectures in BIOT 101
- Plan your major with the [BIOT worksheet](#)
- Complete BIOL 210, 211, 215 (Intro Biology sequence)
- Complete General Chemistry I (CHEM 150/L)
- Begin math and other foundational science coursework
- Develop basic lab skills and scientific literacy
- Explore interdisciplinary nature of biotech (biology + chemistry + technology + business)

Middle Years (Sophomore -Junior Years)

- Complete preparation for the major courses
- Begin BIOT Upper Division Coursework
- In your core and elective coursework:
 - Develop technical lab skills: PCR, cell culture, DNA analysis
 - Learn instrumentation and data analysis
 - Learn regulatory concepts and industry practices
 - Learn drug/device development process
 - Start applying for summer paid internships

Last Years (Junior-Senior Years)

- Complete Biotechnology core labs and electives
- Take courses integrating science with business (e.g., regulatory affairs, management concepts)
- [Complete internship \(BIOT 397/497/498\)](#) or industry-focused coursework
- Refine skills in scientific communication, teamwork, and applied problem-solving

For further access, planning, and description of resources, please attend [Biotechnology Faculty](#) office hours for academic/career advising

- Create a LinkedIn Profile, Handshake Profile, resume, cover letter, and elevator pitch.
- Check the [CSTEM Career Readiness & Exploration](#) Teams Channel weekly
- Join the [Biotechnology Club](#) and/or [student organization](#) that aligns with your major/career pathway. Attend club meetings.
- Join the email list for biology/biotechnology meetings and opportunities - contact mpalanki@csusm.edu to join
- Attend [CSTEM](#) and [Career Center](#) workshops and career fairs and explore biotech career paths (R&D, QA/QC, diagnostics)
- Attend any [Biotechnology faculty](#) office hours for academic and career advising.

- Apply for internships (via [Handshake](#), [Career Center](#)) with biotech companies or research labs
- Participate in faculty research or industry lab assistant roles
- Attend industry networking events (e.g., BIOCOM, seminars, guest speakers, on campus with Biotech Org meetings, Conversations with Life Science Leaders events)
- [Build technical resume](#) for biotech industry roles
- Develop professional skills (teamwork, communication, documentation)

- Complete industry [internship](#) (preferably paid biotech internship)
- [Apply](#) for jobs: research associate, QA/QC, lab technician, diagnostics roles
- Attend [CSTEM](#) and [Career Center](#) workshops and career fairs and connect with biotech employers
- Finalize resume, practice interviews, and build professional references – via [faculty advisors](#) or [Career Center Resources](#).
- [Get professional headshots](#) through Career Center
- Transition into workforce or apply to [graduate programs](#)

Curricular activities
(Inside the classroom)

Co-curricular activities
(Outside the classroom)