

The Berkeley Changemaker™

Pre-College Scholars Program Overview

2022

Summer 2022

Dates: June 20-July 1

Morning Workshops: 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Afternoon Activities: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Professors:

Alex Budak

Laura Hassner

Brandi Pearce

Program Overview

This program is designed for pre-college scholars interested in exploring campus life through the lens of making change at UC Berkeley. The two-week immersive program empowers you to become a [Berkeley Changemaker](#).

We will provide you with a robust curriculum that provides a deeper understanding of what we value at UC Berkeley as you explore and develop key changemaking skills through academic workshops and co-curricular activities. Throughout the program, you will have the opportunity to explore the three core pillars of Berkeley Changemaker: 1) critical thinking, 2) communication, and 3) collaboration as you work on your own changemaking project.

The goal of this program is to set you apart as an innovative changemaker! After taking this course, you will:

- discover what changemaking means to you
- learn what changemaking means to UC Berkeley
- better understand yourself and how to lead with and through others to impact change
- explore different tools and techniques to support you in thinking critically, communicating your ideas, and collaborating with others

Time and time again, our students here at UC Berkeley share that while they are here to learn and develop as thinkers and scholars, it is also important to them that they can take what they have cultivated during their time here to go out into the world to impact the change. As one student shared, *“Questioning the status quo and serving the community are certainly important themes right now. These values are why I chose Berkeley, and I am glad we are taking the time to analyze how we can act on those values in the interest of building a better world.”* Isha Soni, Class of 2024.

Through this two-week program, we hope to give you a glimpse into our values here at UC Berkeley and impart a sense of how your university education, here or beyond, can aid you in creating change in your communities and beyond.

Program@ A Glance

| Day | Topic |
|--------|--|
| Day 1 | Introduction: What is a Berkeley Changemaker™ |
| Day 2 | Collaboration: Teaming for High Impact |
| Day 3 | Critical Thinking: How Do We Find a Problem Worth Solving? |
| Day 4 | Critical Thinking: How Do We Ask the Right Questions? |
| Day 5 | Weekend Excursion: |
| Day 6 | Communication: How Do I Invite Others to My Changemaking Efforts? |
| Day 7 | Communication: How Do I Influence Without Formal Authority? |
| Day 8 | Collaboration: How Do We Value Diversity as We Work Towards a Shared Purpose |
| Day 9 | Communication: How Do I Tell a Persuasive Story to Cultivate Change? |
| Day 10 | Wrap-Up: Pulling the Pieces Together to Tell Our Final Story of Change! |

Course Format

As part of the two-week program, you will work with the core Berkeley Changemaker faculty during the morning sessions. During these experiential workshops, we will introduce you to topics associated with the three core pillars of The Berkeley Changemaker™: 1) Critical Thinking, 2) Collaboration, and 3) communication. After lunch, you will reconvene with your peers to engage in activities designed to extend your learning from the morning. Throughout the two weeks, you will be placed in a Changemaker Pod where you will work with other students to [re]Imagine the University Campus of the future. Our goal is to use the beautiful UC Berkeley campus as our sandbox to provide you with an opportunity to explore the three pillars of changemaking with and through others in an experiential format.

Community: Inclusion, Belonging, & Learning Norms

It is our hope that students will adopt the following norms for class and your team discussions to ensure a positive climate for active debate, a sense of belonging, and the opportunity to learn from one another. I aim to create a classroom climate where we value our unique differences while orienting towards a shared purpose of learning with and through each other.

- Cultivate a Step-Up/Step Back Culture
- Be respectful of our unique differences and inclusive of one another's voices
- Learn from one another and build on one another's contribution
- Encourage interpersonal risk-taking
- Inquire and seek to understand the other's perspective
- Be willing to disagree on ideas – there is usually no one correct answer
- Strive to be present (i.e., limit tech & other distractions)

Faculty Bio

Alex Budak, MPP, is a social entrepreneur, UC Berkeley-Haas faculty member, and author of the book [Becoming a Changemaker](#). At Berkeley-Haas, he created and teaches the transformative course, “Becoming a Changemaker” to undergraduate and graduate students. He previously co-founded StartSomeGood.com, and held leadership positions at Reach for Change and Change.org. Budak has given lectures on entrepreneurship, and leadership in venues from Ukraine to Cambodia, Los Angeles to the Arctic Circle, and at the White House and UN agencies. He is a graduate of UCLA and Georgetown University. Connect: alexbudak@berkeley.edu / [LinkedIn](#) / [Website](#)

Laura Hassner, MBA, is the strategic advisor to UC Berkeley’s Chief Innovation & Entrepreneurship Officer. In this role, she leads the [Berkeley Changemaker™](#) and received the 2022 Chancellor’s Outstanding Staff Award for her contributions to UC Berkeley. Laura is the spring faculty lead for “[Course 12: The Berkeley Changemaker](#)” and also developed and teaches “Berkeley Changemaker: Living with Agency” at Berkeley Haas. Previously, Laura was a Lecturer on Leadership at Berkeley Haas in the Executive MBA and Evening & Weekend MBA Programs. An expert in turnarounds, she is a former Big Five consultant and financial advisor. She has also taught in a highly-challenged urban school for a program that is now a part of Americorps and spent a decade innovating new products and programs for a national nonprofit. She holds a BA, with honors, from Stanford University and an MBA, with honors, from Berkeley Haas. Connect: laura_hassner@berkeley.edu / [LinkedIn](#) / [Website](#)

Brandi Pearce, Ph.D., is a collaborative boundary-spanner, UC Berkeley-Haas faculty member, coach, curriculum designer, and writer. She is the creator of Teams@Haas and designed and teaches “Leading High Impact Teams” to executives, graduate, and undergraduate students. Prior to earning her doctorate from Carnegie Mellon University, Pearce worked in the Silicon Valley leading alliance teams for Oracle Corporation, one of the world’s most innovative global organizations in the management of strategic partnerships. Pearce’s work has been published in journals and other outlets such as Academy of Management Discoveries, Journal of Management Information Systems, Harvard Business Review, and the Financial Times. She deeply values the intersection between evidence-based management and organizational practice, which is at the heart of her research, and the experiential design of her courses and is what she enjoys most about teaching. She admires those who can lead with and through others and hopes that students will leave UC Berkeley feeling inspired and confident about their potential to lead high-impact teams as they strive to create the change they want to see in our world. Connect: bpearce323@berkeley.edu / [LinkedIn](#) / [Website](#)