I am a persona based on UCI students majoring in Biomedical Computing.

My name is Patrick, and I grew up in Palo Alto. I picked BMC as my major because I had a strong interest in biology and programming, but I also felt like I had strong math skills.

My favorite project so far has been developing an emergency medical record system for a clinic that originally was using paper-based records. As far as courses, my favorite is Genetics, where I studied a variety of topics, ranging from recombinant DNA technology, to gene mapping and linkage, to gene expression.

I’ve had opportunities to work on research related to developing solutions to various bioinformatics and computational biology problems. I am also involved in the ICS Student Council, working with a team to organize events for the Bren School. Outside of classes, I like to attend research seminars and lectures hosted by the Institute of Genomics and Bioinformatics or the Computer Science Department. After graduation, I plan to continue with research and possibly pursue a master’s in Bioinformatics.

> WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

**MY COURSES HAVE INCLUDED:**

- **Introduction to Computational Biology**
  I made computer models of DNA and proteins.

- **Representations and Algorithms for Molecular Biology**
  I analyzed data from the Human Genome Project.

- **Probabilistic Modeling of Biological Data**
  I used machine learning to discriminate healthy from diseased tissue.

- **Computational Systems Biology**
  I created a systems-level model of part of a cancer cell.

- **Biomedical Computing Project**
  I conducted the computational analysis for a pharmaceutical drug discovery project.

> WHO ARE YOU?

I picked BMC as my major because I had a strong interest in biology and programming, but I also felt like I had strong math skills.
>>> POSSIBLE CAREERS

// With a degree in Biomedical Computing from UCI, you might get a job as a computational chemist with Pfizer, conducting computer-assisted drug discovery for new pharmaceuticals.

// You could become a bioinformatician with an agricultural company, working to identify and develop new and better strains of rice to feed people in the developing world.

// Or you might join a research institute, helping to provide tools that enable the stem cell community to understand cancer processes.

>>> BREN:ICS STUDENT SOUND BITES

“ I appreciate the many opportunities to meet people with varying interests. I’ve had classes with students pursuing informatics or computer science, several types of engineering, biology and chemistry, as well as medical degrees. These connections will play an important role in broadening my horizons as a student and in expanding my network when I enter the job market in a few years.”

—NATHANIEL

“I had never taken computer science courses before coming to UC Irvine, and I really enjoy the challenge of creating programs and thinking about problems in an entirely new way.”

—ALEX

“I originally applied to the Computer Science and Engineering program, but BMC caught my eye because I wanted to study both biological and computer sciences. By fall quarter, after a bit of research, I decided to switch majors. While the workload is challenging, I really do look forward to the upper-division classes. Programming projects that involve medical and biological sciences sound very exciting to me!”

—KRISTEN

>>> MORE INFO

Not sure Biomedical Computing is the right major for you? Check out our complete degree programs listing at www.ics.uci.edu/prospective/degrees-overview. We offer several minors as well.

Have questions for one of our counselors? Call the Student Affairs Office at 949-824-5156 or email ucounsel@uci.edu.