

Alice Brookston

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley — Berkeley, CA | 2022–2026

B.S. Society & Environment, Expected May 2026

CalTeach Minor in Math & Science Education, December 2025

Graphic Design Certificate, UC Berkeley Extension, Expected May 2026

GPA: 3.903 | 145 total units (UC Berkeley, AP credit, SRJC dual enrollment)

University of the Arts London — Graphic Design Intensive | Summer 2026



RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Kipling Will Taxonomy & Systematics Lab — UC Berkeley

Research & Lab Assistant | June 2024 – Present

- Prepare, label, and curate carabid specimens for long-term museum and genomic research use
- Perform insect sex determination and support laboratory workflows including dissections, DNA extractions, and specimen processing
- Organize & manage research datasets contributing to the NEON biodiversity genomics project

Honors Thesis Research — UC Berkeley: Principal Investigator (Undergraduate) | 2025–2026

“Evaluating Species Boundaries in the Genus *Dicheirus* (Coleoptera: Carabidae) Across California Mainland and Island Populations”

- Conduct independent research while collaborating with faculty mentors & laboratory teams
- Phylogenomic research on carabid beetles using low-coverage whole genome sequencing
- Assemble and analyze mitochondrial and nuclear genomic datasets
- Investigate phylogenetic inference using Linux-based computational workflows
- Evaluate species boundaries through comparative genomic analyses
- Develop reproducible bioinformatic workflows for genomic data processing & analysis

EDUCATION & CLIMATE JUSTICE RESEARCH

CalTeach Summer Research Institute 2025 — UC Berkeley School of Education

Research Fellow, Helen Fitzmaurice Lab: “Navigating the Implementation of Climate Justice Teaching in the Context of NGSS”

- Conducted qualitative research on supporting teachers in integrating climate justice into science curricula and presented findings in poster sessions

CalTeach Teaching Assistant & Lesson Instructor — Local K–12 Classrooms | 2024–2025

- 100+ hours classroom experience
- Assisted elementary through high school science instruction
- Designed and taught inquiry-based NGSS-aligned lessons

MUSEUM & CURATION EXPERIENCE

Essig Museum of Entomology — UC Berkeley: Cerambycidae Curation Project | Spring 2026

- Curate & database longhorn beetle specimens: prepare, label, and organize museum collections for long-term institutional research use

LEADERSHIP & ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Journalism Editor (4 years) — Editorial leadership, layout design, peer training

Equestrian Vaulting (10+ years) — National/international competitor; mentorship of junior athletes

Two Dog Night Creamery (2021-22) & Anastasia’s Vintage (2023-24) — Shift leadership, peer training, customer engagement

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Bioinformatics Research: Linux systems, genomic data workflows, mitochondrial genome assembly and BUSCO ortholog datasets, phylogenetic analysis tools, Microsoft Excel (data organization & analysis)

Laboratory/Museum Work: Specimen preparation, insect identification, labeling, dissections, DNA extractions, taxonomic curation

Design & Scientific Communication:

Adobe Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, HTML & CSS website building, infographics, layout design, scientific visual communication, formal scientific writing, research documentation

Professional Skills: Independent research leadership, collaborative teamwork, peer mentorship