The Biosciences ADVANCE Summer Institute is a rigorous eight-week program designed to help incoming students from traditionally underrepresented groups transition to graduate school. Through this unique educational experience, participants develop a broader understanding of the opportunities offered by Stanford Biosciences while developing the skills and confidence needed for success.

Surveys obtained before and after the ADVANCE course in response to questions regarding student planning for graduate and postgraduate careers.
THE ADVANCE ADVANTAGE

The Biosciences ADVANCE Summer Institute (ADVANCE) provides a supportive, interdisciplinary community in which students hone technical and leadership skills in preparation for their graduate and professional careers. ADVANCE fellows of diverse backgrounds are selected from incoming PhD cohorts from across the Biosciences programs.

As an ADVANCE fellow, you will receive individualized mentoring from dedicated and creative Stanford faculty and graduate students. You will also complete a full lab research rotation and attend training modules designed to help you acclimate to the new community, strengthen academic and professional skills and offer early exposure to post-PhD career opportunities. ADVANCE provides you with the chance to meet fellow graduate students from all Biosciences departments and creates a sense of belonging at Stanford.

ADVANCE is motivated by Stanford Biosciences’ commitment to increase diversity and educational opportunity for all students.

WORKSHOPS

- Demystifying graduate school
- Research ethics
- Reading and analyzing science papers
- Technical & scientific communication/presentation
- Career paths for Biosciences PhD graduates
- Programming course
- Overcoming the impostor syndrome
- Preparing the NSF fellowship application
- Navigating Stanford resources
- Happy hour & Team project

THE ADVANCE EXPERIENCE ...

“... IN EIGHT WEEKS!

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

“I gain a lot of tools for my first year and continuing on through grad school and a post-grad career [...] I feel extremely well-prepared” -- ADVANCE fellow 2013

COMMUNITY BUILDING

“I fully support the idea of the program and wish I had something like this when I was a new grad student” -- Stanford faculty 2013

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

“Meeting students from other programs and getting settled before classes began was extremely helpful. We were definitely lucky to have had this experience” -- ADVANCE fellow 2013