A Day at Haas
Self-Guided Walking Tour
Estimated Duration: 30 to 45 minutes

History

Welcome to the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Founded in 1898 as the College of Commerce, Haas is the second-oldest business school in the United States. As one of the world’s leading producers of new ideas and knowledge in all areas of business, Haas’s mission is to develop leaders who redefine how we do business.

The school is named for alumnus and lifelong supporter Walter A. Haas, Sr., former President and Chairman of Levi Strauss & Co. The current Haas building opened in 1995 and is situated at the foot of the Berkeley Hills, toward the university’s eastern edge. Haas consists of four main buildings: Student Services, Faculty, and Cheit Hall, all of which are connected, and our newest academic building, Chou Hall.
**Directions:** This tour begins and ends in the Admissions Office (S430), which is located on the 4th Floor of the Student Services Wing and indicated by the red star on the map. Please exit the Admissions Office, walk straight ahead, and exit the building through the double doors. You will find yourself beneath Cronk Gate.

**William F. and Janet Cronk Gate**

Cronk Gate is the eastern entrance to Haas. From here, you have access to the Student Services Wing and the Faculty Building. The Faculty Building is home to our professors and Centers of Excellence, including the Lester Center for Entrepreneurship, the Garwood Center for Corporate Innovation, and the Institute for Business and Social Impact, to name a few.

If you turn to face the Haas Courtyard (so that the doors you exited a moment ago are on your left) and look straight ahead, you will see the top of Sather Tower, known to nearly everyone in Berkeley as “the Campanile.” Completed in 1914 and standing at 307 feet (93.6 meters), the Campanile is the third tallest bell and clock tower in the world.

If you turn all the way around and look across the street, you will see California Memorial Stadium, which is home not only to Cal Bears Football, but also to the Haas Innovation Lab, which hosts business school classes such as “Problem Finding, Problem Solving” and “International Business Development.” Just next-door to the Innovation Lab is a newly-opened annex of UC Berkeley’s Recreational Sports Facility (the university gym), so Haas students can easily run off for a workout between classes and meetings.

**Wells Fargo Room**

The Wells Fargo Room is used for conferences, alumni events, educational programs, and guest speakers. Current students frequent the Wells Fargo Room for events such as the Women in Leadership Conference, the Global Social Venture Competition, and the Dean’s Speaker Series, which features distinguished global leaders in business and beyond.
Flanked by two balconies, the room overlooks the Haas Courtyard and Berkeley Hills to the east and the greater UC Berkeley campus to the west. If there is no event going on, feel free to try the door at the very end of the hall (the door to your right if you’re facing the doors to the Wells Fargo Room), which leads to the Room’s eastern balcony. In any case, rest assured you’ll attend many events here as a Haas student!

**Directions:** Exit the Wells Fargo Room and walk straight ahead to the stairwell. Make your way down the stairs, stopping at the 3rd and 2nd Floors of Cheit Hall. Please be quiet, as classes may be in session!

**Earl F. Cheit Hall**

Named for the ninth Dean of Haas, Cheit Hall contains most of the classrooms for the Haas School of Business on its 3rd, 2nd, and 1st floors. Haas MBAs, which number 240 per class, are divided into four cohorts of approximately 60 students, known as Blue, Gold, Oski, and Axe. We take all of our core classes with our cohort, which creates a dynamic, diverse, and collegial learning environment that extends well beyond the classroom. In general, core classrooms are on the 2nd floor while elective courses are on the 3rd floor. If a classroom is unoccupied, feel free to peek inside.

**Directions:** Exit the 2nd Floor of Cheit Hall and walk into the Courtyard.

**Robert G. O’Donnell Courtyard**

On any given day, the Haas Courtyard buzzes with conversation and collaboration among members of the Haas community. Haas students often find themselves continuing classroom dialogue with peers or
professors as they enter the Courtyard. Look around and you might see a study team focused on an upcoming project seated at one table and a couple of friends enjoying a cup of coffee at another.

If you walk around and look closely enough, you will see that Haas’s four Defining Principles are emblazoned on the ground of the Courtyard: Question the Status Quo, Confidence Without Attitude, Students Always, and Beyond Yourself (see if you can find them all!). These principles are the cornerstone of Haas culture and are integral in shaping our path to innovative and responsible leadership.

**Connie & Kevin Chou Hall**

On the far north end of the Courtyard, take note of the newest Haas building, Connie & Kevin Chou Hall, a state-of-the-art Haas building that houses new classrooms, study space, and an event hall on the top floor with expansive views of the San Francisco Bay. Its bold, modern design complements the three existing Haas buildings while providing cutting-edge facilities to accommodate future advancements in management education. Chou hall is also on track to be the country’s greenest academic building. The building’s Zero-Waste initiative, a first for this nation’s business schools, aims to divert 90 percent of waste from landfills. Feel free to stop in for a coffee at Cafe Think and explore the new space!

*Directions: After visiting Chou Hall, walk across the Courtyard to the doors located directly opposite Cheit Hall. You are now entering the Bank of America Forum, located in the Barbara and Gerson Bakar Faculty Building.*
Bank of America Forum

Looking for a classmate? If they weren’t in the Courtyard, then there’s a good chance you will find them in the Bank of America Forum. Like the Courtyard, “B of A” (as it’s known to Haas students) is a popular everyday meeting spot and includes a convenient meeting place to catch up with classmates or collaborate on a project. You may also come across Haas undergraduate students who share this facility with graduate students.

If you face back toward the doorways of the Bank of America Forum (the ones that lead out to the Courtyard) and look up, you will see the faces of five of UC Berkeley’s Nobel Prize winners in Economics. The most recent is Oliver E. Williamson, 2009 Nobel Laureate and Professor Emeritus at Haas. We are also proud to note that Janet Yellen, current Chair of the United States Federal Reserve, has been a Haas professor since 1980.

Directions: Walk up the stairs located on the right-hand side of the Bank of America Forum. Continue going straight ahead, noting the MBA Lounge through the windows on your left, until you arrive at the end of the hall, where you will see the Career Management Center, Bakar Computer Center, and Thomas J. Long Business Library.
MBA Lounge

The MBA Lounge is a casual, social hang-out spot with couches, tables, a refrigerator, microwaves, and mailboxes. You’re likely to spot students meeting, studying and even sleeping in here!

Career Management Center

Home to one-on-one career advisory sessions, resume and cover letter reviews, mock interviews, and real interviews, Haas’s Career Management Center plays an active and instrumental role in guiding students through their career search and connecting students with employers of interest. The screen located above the door to the Career Center commonly flashes news of upcoming networking nights, company visits, and student success stories. Haas MBAs have access to a powerful and engaged alumni network as well as lifetime access to Career Management Group resources. As a first year student, your career search kicks off with the Career Management Seminars, which includes informational interviews, industry presentations by alumni, and several other sessions that will help you develop your skills and build your personal brand.

Bakar Computer Center & Thomas J. Long Business Library

Peer into the Bakar Computer Center and you will likely find Haas students scattered throughout, some with headphones on staring intently at a spreadsheet, others working through a problem set in tandem, and still others chatting quietly by the printers. The Computer Center includes a lab classroom dedicated to hands-on learning, a multimedia lab, group study rooms, and Bloomberg and FactSet-enabled terminals. Feel free to step inside, but please leave any drinks or snacks at the table just inside the door.

The Library is located across the hall and occupies two levels, featuring a reading room, group study rooms, shareable work tables, and scores of individual study carrels.

Directions: Walk up the stairs located to the right of the Library. When you reach the top, walk straight ahead and the Admissions Office (S430) will be located on your right.

Want to pick up some Berkeley-Haas apparel? The Haas Gear Store is located one level above you. If you are facing the Admissions Office, take the stairs to your left, go up one floor, and walk straight ahead. The store is located at the far end of the landing. You can also purchase gear online at www.haasgear.com.

Have more time? We invite you to explore more of the University and City of Berkeley.
- The Campanile’s observation platform is open from 10:00am to 3:45pm on weekdays ($3 admission)
- California Memorial Stadium offers beautiful views of the San Francisco Bay from its promenade
- Berkeley Lab is 1.5 miles up the hill from Haas and offers spectacular views from its lot (car required)
- Downtown Berkeley is one mile west of Haas (down the hill); walking there will lead you thru campus
- Explore South Berkeley (Bancroft Way, Durant Ave, Telegraph Ave) or North Berkeley (Euclid Ave)

Looking for a cup of coffee or a bite to eat? Here are some nearby student favorites.
- Free House is a favorite for lunch and happy hour, complete with a front patio great for people watching and a sunny interior patio with picnic tables (5 minute walk to Bancroft Way & College Ave)
- Café Strada is a popular spot for an outdoor coffee, tea, and snack. They don’t offer a full menu, but the muffins, cookies, and cakes are delicious! (5 minute walk to Bancroft Way & College Ave)

We hope you enjoyed your visit to the Haas School of Business and University of California, Berkeley. If you have the opportunity, we encourage you to attend one of our Admissions Events or Coffee Chats.
For more information, please visit https://mba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/visit
Questions? Email our team at: mbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu