



Degree Information

The Interdisciplinary Program in Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences (MEPS) offers M.S. and Ph.D. graduate degrees. General areas of research include: plant biology, plant molecular biology and genetics, biotechnology, plant functional genomics, physiological plant ecology, global climate change, plant physiology, gene expression, bio-energy, crop and tree improvement, plant-insect interactions, and plant pathogen interactions.

Admission

Applicants are evaluated on the basis of their official transcripts, letters of recommendation, GRE and TOEFL scores, as well as, research interests and experience. Applications are accepted any time, but should be completed no later than January 1 if the applicant is to be considered for financial support for fall semester entry.

Degree Requirements

Master of Science

The M.S. degree in MEPS requires at least 32 credit hours of coursework and original research leading to a thesis. At least 14 hours must be from graduate level MEPS or related courses, including two courses from the MEPS core curriculum.

Doctor of Philosophy

Completion of a Ph.D. in MEPS requires at least 96 credit hours beyond the B.S. degree or 64 hours beyond the M.S. degree, and completion of original research leading to a dissertation. At least 20 hours must be from graduate level MEPS or related courses, including three courses from the MEPS core curriculum. The majority of MEPS students are enrolled in doctoral degree programs.



**AGRICULTURE
& LIFE SCIENCES**
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

**Graduate
Studies in**

**Molecular and
Environmental
Plant Sciences**

**MS
PhD**

**College of Agriculture and
Life Sciences**

College of Science

College of Geosciences

Extensive Facilities

With faculty located across the university, the MEPS program is rich in facilities to support student research. Students work in research laboratories with cutting edge equipment and have access to a wide array of computing and electronic resources.

Professional Development

First year students undertake three laboratory rotations with MEPS faculty that are pursuing research in the student's area of interest. This allows the student to find a suitable laboratory placement that closely aligns with their research interests and long term career goals. This approach provides flexibility to customize student education and training rather than provide a one-size-fits-all educational experience.

The MEPS Student Association allows students to interact with other students through a monthly journal club, meetings, social activities and a fall poster competition. Each spring MEPS hosts a symposium that brings together almost 200 faculty members, researchers, and graduate students from multiple universities to focus on current topics in the plant sciences. This symposium is a major professional networking opportunity for graduate students and includes graduate student presentation and poster competitions.

Student Diversity

The Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences Program has an enrollment of approximately 35 graduate students. MEPS graduate students represent 9 different countries in addition to the United States. Our graduate student population is approximately 50% female and 50% male; 70% foreign national; 30% domestic; and most are Ph.D. seeking students.

Placement and Jobs

Our graduates develop exciting careers in the scientific study of plants and environmental systems. Students are expected to present their research at professional meetings and publish research findings in peer reviewed publications. Our rigorous program prepares students for professional careers at academic institutions, government agencies, and private companies.

Distinguished Faculty

MEPS is an interdisciplinary program encompassing over 60 faculty from nine departments and two colleges. This diverse group provides academic training and research experiences beyond those offered by traditional departments. Many of the MEPS faculty are internationally recognized for their research programs

Financial Support

First year rotational students receive nine months of financial assistance on a competitive basis. Compensation includes a generous stipend, tuition and fee payment, and medical insurance benefits. Awards are decided on a combination of grades, GRE scores, relevant experience, and letters of recommendation. Additionally, faculty members offer assistantships to well qualified students.

Helpful Links

On-line application to graduate studies at Texas A&M University:

<http://admissions.tamu.edu/graduate/>

Financial aid and estimated expenses for graduate students:

<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/graduate.aspx>

Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences Symposium Webpage: <https://meps.tamu.edu/symposia/2014/>

Contact Information

Amanda Ray
Administrative Assistant
Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences
2474 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2474
Email: amanda.ray@ag.tamu.edu
Phone: 979.845.4620
Fax: 979.845.0456



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