



Degree Information

The Soil and Crop Sciences Department is one of the largest at Texas A&M University and is preeminent throughout the world. Our Graduate Program is designed to prepare students for careers in exciting fields of agriculture and agriculturally related organizations such as multinational cooperation's, scientific and social research, collegiate and university teaching, extension and research, and governmental and non-governmental agencies that deal with production agriculture and / or environmental issues.

Admission

Admission to graduate studies is based on official transcripts and records, letters of recommendation, essay, resume and other criteria such as a personal interview. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required for all applicants and a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam may be required for international applicants.

Degree Requirements

Completion of an M.S. graduate degree requires a minimum of 32 graduate credit hours beyond the B.S. degree. A thesis must be written on original research as directed by the student's advisory committee.

A Ph.D. graduate degree requires the completion of a minimum of 64 graduate credit hours beyond the M.S. degree and a dissertation written on original research as directed by the student's advisory committee.

Degrees Awarded

The Department of Soil & Crop Sciences awards traditional M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agronomy (AGRO), Plant Breeding (PLBR), and Soil Science (SOSC), and distance education degrees in PLBR. Many of our faculty are also members of Interdisciplinary Faculty Programs in Molecular and Environmental Plant Science (MEPS), Genetics (GENE), Water Management and Hydrology Science (WMHS), and Food Science and Technology (FSTC).



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

Master of Science
& Ph.D.
Degrees in

Agronomy



Plant Breeding



Soil Science

Department of Soil
and Crop Sciences

College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences

Graduate students in these degree programs are members of the Soil & Crop Sciences' graduate student body and are mentored by our participating professors.

Professional Development

Graduate students in Soil & Crop Sciences or Interdisciplinary degree programs mentored by our faculty are directed by a graduate committee with courses and original research tailored to the individual student. Each student is encouraged to publish results in reputable scientific journals and to present their research results at annual meetings of professional societies.

Student Diversity

The Department of Soil & Crop Sciences has an enrollment of approximately 150 undergraduate students and 130 graduate students. Most undergraduates are from Texas, but graduate students represent 20 different countries in addition to the United States. Our graduate student population is 30% female; 70% male; 35% foreign national; 65% domestic; and essentially 50:50 M.S. and Ph.D. seeking students.

Placement and Jobs

Former students and associates of the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences have and continue to provide leadership among academic organizations, private industry, and government agencies, within the United States and several foreign countries. These include such leaders as Dr. Norman Borlaug, Nobel Peace Laureate, Dr. Henry Beachell, Father of the Green Revolution in Rice, Dr. Doug Meng, NASA scientist exploring agriculture in space, Dr. Terry Moore, British Petroleum, Dr. Billy Turner, former CEO of International Minerals Cooperation, and Dr. Tony Bello, leader in the development of Lay's baked chip products.

Our graduates are making significant contributions in feeding and clothing the world's ever growing population, adding beauty to our surroundings through turfgrass research and extension, insuring our future through development of renewable energy crops and sustainable practices, and helping provide environmental awareness, security, and enjoyment of the world in which we live.

Distinguished Faculty

Changing with the world's needs, the Soil and Crop Sciences Department has begun research and teaching in such areas as bio-energy, carbon sequestration, water uses and quality, turf ecology, and ecosystems, in addition to traditional agricultural areas.

Our world-famous faculty has a presence in every county in Texas. Working in partnership with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, their goal is to conduct research through trials and experimentation and then transfer that new knowledge to the public.

The mission of discovering, developing, and sharing scientific information is fulfilled by our culturally diverse faculty of more than 80 professors.

Financial Support

Competitive graduate assistantships are available. Most assistantships are awarded by faculty members and funded by their research grants. Fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis and available from Texas A&M University, the federal government or private sources.

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>

Soil & Crop Sciences Graduate Information: <http://soilcrop.tamu.edu/graduateprogram.html>

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