

PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOIL SCIENCE - BS, CROPS EMPHASIS

Curriculum in Plant and Environmental Soil Science is administered by the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences. Students following this curriculum develop and utilize basic scientific knowledge to understand the most fundamental resources—plants, soils, and water—and the interaction of these resources in different environmental settings. The required courses provide an essential foundation in several disciplines, while the elective courses can be selected to meet the interests, needs and objectives of individual students.

Based on professional goals and objectives, students majoring in Plant and Environmental Soil Science will select an emphasis in crops or soil and water. The crops emphasis focuses on the principles of production, management, marketing and use of fiber, forage, grain, biofuel and oilseed crops. The graduate in Plant and Environmental Soil and Science with a crops emphasis may choose a career in: education such as consulting, extension, or public relations, or in production agriculture such as biofuel or seed production, farming, or farm management.

Flexible curricula are provided so that each student, in consultation with their academic advisor, can design a degree program that best serves the student's career objectives.

Program Requirements

First Year

		Semester Credit Hours
Spring		
AGEC 105	Introduction to Agricultural Economics	3
COMM 203	Public Speaking	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) ¹		3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science) ¹		3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics) ²		3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Fall		
SCSC 205	Problem Solving in Plant and Soil Systems	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) ¹		3
Communication (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication) ¹		3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science) ¹		3

Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics) ²	3
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Semester Credit Hours 15

Second Year

Spring

CHEM 222 or CHEM 227	Elements of Organic and Biological Chemistry (Select one of the following) or Organic Chemistry I	3
HORT 201	Horticultural Science and Practices	3
Select one of the following:		4
BIOL 101	Botany	
BIOL 111	Introductory Biology I	
CHEM 120	Fundamentals of Chemistry II	
GEOL 101 & GEOL 102	Principles of Geology and Principles of Geology Laboratory	
PHYS 201	College Physics	
Select one of the following:		3
ENTO 201	General Entomology	
ENTO 401	Principles of Integrated Pest Management	
PLPA 301	Plant Pathology	
SCSC 446	Weed Management and Ecology	
Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts) ¹		3

Semester Credit Hours 16

Fall

CHEM 119	Fundamentals of Chemistry I	4
Select one of the following:		3
ENTO 201	General Entomology	
ENTO 401	Principles of Integrated Pest Management	
PLPA 301	Plant Pathology	
SCSC 446	Weed Management and Ecology	
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) ¹		3
Directed elective ³		3

Semester Credit Hours 13

Third Year

Spring

ECCB 205 or SCSC 444	Fundamentals of Ecology or Forage Ecology and Management	3
SCSC 304	Plant Breeding and Genetics	3
SCSC 309	Water in Soils and Plants	4
Directed elective ³		3
General elective		3

Semester Credit Hours 16

Fall

SCSC 301	Soil Science	4
SCSC 307	Crop Biology and Physiology	4
Select one of the following: ⁴		3
RWFM 313	Vegetation Sampling Methods and Designs in Ecosystems	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	

STAT 302	Statistical Methods	
Directed elective ³		3
Semester Credit Hours		14
Fourth Year		
Spring		
SCSC 410	International Agricultural Systems	3
SCSC 441	Advances in Agronomic Sciences	3
SCSC 481	Senior Seminar	2
General elective		7
Semester Credit Hours		15
Fall		
SCSC 311	Principles of Crop Production	3
SCSC 402	Crop Stress Management	4
Select from the following: ⁵		3
SCSC 420	Brazilian Agriculture and Food Production Systems	
SCSC 421	International Agricultural Research Centers - Mexico	
SCSC 484	Internship	
SCSC 491	Research	
General elective		6
Semester Credit Hours		16
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

¹ Graduation requirements include a requirement for 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. Select in consultation with an academic advisor.

² Choose from core curriculum courses with a MATH prefix.

³ To be selected from SCSC 201 and SCSC 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/scsc/>) level courses not already required on the degree plan and selected in consultation with an academic advisor.

⁴ Statistics course should be selected in consultation with an academic advisor.

⁵ Students will complete an internship, study abroad or independent research experience.