## Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

## Department Head: Dr. Mike Phillips

Office: 117 Dorman Hall
Plant and Soil Sciences curricula focus on the application of sciences to the integrated management of plants, soil, and climate for high-quality production of food, fiber, fuel, and ornamental plants. Central to this course of study is the dedication to conserve, maintain and enhance our environment. An undergraduate student may major in Agronomy (AGN), Envrionmental Sciences in Agricultural Systems (ESAS), or Horticulture (HO) and specialize in concentration areas such as Agricultural and Environmental Soil Sciences (AGN), Golf and Sports Turf Management (AGN), Integrated Crop Management (AGN), Integrated Pest Management (AGN), Floral Management (HO), Floriculture and Ornamentals (HO), and Fruit and Vegetable Production (HO). A grade of "C" or better is required in all required PSS courses in the student's major prior to completion of the degree.

Graduate programs (M.S. and Ph.D.) are also offered in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences in the major of Plant and Soil Sciences, with concentrations in Agronomy, Horticulture, and Weed Science. Consult the Graduate Bulletin for additional details.

## BS in Agronomy (AGN)

## Degree Requirements



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# Choose one of the following concentrations: Agricultural and Environmental Soil Sciences Concentration (SOSI) 

Advisors: Professors Michael Cox, William Kingery, and Jac Varco

The Agricultural and Environmental Soil Science curriculum provides an educational foundation in soil processes involving physical, chemical, and biological interrelationships. The soil resource is an integral component of our environment and is subject to loss and degradation through human activities. Humanity's dependence on soil for food and fiber production and the need for ensuring environmental quality require individuals trained in the management of this resource. Career opportunities exist both nationally and internationally in agricultural and environmental consulting, agribusiness, government agencies, teaching, and research. Required courses provide soil science training, while elective courses can be selected to meet specific needs.

Internship: SOSI students must complete a miniumum one semester internship with an approved internship spnosor in industry, private consulting firms/individuals, or governmental agencies.

| GR 1123 | Introduction to World Geography ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MA 1323 | Trigonometry ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| MA 1713 | Calculus I ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| ST 3123 | Introduction to Statistical Inference | 3 |
| BIO 3304 | General Microbiology | 4 |
| CH 1211 | Investigations in Chemistry ${ }^{1}$ | 1 |
| CH 1213 | Chemistry I ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| CH 1221 | Investigations in Chemistry II ${ }^{1}$ | 1 |
| CH 1223 | Chemistry II ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| CH 2311 | Analytical Chemistry I Laboratory | 1 |
| CH 2313 | Analytical Chemistry I | 3 |
| CH 4513 | Organic Chemistry I | 3 |
| CH 4523 | Organic Chemistry II | 3 |
| GG 1111 | Earth Sciences I Laboratory | 1 |
| GG 1113 | Survey of Earth Sciences I | 3 |
| PH 1113 | General Physics I | 3 |
| PH 1123 | General Physics II | 3 |
| PSS 3423 | Agronomy Internship | 3 |
| PSS 4314 | Microbiology and Ecology of Soil | 4 |
| PSS 4323 | Soil Classification | 3 |
| PSS 4333 | Soil Conservation and Land Use | 3 |
| PSS 4603 | Soil Chemistry | 3 |
| Restricted Electives (see advisor) ${ }^{2}$ |  | 15 |
| Computer Science Requirement |  |  |
| AELC 4203 or TKT 1273 | Applications of Computer Tech to Agricultural Education, Leadership, and Communications Computer Applications | 3 |
| Total Hours |  | 121-122 |
| Satisfies General Education <br> 2 Restricted Electives. Select EPP 2213, EPP 4113, GG 313 PSS 4133, PSS 4223, PSS | ents. <br> 4263, ADS 1113, AEC 3133, BCH 4013, BIO 4213, BIO 4404, CH 3213, CH 4303, CH 440 4114, GG 4304, GG 4503, GR 2313, GR 3113, GR 4603, MA 1723, PSS 3133, PSS 4103, P S 4413, PSS 4483, PSS 4553. | $\begin{aligned} & 4413, \\ & 123, \end{aligned}$ |

## Golf and Sports Turf Management Concentration (GSTM)

Advisor: Associate Professor Barry Stewart

Golf and Sports Turf Management (GSTM) is the study of plant and soil sciences for the culture of turfgrass on golf and sports facilities. The GSTM curriculum prepares individuals for careers as golf course superintendents at private, daily fee, and resort courses or as sports turf managers at city, school, and professional sports turf facilities (i.e. football, baseball, soccer fields.) New construction of golf courses and sports facilities has led to a heightened demand for trained golf and sports turf management professionals. Three semesters of Cooperative Education work experience will be required of all students enrolled in the GSTM concentration.

Cooperative Education Requirements: GSTM students must complete a minimum 12 months or three semesters of Coop work at a golf course with an individual who is certified or progressing toward certification with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America or at a sports stadium with a recognized sports turf manager. One of the three Coop semesters enrolled by the student must be a non-summer semester period. A 2.50 cumulative GPA on all MSU work is required to participate in the GSTM program. All new students must register with their coop advisor early in their initial semester of enrollment.


## Integrated Crop Management Concentration (ICM)

Advisors: Professors Brian Baldwin

Associate Professors David J. Lang and Ted Wallace
Integrated Crop Management (ICM) is the study of food and fiber production utilizing ecologically sound and technologically advanced methods. Areas covered include basic concepts of plant science and specific practices in crop initiation, culture, harvesting, processing, distribution and marketing. Methods of germplasm enhancement are taught. Specific program areas of study include agronomic crop production, crop science, fruit science, seed science, seed technology, and vegetable crop production. Students completing the Integrated Crop Management curriculum are prepared for careers as producers, consultants, technical representatives, assistant plant breeders, extension agents, or inspectors with USDA and state agencies. This curriculum also provides a good background of basic sciences for those who wish to pursue graduate studies.

Internship: ICM students must complete a minimum one semester internship with an approved internship sponsor in industry, private consulting firms/ individuals, or governmental agencies.


## Integrated Pest Management Concentration (IPM)

Major Advisor: Assistant Professor Fred R. Musser

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an interdisciplinary concentration of study in Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science jointly administered by the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology and the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences. Effective management of pest problems requires a broad base of knowledge in the pest disciplines and practical field experience. The Integrated Pest Management concentration features a strong core of courses in the three pest disciplines (entomology, plant pathology, and weed science); a strong background in biological and physical sciences; and practical training through an internship. The curriculum is designed to meet the needs of students who wish to pursue advanced degrees and of students who wish to terminate their higher education with a baccalaureate degree. A range of restricted and non-restricted electives allows students to personalize their degree program for careers in crop production, agri-business, natural resource management, and/or graduate studies preparation. A
grade of " C " or better is required in all courses with the EPP or PSS prefix prior to completion of the degree. No course may be transferred for credit from another college or university in which a grade of " $D$ " was made.

Graduates are well prepared for employment with industry; state and federal research, extension and regulatory agencies; private agricultural consulting firms; farmer's cooperatives; nurseries, home and garden centers; greenhouse plant production; and corporate farms.

Internship: IPM students must complete a minimum one semester internship with an approved internship sponsor in industry, private consulting firms/ individuals, or governmental agencies.


## BS in Environmental Sciences in Agricultural Systems (ESAS)

Major Advisor: Dr. Michael Cox

The Environmental Sciences in Agricultural Systems (ESAS) curriculum provides an educational foundation to prepare students for diversified careers focused on environmental issues related to agronomic and horticultural production. Students completing this curriculum are prepared for careers in national and international environmental agricultural consulting, government conservation agencies, teaching, and research. Required courses provide training in environmental sciences related to agricultural issues.

## Degree Requirements

English Composition
EN 1103
English Composition I

Agricultural Systems Electives - see advisor for list of approved courses ..... 6
Restricted Electives - see advisor for list of approved courses ..... 21
Total Hours ..... 123-124
BS in Horticulture (HO)

## Degree Requirements

## English Composition

| EN 1103 | English Composition I | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| or EN 1163 | Accelerated Composition I | 3 |
| EN 1113 | English Composition II | 3 |
| or EN 1173 | Accelerated Composition II |  |
| Mathematics |  | 3 |
| MA 1313 | College Algebra | 3 |
| See concentration requirements |  |  |

## Science

See concentration requirements

## Humanities

See concentration requirements

## Fine Arts

See concentration requirements

## Social/Behavioral Sciences

| AEC 2713 | Introduction to Food and Resource Economics * |
| :--- | :--- |
| or EC 2123 | Principles of Microeconomics |
| or EC 2113 | Principles of Macroeconomics |

See concentration requirements ..... 3
Major Core
ACC 2013 Principles of Financial Accounting ..... 3
EPP 2213 Introduction to Insects ..... 3
or EPP 3423 Ornamental and Turfgrass Insects
Principles of Marketing ..... 3
PSS 1313 Plant Science ..... 3
PSS 3511 Seminar ..... 1
PSS 3923 Plant Propagation ..... 3
Writing Requirement
AELC 3203 Professional Writing in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences ..... 3
Oral Communcation Requirement
CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking ..... 3
or CO 1013
Computer Literacy Requirement
AEC 1223 Computer Applications for Agriculturists and Life Scientists ..... 2-3
or AELC 4203 Applications of Computer Tech to Agricultural Education, Leadership, and Communications Introduction to Business Information Systems
or TKT 1273 Computer Applications

* Students in Floral Management concentration may not select EC 2113.


## Choose one of the following concentrations:

## Floral Management Concentration (FLMG)

Instructors: Lynette McDougald and Dr. Coleman Etheredge

Floral Management involves sourcing, purchasing, distributing, marketing, designing with, and selling floricultural products. Students enrolled in this concentration are provided with courses in design and horticulture, balanced with business and sciences. Career opportunities for graduates include
retailing, wholesaling, special event designing, and display gardening. The University Florist, a professional flower shop owned and operated by the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences on the MSU campus, provides students with work and management opportunities.

Internship Requirements (PSS 3413): FM majors must complete a 10 week, 400 clock hour work experience in a floral industry enterprise. The internship requirement may be completed any semester after successful completion of PSS 2343 Floral Design.

## Additional General Education courses



1 Satisfies General Education requirements.
2 Restricted Electives. Select from: EPP 4113, PSS 3043, PSS 3303, PSS 3473, PSS 4000,PSS 4043, PSS 4143, PSS 4343, PSS 4353, PSS 4363, PSS 4453, PSS 4503, PSS 4613.

## Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture Concentration (FLOR)

Advisors: Professor Richard L. Harkess

Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture offers diversified opportunities that are challenging, intellectually stimulating, and economically rewarding. Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture is the science and art of producing, distributing, and marketing flowers, flowering and foliage plants. It offers a wide variety of employment opportunities and competitive salaries. Students completing this curriculum are prepared for many different careers including greenhouse or nursery management, landscape management, public service, research and technical product research and sales.

## Additional General Education courses

| BIO 1134 | Biology I $^{1}$ | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| BIO 2113 | Plant Biology ${ }^{1}$ | $3-4$ |
| or BIO 1144 | Biology II |  |


| CH 1043 | Survey of Chemistry ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| or CH 1213 | Chemistry I |  |
| CH 1051 | Experimental Chemistry ${ }^{1}$ | 1 |
| or CH 1211 | Investigations in Chemistry I |  |
| CH 1053 | Survey of Chemistry II ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| or CH 1223 | Chemistry II |  |
| MA /ST 2113 | Introduction to Statistics ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| FLS 1113 | Spanish I ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| FLS 1123 | Spanish II ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| Social Sciences - select from General Education courses ${ }^{1}$ |  | 3 |
| PSS 2343 | Floral Design ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| or LA 1803 | Landscape Architecture Appreciation |  |
| Concentration courses |  |  |
| BIO 4214 | General Plant Physiology | 3-4 |
| or PSS 4113 | Agricultural Crop Physiology |  |
| CH 2501 | Elementary Organic Chemistry Laboratory | 1 |
| CH 2503 | Elementary Organic Chemistry | 3 |
| EPP 4113 | Principles of Plant Pathology | 3 |
| PO 3103 | Genetics I | 3 |
| PSS 2423 | Plant Materials I | 3 |
| PSS 3301 | Soils Laboratory | 1 |
| PSS 3303 | Soils | 3 |
| PSS 3313 | Interior Planting Design and Maintenance | 3 |
| PSS 3433 | Horticulture Internship | 3 |
| PSS 3473 | Plant Materials II | 3 |
| PSS 4341 | Controlled Environment Agriculture Laboratory | 1 |
| PSS 4343 | Controlled Environment Agriculture | 3 |
| PSS 4363 | Sustainable Nursery Production | 3 |
| PSS 4613 | Floriculture Crop Programming | 3 |
| Restricted Electives (see advisor) ${ }^{2}$ |  | 18 |
| Total Hours |  | 122 |
| Satisfies General Education requirements. |  |  |
| Restricted Electives. Select from: AEC 3133 AEC 3413, BCH 4013, BIO 3304, BIO 4204,BIO 4203, BIO 4213, BIO 4404, EPP 4163, EPP 4263, FLS 2133, FLS 2143, LA 2253, LA 2433, LA 4753,MKT 3213, PSS 2113, PSS 2343, PSS 3133, PSS 3043, PSS 3343, PSS 3443, PSS 3633, PSS 4000, PSS 4023, PSS 4073, PSS 4083, PSS 4093 PSS 4143, PSS 4313, PSS 4353, PSS 4043, PSS 4413, PSS 4453, PSS 4503, PSS 4553. |  |  |

## Fruit and Vegetable Production (FVP)

Advisors: Professor Richard Harkess and Assistant Professor Tongyin Li
Fruit and Vegetable Production (FVP) offers opportunities that are challenging, intellectually stimulating, and economically rewarding. Fruit and Vegetable Production focuses on the production, distribution, and marketing of fruits and vegetables for local consumption and commercial markets. It offers a wide variety of employment opportunities and competitive salaries. Students completing this curriculum are prepared for careers in local and commercial production of fruits and vegetables, marketing, quality control, purchasing, research, and technical product research sales.

## Additional General Education courses

| BIO 1134 | Biology I ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| BIO 2113 | Plant Biology ${ }^{1}$ | 4 |
| or BIO 1144 | Biology II |  |
| CH 1043 | Survey of Chemistry I ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| or CH 1213 | Chemistry I |  |
| CH 1051 | Experimental Chemistry |  |
| or CH 1221 | Investigations in Chemistry II | 1 |
| CH 1053 | Survey of Chemistry II ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |


| or CH 1223 | Chemistry II |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MA 2113 | Introduction to Statistics ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| or ST 2113 | Introduction to Statistics |  |
| FLS 1113 | Spanish I ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| FLS 1123 | Spanish II ${ }^{1}$ | 3 |
| Social Sciences - Select from General Education courses ${ }^{1}$ |  | 3 |
| Fine Arts - Select from General Education courses ${ }^{1}$ |  | 3 |
| Concentration courses |  |  |
| BIO 4214 | General Plant Physiology | 3-4 |
| or PSS 4113 | Agricultural Crop Physiology |  |
| CH 2501 | Elementary Organic Chemistry Laboratory | 1 |
| CH 2503 | Elementary Organic Chemistry | 3 |
| EPP 4113 | Principles of Plant Pathology | 3 |
| PO 3103 | Genetics I | 3 |
| PSS 3043 | Fruit Science | 3 |
| PSS 3133 | Introduction to Weed Science | 3 |
| PSS 3301 | Soils Laboratory | 1 |
| PSS 3303 | Soils | 3 |
| PSS 3433 | Horticulture Internship | 3 |
| PSS 3633 | Sustainable and Organic Horticulture | 3 |
| PSS 4143 | Advanced Fruit Science | 3 |
| PSS 4313 | Soil Fertility and Fertilizers | 3 |
| PSS 4453 | Vegetable Production | 3 |
| Restricted Electives |  | 12 |
| Free Electives |  | 6 |
| Total Hours |  | 121 |

1 Satisfies General Education requirements.
2 Restricted Electives. Select from: AEC 3133, AEC 3413, BCH 4013, BIO 3304, BIO 4204, BIO 4203, BIO 4213, BIO 4404, EPP 4163, EPP 4263 FNH 4114, FNH 4164, FNH 4193, FNH 4583, MKT 3213, PH 1113, PSS 2423, PSS 3473, PSS 4000, PSS 4093, PSS 4314, PSS 4333,PSS 4341,PSS 4343, PSS 4373, PSS 4043, PSS 4483, PSS 4503, PSS 4553, PSS 4633, PSS 4813

## Minors

## Agronomy

There is a growing need for people with specialized knowledge outside the field of agronomy. The agronomic industry recruits and employs personnel trained in areas such as accounting, biological sciences, business, computer science, human nutrition, microbiology, engineering, advertising and marketing, veterinary medicine, human resource management and law. A minor in Agronomy provides these individuals enhanced employment opportunities in agriculture.

Students seeking an Agronomy minor are required to complete the following courses to receive a minor in Agronomy:

| PSS 1313 | Plant Science |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| PSS 3303 | Soils | 3 |
| PSS 3133 | Introduction to Weed Science | 3 |
| Choose 9 hours from the following: |  |  |
| PSS 2111 | Turf Management Lab |  |
| PSS 2113 | Introduction to Turfgrass Science |  |
| PSS 4103 | Forage and Pasture Crops |  |
| PSS 4123 | Grain Crops |  |
| PSS 4133 | Fiber and Oilseed Crops |  |
| PSS 4223 | Seed Production |  |
| PSS 4313 | Soil Fertility and Fertilizers |  |
| PSS 4314 | Microbiology and Ecology of Soil |  |
| PSS 4323 | Soil Classification |  |


| PSS 4333 | Soil Conservation and Land Use |
| :--- | :--- |
| PSS 4373 | Geospatial Agronomic Management |
| PSS 4413 | Turfgrass Management |
| PSS 4423 | Golf Course Operations |
| PSS 4443 | Athletic Field Management |
| PSS 4483 | Introduction to Remote Sensing Technologies |
| PSS 4503 | Plant Breeding |
| PSS 4603 | Soil Chemistry |
| PSS 4633 | Weed Biology and Ecology |
| PSS 4813 | Herbicide Technology |
| PSS 4823 | Turfgrass Weed Management |
| Total hours |  |

## Floral Management

A minor in Floral Management is available. To obtain a minor, students are required to complete the following 15 hours:

| PSS 2343 | Floral Design |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Choose four of the following courses: |  | 3 |
| PSS 3313 | Interior Planting Design and Maintenance |  |
| PSS 3343 | Wedding Floral Design |  |
| PSS 3443 | Permanent Botanical Floral Design |  |
| PSS 4023 | Floral Management |  |
| PSS 4073 | Sympathy Floral Design |  |
| PSS 4083 | Floral Design for Special Events |  |
| PSS 4093 | Post-harvest Care of Cut Floral Crops |  |

## Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture

A minor in Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture is available. To obtain a minor, students are required to complete 15 hours.

| PSS 2423 | Plant Materials I | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| PSS 3473 | Plant Materials II | 3 |
| PSS 3923 | Plant Propagation | 3 |
| Choose two of the following: |  | 6 |
| PSS 3313 | Interior Planting Design and Maintenance |  |
| PSS 4343 | Controlled Environment Agriculture |  |
| PSS 4353 | Arboriculture and Landscape Maintenance |  |
| PSS 4363 | Sustainable Nursery Production |  |
| PSS 4613 | Floriculture Crop Programming |  |


[^0]:    1 Satisfies General Education requirement

