

DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCES

www.cropsci.edu

The Department of Crop Sciences has the major in Crop Sciences, with concentrations in Agroecology; Biological Sciences; Crop Agribusiness; Crops; Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology; and Integrated Pest Management; and the minor in Crop and Soil Management. Students should select the concentration best suited to their personal and career interests.

Major in Crop Sciences

Agroecology Concentration

The Agroecology concentration addresses ecologically based management of cropping systems, stewardship of the environment, and sustainable food production systems. The intersection between crop plants and their environment is emphasized in this concentration. Graduates are prepared for careers in integrated plant health management, crop consulting, and agrichemical management or for entrance into graduate school.

Biological Sciences Concentration

The Biological Sciences concentration is designed for students who plan to enter a graduate study program or who want professional positions that require more science than is included in the other concentrations. Students follow a first-year program of General Education courses similar to students in other Crop Sciences concentrations. Programs for the second, third, and fourth years are planned in consultation with the student's faculty advisor, in the area of biological sciences. Students and advisors are encouraged to consult individual graduate schools for their specific entrance requirements. Although flexibility in individual course selection is a characteristic of this concentration, graduation requirements are established by selection of elective courses.

Crop Agribusiness Concentration

The concentration in Crop Agribusiness is designed for students wanting to combine agronomic production and business management. It prepares students for careers in production and marketing, cropping systems management, and a broad range of multifunctional agricultural enterprises or for entrance into graduate school.

Crops Concentration

The concentration in Crops is designed for students with an interest in agronomic crops. Students study the diversity of crop plants—how they grow and how they are grown. This concentration prepares students for careers in crop production and marketing, crop systems management, plant breeding, biotechnology, and seed merchandising or for entrance into graduate school.

Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology Concentration

The Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology concentration provides a curriculum that prepares students for careers in biotechnology or for entrance into graduate school. The basic sciences are emphasized, including a strong foundation in biology and genetics. Students are encouraged to participate in undergraduate independent study in a molecular biology laboratory. For those who wish to pursue graduate work, adequate preparation may be obtained by suitable choices of electives.

Integrated Pest Management

This concentration provides a broad selection of courses in crops, soils, plant diseases, insects and weeds, and the physical sciences. Students learn how to protect plants from the effects of diseases, insects, and weeds. This concentration is designed to prepare students for careers in crop consulting, integrated pest management, and agribusiness management and merchandising or for entrance into graduate school.

Minor in Crop and Soil Management

The Crop and Soil Management minor is designed for students who desire a significant background in crop and soil systems to support study and practice of their major field. Selection of additional courses beyond the core will depend on the student's major and interests.