PLANT SCIENCES

EMPHASIS AREAS: Breeding, Biology and Biotechnology • Crop Management • Horticultural Science and Design

From the food on our plates, to the homes we live in, to the fuel in our vehicles, plants impact all aspects of our daily lives. The ever-growing human population continues to increase the demand for crops and other plant products. As a result, the demand for plant scientists is on the rise. As a plant scientist, you can address challenges from the field to the laboratory.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Acquire a broad knowledge of plant biology, horticulture and crop management while earning a plant sciences degree from the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. This degree will prepare you for a variety of careers, including:

- **CROP MANAGEMENT.** Use specialization to answer agronomic questions throughout the Midwest, study major field and forage crops, or examine the feasibility of growing alternative crops for universities, private companies or government agencies.
- **PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY.** Plant geneticists or biotechnologists work technical positions at life science companies such as Monsanto and DuPont Pioneer. Your understanding of genetic engineering, molecular biology and traditional plant breeding will allow you to develop crops with specific traits, such as resistance to pests and improved yield.
- **HORTICULTURE.** Horticulturists use their knowledge of plant growth to sustainably produce flowers, vegetables and ornamental plants to enhance the environment, and to improve the ability of turfgrass to withstand drought, weeds, pest invasions and foot traffic. Work for botanical gardens, commercial greenhouses and nurseries, landscape design firms, professional sports teams or golf courses.
- **PLANT PROTECTION.** Develop strategies to improve plant productivity by strengthening natural resistance to insects, diseases and weeds. Become a crop consultant, seed sales representative or extension specialist.

RELATED MINOR

A **minor in agricultural economics** can supplement a plant sciences degree.

Apply business concepts and problem-solving techniques to improve the production, distribution and use of the world’s agricultural resources. This program can help prepare you for making business decisions that will affect the global food supply.

Check out additional minor opportunities at cafnr.missouri.edu/degrees-and-programs.

ADVISING/MENTORING

As a student in CAFNR, you will be assigned a faculty member and/or a professional who will serve as your academic advisor. One-on-one advisement and guidance will help you design the course of study best suited to meet your career objectives. This personalized approach to student advising means our students are more likely to stay in college and graduate.
HANDS-ON LEARNING
As a plant sciences student, your chances to gain field experience through research and internships are almost limitless.

- LEARNING LABS. In CAFNR, you can dive into real-world experiences through our student-operated full-service floral shop, café, ice cream parlor and meat market, and at our research centers throughout the state.
  
These services showcase the College’s signature research, education and outreach programs while providing top-quality products to the public and experience for our students.

- INTERNSHIPS. You are encouraged to complete an off-campus internship. Among the opportunities for plant sciences students are internships with professional sports teams, botanical gardens, seed and chemical companies, private nurseries, golf courses, life science companies, and government agencies.

GETTING INVOLVED
Mizzou recognizes more than 800 student organizations. In CAFNR alone there are more than 50 clubs and organizations to choose from, and each gives you the opportunity to apply what you learn in the classroom while making lifelong friends.

CAREER PLANNING
CAFNR offers Career Services tailored to help you make connections and build your professional brand. You can meet employers, prepare your resume, practice interview skills and develop your professional communication skills. More than 200 employers recruit CAFNR students each year through on-campus career events.

SCHOLARSHIPS
The College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources offers you one of the strongest scholarship programs at MU. About $1.3 million is awarded each year to undergraduates, ranging from $500 to $3,500 per year.

PREVIOUS INTERNSHIP HIGHLIGHTS
- Agrigold, MFA Incorporated, Village Farms, Novus International, Monsanto
- Dow Agrosciences, Syngenta, DuPont Pioneer, Helena Chemical Company
- Missouri Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Mizzou Athletics, Old Hawthorne Golf Club

UNDERGRAD RESEARCH. Work side-by-side with plant sciences faculty and get hands-on experience in areas such as plant genetics, golf course maintenance, athletic field management, plant production, greenhouse management or integrated pest management. Opportunities exist year round for on-campus employment as field, greenhouse or lab assistants.

STUDYING ABROAD
The plant sciences program, together with the CAFNR Study Abroad Office, offers a variety of international experiences around the globe, providing you the opportunity to explore horticulture and crop management practices in other countries. The programs also help you better understand the global dimensions of the Missouri and U.S. crop industries. Study abroad for a summer, a semester or winter break in your choice of more than 15 countries. Scholarships and loans are available for study abroad students.

GET IN TOUCH!
Ask questions about dual enrollment/Transfers
CAFNR Advising
Phone: 573-882-8301
Email: cafnradvising@missouri.edu
Check equivalency online: admissions.missouri.edu

Learn more about the University of Missouri
MU Office of Admissions
Phone: 573-882-7786
Email: askmizzou@missouri.edu
Web: admissions.missouri.edu

SCHEDULE A CAMPUS VISIT
CAFNR Office of Academic Programs
Phone (toll free): 888-682-2367
Email: visitcafnr@missouri.edu
Web: cafnr.missouri.edu

CONSIDER JOINING THESE CLUBS & ORGS!
- Agronomy Club
- American Institute of Floral Designers
- Horticulture Club
- Plant Breeding & Genetics Club
- Turf Club

CORE AREAS OF STUDY
- Genetics
- Plant Physiology
- Integrated Pest Management
- Retail Floral Design
- Hydroponic Production
- Cropping Systems

* See catalog.missouri.edu for full curriculum.