

HORTICULTURE, MS

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	18 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	15 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).
Other Grade Requirements	n/a

Assessments and Examinations Contact the program for information on required assessments and examinations.

Language Requirements Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

REQUIRED COURSES

Program Requirements

The specific program of study towards a master's degree is developed by the student and the major professor. Considerable flexibility in the selection of courses is permitted to meet the needs and interests of the candidate. Students often complete the requirements for a master's degree in one and a half years, and three years is usually considered the maximum time necessary.

- All students must successfully complete 14 credits of plant science (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/plantsci/>) courses and 11 credits of botany (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/botany/>) courses. Courses completed as a undergraduate may count but will only count towards the minimum graduate coursework requirement if numbered 700 or higher from UW-Madison. Coursework completed at an institution other than UW-Madison must be approved by your graduate committee. See the policies tab for more information about how prior coursework can be applied to this program's requirements. No more than 3 credits of PLANTSCI 699 Special Problems may be counted towards this requirement.

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credits and 15 of these credits must be graduate level (up to 3 credits of 990 may be used to satisfy this 15 credit requirement, but PLANTSCI 699 Special Problems may not be used to satisfy this requirement).

- Students must complete at least 30 credits and write a master's thesis that is acceptable to the student's final examining committee. Under special circumstances, a student's graduate committee may, with the written approval of the department chair, allow a student to complete their MS degree with an approved report instead of a thesis or with coursework only.
- Students in the MS degree in Horticulture with emphasis in organic sustainable production must satisfy the specific course requirements outlined below. The student must also complete at least 30 credits and write a master's thesis that is acceptable to the student's final examining committee.

Organic Sustainable Production Pathway ¹

Code	Title	Credits
Ecology		
Complete one of the following courses:		3
F&W ECOL/ BOTANY/ ZOOLOGY 460	General Ecology	
AGROECOL 701	The Farm as Socio-Environmental Endeavor	
AGROECOL 702	The Multifunctionality of Agriculture	
Horticulture		
PLANTSCI 370	World Vegetable Crops	3
Plant Pathology		
Complete one of the following courses:		2
PL PATH 300	Introduction to Plant Pathology	

PL PATH 517	Plant Disease Resistance	
PL PATH 559	Diseases of Economic Plants	
Agronomy/Entomology		
ENTOM 450	Basic and Applied Insect Ecology	3
Soil Science		
Complete one of the following:		3
SOIL SCI 323	Soil Biology	
SOIL SCI 326	Plant Nutrition Management	
Statistics		
STAT/F&W ECOL 571	Statistical Methods for Bioscience I	4
Seminar²		
Complete one of the following courses:		1
AGROECOL 710	Seminar in Agroecology	
PLANTSCI 920	Seminar in Plant Science and Technology	
Research		
Complete a total of 6 credits.		6
PLANTSCI 990	Research	
Additional Coursework		
At the discretion of the student's major professor or master's committee, additional remedial or advanced coursework may be required to reach the 30 credit minimum.		5
Total Credits		30

¹ These pathways are internal to the program and represent different curricular paths a student can follow to earn this degree. Pathway names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

² Students may speak with their committee regarding alternative courses to complete the seminar requirement.

Additional Coursework

At the discretion of the student's major professor or master's committee, additional remedial or advanced coursework may be required.

Seminar Requirement

Master's degree students must enroll in a graduate level seminar class (1 credit) for at least one semester and obtain a passing grade for that class. Seminars offered by departments other than the Department of Plant and Agroecosystem Sciences may be used to satisfy this requirement.