

## **PLS Plant and Soil Science**

### **PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE**

#### **PLS 104 PLANTS, SOILS, AND PEOPLE:**

##### **A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE. (3)**

A survey of important world grain, oil, fiber, forage, fruit, vegetable and specialty crop plants. Principles of plant, soil and climatic factors governing adaptation and production of these plants are discussed and applied. Intended to provide substantial plant and soil science background for students not majoring in plant and soil science, but is open and should appeal to beginning plant and soil science majors as well.

##### **PLS 210 THE LIFE PROCESSES OF PLANTS. (3)**

This course is intended to provide a basic understanding of the natural products and processes that shape the nature of modern plants, and govern their interactions with the environment and characteristics unique to plants, and develop a basic understanding of how these plant attributes relate to organismic function. Emphasis will be placed on exploring the nature of the major plant biomes of the Earth, their community dynamics, and how member plants compete for space and other resources. Development of optimal plant strategies for reproductive success, plant interaction with other living systems as well as abiotic factors and their defense from predation and attack will also be considered. (Same as BIO 210.)

##### **PLS 220 INTRODUCTION TO PLANT IDENTIFICATION. (3)**

An introduction to the techniques used for plant identification based on over one hundred plants encountered in everyday life. Lecture, one hour; laboratory, four hours per week.

##### **PLS 366 FUNDAMENTALS OF SOIL SCIENCE. (4)**

Study of the physical, chemical and biological properties of soils and how these properties relate to plant nutrient availability and plant growth, land-use planning and management issues, and soil and water quality issues. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, three hours. Prereq: CHE 105.

##### **PLS 386 PLANT PRODUCTION SYSTEMS. (4)**

In-depth analysis of the underlying principles of plant production systems. Successful strategies, based on application of the principles developed by lecture and laboratory activities, will be discussed in either agronomic or horticultural contexts. Special attention will be given to minimizing the environmental impact of the plant production techniques employed. Prereq: PLS 210 and PLS 366 or concurrently or consent of instructor.

##### **PLS 399 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE. (1-6)**

A field-based learning experience in plant and soil science under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Pass/fail only. Prereq: Complete learning contract before registration.

##### **PLS 490 TOPICS IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE. (3)**

A capstone course for majors in Plant and Soil Science to be taken near the conclusion of the student's academic career. The course provides the student the opportunity to integrate knowledge

acquired in previous courses in the plant and soil science and support areas. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving, synthesizing and integrating information, critical thinking, group activities, and written and oral communication. Instructional methods may include formal lectures, laboratories or supervised individual research. The specific nature of the course depends upon the student's Area of Emphasis within the Plant and Soil Science major. All topics offered will be approved by the Undergraduate Education Committee in the Area of Emphasis. Prereq: Senior in Plant and Soil Science.

**PLS 597 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PLANT  
AND SOIL SCIENCE (Subtitle required). (1-3)**

Special topical or experimental courses in crop science, soil science or related areas of horticulture, or plant physiology for graduate and advanced undergraduate students. Special subtitle required and must be approved by the chair of Agronomy or Horticulture. A particular subtitle may be offered twice under PLS 597. Students may not repeat under the same subtitle. Prereq: Permission of instructor.

**PLS 640 IDENTIFICATION OF PLANT DISEASES. (3)**

Recognition and identification of plant diseases and their causes and development. The course is designed to give students practical experience in dealing with a wide array of plant diseases, symptom expressions, causal agents and interactions with environmental factors encountered in the difficult task of identifying plant diseases. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Lecture, one hour; laboratory, six hours. Prereq: PPA 400G or equivalent or consent of instructor. (Same as PPA 640.)

**PLS 697 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PLANT  
AND SOIL SCIENCE (Subtitle required). (1-3)**

Special topic or experimental course in cross science, horticulture, plant physiology or soil science for advanced graduate students. Special title required and must be approved by the chairpersons of the Departments of Agronomy and Horticulture. A particular title may be offered twice, at most, under PLS 697. Students may not repeat under the same title. May be repeated to a maximum of six hours. Prereq: Consent of appropriate instructor before registering.

**PLS 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)**

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

**PLS 767 DISSERTATION RESIDENCY CREDIT. (2)**

Residency credit for dissertation research after the qualifying examination. Students may register for this course in the semester of the qualifying examination. A minimum of two semesters are required as well as continuous enrollment (Fall and Spring) until the dissertation is completed and defended.

**PLS 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT  
FOR MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)**

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

## **AGRONOMY**

### **PLS 367 SOIL AND WATER ANALYSIS LABORATORY. (3)**

Introductory laboratory emphasizing fundamental principles in soil science and water quality. Will provide hands-on experience in soil-water research and the written communication of acquired knowledge. Lecture 1.5 hours, laboratory three hours per week. Prereq: Concurrent enrollment in PLS 366.

### **PLS 395 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE. (1-4)**

May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Consent of appropriate instructor before registration.

### **PLS 396 SOIL JUDGING. (1-2)**

This course involves basic soil resource evaluation designed to provide the students with essential field training needed to pursue careers as soil scientists, conservationists, planners, agricultural chemical representatives and environmental assessors. It is also used to prepare the UK soil judging team for regional college competition. May be repeated to a maximum of five credit hours. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

### **PLS 404 INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT.(4)**

A study of weed management concepts based on the integration of weed biology and ecology data with cultural, biological, and herbicidal control. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, two hours. Prereq: PLS 386.

### **PLS 406 ADVANCED SOIL JUDGING. (1)**

A more advanced treatment of soil site evaluations under diverse climatic and physiographic environments. Students will obtain expertise in assessing properties of contrasting soil types and rating them for soil use and management suitability. The course is also used for preparing the UK soil judging team for national college competition. May be repeated to a maximum of four credit hours. Prereq: PLS 396 and qualifying for national competition.

### **PLS 408 TOBACCO. (3)**

History, botany, pathology, entomology, breeding, and culture of tobacco with special emphasis on burley. Prereq: PLS 386 or consent of instructor.

### **PLS 412 GRAIN CROPS. (3)**

Study of the grain crops of the world with respect to adaptation, production, management and use. Prereq: PLS 386 or consent of instructor.

### **PLS 450G BIOGEOCHEMISTRY. (3)**

A course emphasizing the physical, chemical, and biochemical make-up of soil/water systems and the information required to predict chemical fate in the environment. Emphasis is placed on the relationships describing mineral solubility, sorption and exchange reactions, redox reactions, volatility, and biochemical cycling. Prereq: CHE 105, 107, 115; two semesters of college biology. (Same as NRC 450G.)

PLS 455G WETLAND DELINEATION. (3)

Basic concepts of natural wetland ecosystems, their importance, functions, and major features used for their identification and classification. Application of basic hydrology, hydrophytic vegetation and hydric soil indicators for identification of jurisdictional wetlands utilizing documentation and analysis of field collected data. Three laboratory exercises and four short field trips required. Prereq: PLS 366 or consent of instructor. (Same as NRC 455G.)

PLS 456G CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS. (3)

Important aspects of the functions of natural and constructed wetlands as water purifiers. Principles and mechanisms of the purification process, design, construction, operation and management criteria for efficient usage. Case studies and design problems of constructed wetlands on mining, agricultural, industrial and municipal wastewater treatment applications. Two all day field trips are required. Prereq: PLS 366 or consent of instructor. (Same as NRC 456G.)

PLS 468G SOIL USE AND MANAGEMENT. (3)

The application of principles related to soils and their management in planning the utilization of land and associated resources. Lecture and discussion. Prereq: PLS 366 or consent of instructor.

PLS 470G SOIL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT. (3)

Sources and manufacture of fertilizer materials; soil reaction of elements essential for plant growth; effective use of fertilizers for various soil situations. Prereq: CHE 105, PLS 366 and PLS 386 or consent of instructor.

PLS 477G LAND TREATMENT OF WASTE. (3)

Resource management with emphasis on principles and methods of soil application of wastes (agricultural, industrial, and municipal). Topics include chemical and biological systems; soil and plant management; development, monitoring, and record keeping. Prereq: PLS 366. (Same as NRC 477G.)

PLS 501 RECLAMATION OF DISTURBED LAND. (3)

Development of concepts, principles, and an understanding of the problems associated with restoring the productivity of soils disturbed by surface mining of coal as well as a limited discussion of reclamation of other types of disturbed soils. One all-day field trip is required. Prereq: PLS 366.

PLS 502 ECOLOGY OF ECONOMIC PLANTS. (3)

Study of the physical environment (radiation, temperature, precipitation, and evapotranspiration) in which crops are grown and the effect of the environment on crop growth and yield. Both micro- and macro-climatic relationships are considered.

PLS 510 FORAGE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION. (3)

Critical study of grassland plants and the biological and physical factors operative in utilization of natural and cultivated grasslands by domestic animals. Lecture, three hours. Prereq: PLS 386, or consent of instructor.

PLS 514 GRASS TAXONOMY AND IDENTIFICATION. (3)

Overview of the grass family, concentrating on taxonomic issues and identification skills for ~200 species (turf, forages, weeds, etc.). Lecture: two hours; laboratory: two hours per week. Prereq: PLS 220 or permission from instructor.

**PLS 515 TURF MANAGEMENT. (3)**

A study of the selection, culture, and management of certain turf species used for home lawns, golf courses, athletic fields, and highway slopes. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, two hours. Prereq: PLS 210 and PLS 366.

**PLS 531 FIELD SCHOOLS IN  
CROP PEST MANAGEMENT. (2)**

A course for the Plant Pest Management option in Plant and Soil science to reinforce the concepts of pest management learned in previous courses. Emphasis will be placed on integrating information to develop pest management strategies. Instructional methods will include formal lectures and laboratories in the field. Prereq: ENT 300 or ENT 310 or ENT 320; PLS 404 and PPA 400G; or consent of instructor.

**PLS 556 SEED PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY. (3)**

A study of seeds of improved cultivars as a delivery system for plant genetics. Principles of seed production, harvesting and conditioning for agronomic and horticultural crops within and outside of the region of adaptation. Seed multiplication systems, seed testing and the laws and regulations related to marketing high quality seed. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, four hours for 12 weeks. Prereq: PLS 386 or consent of instructor.

**PLS 566 SOIL MICROBIOLOGY. (3)**

The nature and biochemical activities of soil microflora; their significance in soil genesis and structure and their role in soil fertility. Prereq: PLS 366 or an introductory microbiology course or consent of instructor.

**PLS 567 METHODS IN SOIL MICROBIOLOGY. (1)**

Methods in Soil Microbiology will be a laboratory course dedicated to introducing upper division students to the methods and techniques used by microbiologists and other soil scientists to examine organisms, interactions, and processes in soil systems. Laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq: PLS 366 or introductory microbiology course.

**PLS 573 SOIL MORPHOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION. (3)**

Study of concepts of soil horizons, soil profiles and soilscares; morphological, physical, chemical and mineralogical parameters useful in their characterization. Soil forming factors and processes. Basic principles of soil classification. Characterization of selected Kentucky soils and their placement in the modern system; practical field problems in soil identification, characterization and classification. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq: PLS 366 and PLS 367 or consent of instructor.

**PLS 575 SOIL PHYSICS. (3)**

This course deals with the state and movement of matter, and with the fluxes and transformations of energy, in soil systems. Its objectives are to develop a basic theoretical understanding of soil

physical properties and processes (with emphasis on the statics and dynamics of soil water), and to demonstrate how this understanding can be applied under field conditions to make sound management decisions concerning both agricultural and non-agricultural uses of soils. Prereq: MA 113 or MA 123, PHY 201 or PHY 211, PLS 366 or consent of instructor.

**PLS 576 LABORATORY IN SOIL PHYSICS. (1)**

This course consists of laboratory and field exercises designed to increase understanding of important soil physical properties and processes. Its objectives are to develop familiarity with standard methods of measuring soil physical parameters, and to instill scientific methods of data collection, analysis and interpretation. Prereq: PLS 367, concurrent enrollment in PLS 575, or consent of instructor.

**PLS 581 CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF SOILS AND PLANTS. (4)**

Laboratory emphasis on instrumental methods and techniques used in quantitative and qualitative chemical analysis of soil and plant materials and relation of these analyses to physical, chemical and biological systems. Lecture, one hour; discussion, one hour; laboratory, four hours. Prereq: PLS 366 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

**PLS 599 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE. (1-4)**

May be repeated for a maximum of nine credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

**PLS 601 SPECIAL TOPICS IN MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR GENETICS. (1)**

Each semester five distinguished scientists visit the UK campus to deliver a series of three formal lectures each and participate in numerous informal contacts with graduate students. The emphasis is on the presentation of the most current advances (often unpublished) in selected topics in molecular and cellular genetics. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. (Same as BCH/BIO/MI/PPA 601.)

**PLS 602 PRINCIPLES OF YIELD PHYSIOLOGY. (3)**

Critical study of the physiological factors and processes involved in determining economic yield in grain crops. The focus will be on factors operating at the whole plant and plant community level as opposed to physiological processes at the cellular or subcellular level. A logical, analytical description of the process of economic yield production by grain crops will be developed and related to historical changes in crop yields and the potential for increasing yields in the future. Prereq: PLS 386 and BIO 430G or consent of instructor.

**PLS 605 PHYSIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS IN HORTICULTURAL PLANTS. (3)**

A critical evaluation of the recent concepts in certain selected areas of horticultural science. Prereq: BIO 430G.

**PLS 609 PLANT BIOCHEMISTRY.(3)**

The course will consider the chemical constituents of plants (with emphasis on biologically or nutritionally significant compounds unique to plants), their biosynthesis, contribution to key metabolic and defense processes and the regulation of their synthesis. Included will be discussions of photosynthesis, carbohydrates, lipids, isoprenoids and phenylpropanoids, nitrogen fixation, nitrogen and sulfur reduction and assimilation, alkaloids and additional secondary compounds, frontiers in plant biochemistry. Prereq: BCH 607 or equivalent or consent of instructor. (Same as BCH/PPA 609.)

**PLS 619 CYTOGENETICS. (4)**

Classical, biochemical and molecular studies of the structure and function of eukaryotic chromosomes. Emphasis is placed on the effects of variation in chromosome type, structure and number on Mendelian genetics and in plant and animal breeding. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, two hours. Prereq: ABT/ASC/ENT 360 or BIO 304. (Same as BIO 619.)

**PLS 620 PLANT MOLECULAR BIOLOGY. (3)**

This course is intended to be a treatment of current concepts of plant molecular biology. It will be a literature-based course, supplemented by handouts and reading lists. The course will deal as much as is possible with topics that are unique to plants. Current aspects of molecular biology that are relevant to the course content will be covered in the first part of the course; however, these lectures will not be a review of topics that should have been retained from introductory genetics and biochemistry courses. Also, they will not be a substitute for a molecular biology course. Prereq: One semester of undergraduate genetics and biochemistry or consent of instructor. (Same as BIO 620.)

**PLS 622 PHYSIOLOGY OF PLANTS I. (3)**

A physiological/biochemical treatment of central topics in modern plant physiology. Topics will include: plant-cell biology, ion transport, water and translocation, respiration and photosynthesis. Prereq: BIO 430G or equivalent or consent of coordinator. Prereq or concur: BCH 607. (Same as BIO/FOR 622.)

**PLS 623 PHYSIOLOGY OF PLANTS II. (3)**

A physiological/biochemical treatment of central topics in modern plant physiology. Topics will include: plant hormones, an introduction to plant biotechnology, senescence and abscission, stress physiology, phytochrome-photomorphogenesis-phototropism nitrogen and sulfur metabolism. Prereq: BIO 430G or equivalent or consent of coordinator. Prereq or concur: BCH 607. (Same as BIO/FOR 623.)

**PLS 650 SOIL-PLANT RELATIONSHIPS. (3)**

An advanced course on the relationships between media and the root systems of plants growing therein. Prereq: PLS 366, BIO 430G (or equivalent), or consent of instructor.

**PLS 657 SEED BIOLOGY. (3)**

Structure, development and function during plant reproductive development and seed ontogeny, including fertilization, embryogeny and endosperm development, seed formation, maturation, germination, dormancy and deterioration. Prereq: ABT 360, BIO 430G or consent of instructor.

PLS 660 ADVANCED SOIL BIOLOGY. (2)

A critical evaluation of the current research status in selected aspects of soil biology. Prereq: PLS 566 or consent of instructor.

PLS 664 PLANT BREEDING I. (3)

The application of advanced genetic principles to plant improvement. An in-depth study of existing plant breeding procedures and their applications and consideration of new techniques that can be applied to plant breeding and crop improvement. Prereq: STA 570 or consent of instructor.

PLS 671 SOIL CHEMISTRY. (4)

A study of the chemical characteristics of the soil and of the more important chemical processes in the soil. Lecture and discussion, three hours; laboratory, two hours. Prereq: PLS 470G, 581; CHE 442G, or consent of instructor.

PLS 676 QUANTITATIVE INHERITANCE IN PLANT POPULATIONS. (3)

After a brief review of population genetics theory, the course is divided into two sections which cover methods of estimating genetic variances and selection methods in population improvement. The course will focus on handling and interpretation of actual data sets through data analysis and discussion of current literature. Prereq: STA 570, STA 671, and STA 672. (Same as STA 676.)

PLS 712 ADVANCED SOIL FERTILITY. (4)

An integration of the effects of soil, climate, species and management on the nutrition and dry matter accumulation of plants. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, two hours per week. Prereq: PLS 470G or PLS 650 or consent of instructor.

PLS 741 CLAY MINERALOGY. (3)

A comprehensive study of the crystal structures of clay minerals commonly found in soils and sediments. Lecture and discussion, three hours. Prereq: GLY 360 or consent of instructor. (Same as GLY 741.)

PLS 749 DISSERTATION RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on dissertation. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: Registration for two full-time semesters of 769 residence credit following the successful completion of qualifying exams.

PLS 769 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE DOCTOR'S DEGREE. (0-12)

May be repeated indefinitely.

PLS 772 SEMINAR IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE (Subtitle required). (1)

Reports and discussion of problems and research in crops, soils, horticultural science and plant physiology. May be repeated three times for a maximum of four credits.

PLS 799 RESEARCH IN

PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE. (1-4)

May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

## **HORTICULTURE**

PLS 100 AN INTRODUCTION TO  
HORTICULTURE PROFESSIONS. (1)

A survey of horticulture as a profession; to inform students of opportunities and to develop an appreciation of horticultural science as it relates to the human environment. Offered on a pass/fail basis only.

PLS 320 WOODY HORTICULTURAL PLANTS. (4)

A detailed study of evergreen and deciduous trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers occurring in the landscape; their systematic identification, hardiness, form, growth habit, size, culture, adaptation to environmental conditions, uses, and outstanding horticultural characteristics. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, three hours. Prereq: PLS 220.

PLS 330 HERBACEOUS HORTICULTURAL PLANTS I. (2)

The identification and cultural requirements of herbaceous plants. A designated number of annuals, perennials, commercial cut flowers, flowering pot plants, bulbs, and foliage plants readily available in the fall will be covered. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, two hours per week for one half semester. Prereq: PLS 220.

PLS 332 HERBACEOUS HORTICULTURAL PLANTS II. (2)

The identification and cultural requirements of herbaceous plants. A designated number of annuals, perennials, commercial cut flowers, flowering pot plants, bulbs, and foliage plants readily available in the spring will be covered. Lecture, three hours; laboratory, two hours per week for one half semester. Prereq: PLS 220.

PLS 352 NURSERY PRODUCTION. (3)

An introduction to the production practice of container and field grown nursery stock as they relate to management and operation of a nursery business. A two to three-day field trip is required. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq or concur: HOR 327 and PLS 465 or consent of instructor.

PLS 440 PLANT PROPAGATION. (3)

A study of the principles and practices involved in producing plants by sexual and asexual methods and to provide the basic skills necessary for using these methods. The interrelationship of plant growth, structure and the environment as they affect the ability to propagate plants by a specific method. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq: PLS 210.

\*PLS 451 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT  
AND ARBORICULTURE. (3)

Discussion of the protection, pruning, repair, and culture of plant material in landscape plantings as well as the diagnosis of plant-related problems and the management principles of landscape maintenance. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq: PLS 210, PLS 386.

**PLS 465 GREENHOUSES AND  
CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS. (3)**

A study of greenhouse structures, coverings, equipment, and the monitoring and regulation of the environment including temperature, light, carbon dioxide, and relative humidity as these factors relate to the commercial production of greenhouse crops. Other types of controlled environments are also included. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, two hours per week. Prereq: PLS 386.

**PLS 520 FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION. (4)**

Commercial production practices for major fruits and vegetables. Prereq: PLS 386.

**PLS 525 GREENHOUSE FLORAL  
CROP MANAGEMENT. (3)**

The study of methods of control of flowering and growth of selected flowering pot plants, cut flowers and bedding plants produced commercially in greenhouses. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, two hours. Prereq: PLS 440 and PLS 465.