The Plant and Soil Science degree program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed for a career in the production and management of plants and soils for food, fiber, forage, oil, recreation, landscaping and the enhancement of the human environment. Graduates have the technical and scientific skills as well as the communication, computational, leadership, and interpersonal capabilities necessary to function effectively as professionals. Careers are as diverse as they are challenging. Each Area of Emphasis prepares graduates for specific professional opportunities.

**Areas of Emphasis**

Students pursuing a Plant and Soil Science degree may choose from the following areas:

- Crops and Livestock
- Crops and Soils
- Horticulture Enterprise Management
- Horticultural Science
- Plant Pest Management
- Soil and Water Environmental Science
- Turfgrass Science

**Graduation Requirements**

Students must complete a minimum of 128 semester credit hours with at least 48 credit hours from courses at the 300 level or above. In addition to the University Studies and college requirements, students must select an Area of Emphasis with the assistance of an advisor and fulfill the area’s program requirements.

**Plan of Study**

As a plant and soil science major you are required to develop an acceptable Plan of Study during your sophomore year for your junior and senior years. The plan must be signed by your advisor and returned to the Associate Dean for Instruction’s office. If you are an upper division transfer student (from another university or from another UK college or department) then you will submit your plan during the first semester you are enrolled in the program.

Consult your academic advisor in developing your Plan of Study.

**College Required Hours**

ENG 203 Business Writing or ENG 204 Technical Writing .................................................. 3

†GEN 100 Issues in Agriculture: The Development of Modern Agriculture* ................................................. 3

†GEN 200 Issues in Agriculture: Contemporary Problems in Agriculture and Natural Resources ......................... 3

†These courses also satisfy the University Studies Oral Communication requirement.

*Note: Students transferring into the college with 30 or more hours take only GEN 200 plus one communications course from the approved sequence in University Studies.

Subtotal: College Required Hours .................................................. 6-9

**University Studies Requirements**

See “University Studies Program” on pages 70-74 of the 2004-2005 UK Bulletin for the complete University Studies requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill University Studies areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the University Studies Program requirements.

**Subtotal: University Studies Requirements** ................................................................................. Hours

**Major Requirements**

The courses marked with an asterisk (*) may also be used to satisfy University Studies requirements.

**Math**

MA 123 Elementary Calculus and Its Applications .................................................. 3

**Natural Sciences**

CHE 105 General College Chemistry I ............................................................................. 3

CHE 107 General College Chemistry II ............................................................................ 3

In addition, the student must submit a proposed plan of study for the junior and senior years.

**Premajor Requirements**

*MA 123 Elementary Calculus and Its Applications .................................................. 3

*CHE 105 General College Chemistry I ............................................................................. 3

*CHE 107 General College Chemistry II ............................................................................ 3

*CHE 115 General Chemistry Laboratory ........................................................................ 3

Subtotal: Premajor Hours ......................................................................................... 12

**Major Requirements**

*AEC 101 The Economics of Food and Agriculture .................................................. 3

*ACE 102 The Dynamics of Rural Social Life ........................................................................ 3

*PLS 104 Plants, Soils, and People: A Global Perspective ........................................... 3

PLS 210 The Life Processes of Plants ............................................................................. 4

PLS 220 Introduction to Plant Identification ..................................................................... 4

PLS 366 Fundamentals of Soil Science ......................................................................... 4

PLS 386 Plant Production Systems ................................................................................. 4

PLS 490 Topics in Plant and Soil Science ................................................................ ...... 3

*Required in Plant and Soil Science curriculum and also satisfies University Studies or College of Agriculture requirements.

Subtotal: Major Hours ........................................................................................................ 26

**Area of Emphasis** (15-31 hours)

In addition to the 31 PLS and GEN credit hours listed above in Major Requirements, students will select an additional 15-31 credit hours from Plant and Soil Science (PLS) or Plant Pathology (PPA) courses. The total credit hours in the major depends upon the student’s Area of Interest.

During the sophomore year each student will identify an Area of Emphasis and develop a Plan of Study that details the course work to be taken during the junior and senior years. Examples of Areas of Emphasis include Horticulture Enterprise Management, Crops and Livestock, Crops and Soils, Turfgrass Science, Soil and Water Environmental Science, Horticultural Science, and Plant Pest Management. The Plan of Study must be approved by the undergraduate curriculum committee in the Area of Emphasis.

Subtotal: Area of Emphasis ................................................................................................. 15-31

**Specialty Support Requirements** (21-39 hours)

To be selected from courses (other than PLS or PPA) offered by animal science, entomology, veterinary science, natural resource conservation, landscape architecture, agricultural engineering, chemistry, geology, geography, physics, biology, mathematics, statistics, agricultural economics, accounting, management, marketing, and economics. Selection of courses and total credit hours depends upon the student’s Area of Emphasis.

Subtotal: Area of Emphasis .................................................................................................. 21-39

**Electives**

Elective courses should be selected by the student to lead to the minimum total of 128 hours required for graduation.

Subtotal: Electives ............................................................................................................. minimum of 11

TOTAL HOURS: .................................................................................................................. 128