



# PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

The Professional Science Master's (PSM) program in plant biotechnology offers a fast-paced immersion into preparation for careers in biotechnology sectors. Embedded within the University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, PSM students enjoy the charged atmosphere of scientific discoveries for which the University of Illinois is globally recognized.

Along with a sound footing in biotechnology-related disciplines, students will be introduced to the modes by which scientific discoveries are translated to the commercial realm. This program fosters students' efforts to cultivate meaningful relationships with industry partners, from whom they can learn about the directions and needs of biotechnology enterprises. By merging biotechnology-focused training with business knowledge and professional skills, the Plant Biotechnology program equips students for diverse entry points into agricultural, medical, and environmental enterprises that demand sound scientific thinking with business acumen.

Business curriculum includes courses in technology management, marketing, entrepreneurship, supply chain management, process management, and more. The cross disciplinary industry seminars offer opportunities to personally interact with industry and government leaders.

The program can be completed in 18-months of full-time study on the Urbana-Champaign campus. Summer enrollment is required while completing the internship. A thesis is not required.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Product development and marketing
- Government and public relations
- Design and Implementation or regulatory strategies
- Market analysis and feasibility studies
- Application of new customer support models
- Technology transfer and intellectual property ventures

## PROGRAM ADVISOR

Dr. John Juvik  
Department of Crop Sciences  
[juvik@illinois.edu](mailto:juvik@illinois.edu)  
(217) 333-1966

Coordinated by the University of Illinois  
Department of Crop Sciences in cooperation  
with the Graduate College.

Applications may be submitted online. For additional information, visit the University of Illinois PSM website at [psm.illinois.edu](http://psm.illinois.edu) or email [PSMdegree@illinois.edu](mailto:PSMdegree@illinois.edu).

# ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. Institution or a comparable degree from a recognized institution abroad,
- Grade point average of 3.0 or higher (4.0 scale) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work and for any graduate work,
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE),
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for non-native speakers of English, and
- Three (3) letters of recommendation.

# SAMPLE PROGRAM OF STUDY

## Year 1: Fall

### *Science Curriculum*

CPSC 440	Applied Statistical Methods
CPSC 466	Genomics for Plant Improvement
CPSC 564	Molecular Market Data Analysis
CPSC 598*	Crop Sciences Wednesday Seminar

### *Business Curriculum\**

Two 2-hour courses in	
• Teamwork and Leadership, and	
• Management and Marketing	
PSM 501	Industry Seminar I

*This is a **sample curriculum**; your courses will depend upon your individual interests and career plans. For additional course offerings, visit <http://psm.illinois.edu/plant-biotechnology>*

## Year 1: Spring

### *Science Curriculum*

CPSC 453	Principles of Plant Breeding
CPSC 484	Plant Physiology
CPSC 518	Crop Growth and Development
CPSC 598*	Crop Sciences Wednesday Seminar

### *Business Curriculum\**

Two 2-hour courses in	
• Project Management, and	
• Finance	
PSM 502	Industry Seminar II

### Students have interned at:

- AGCO Corporation
- AgReliant
- Eurofins AgroScience
- KWS Cereals USA, LLC
- Monsanto
- Genective S.A.
- USDA-ARS

## Summer Internship

## Year 2: Fall

### *Science Curriculum*

CPSC 452	Advanced Plant Genetics
CPSC 588	Plant Biochemistry
CPSC 598*	Crop Sciences Wednesday Seminar
HORT 447	Horticultural Plant Breeding

### *Business Curriculum\**

One 2-hour course in Science and Regulatory Policy	
PSM 503	Industry Seminar III

### Graduates have been hired by:

- Agilent Technologies
- AGCO Corporation
- Dow DuPont
- Eli Lilly and Company
- Sanofi Genzyme
- USDA-ARS
- University of Illinois

## December Graduation

*\*Required*