PLANT BIOLOGY M.S.

All students must meet the Requirements for the Master’s Degree

OVERVIEW

M.S. students in the Department of Plant Biology have the opportunity to join research programs covering a diverse set of disciplines including physiology, developmental genetics, molecular regulation of gene expression, cell biology, plant-microbe interactions, ecological genomics, systematics and biogeography, and ecology of plant population and community dynamics. Graduate students become members of a collegial academic community where they are trained to become cutting-edge researchers and effective educators in the plant sciences. In addition, the University of Vermont has a vigorous research community in the life sciences, allowing students to interact and collaborate with colleagues across campus.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Master of Science

• The equivalent of a UVM major or minor in a natural or physical science

• Strong scores on the Graduate Record Examination

• Evidence of previous research experience

Minimum Degree Requirements

All students must successfully complete a total of 30 credits, including a minimum of 15 credits of program-related course work and 9 credits of thesis research. Satisfactory completion of the written and oral components of a comprehensive examination are required. A student’s M.S. degree is culminated by satisfactory completion of a thesis, a public seminar, and a private defense with their studies committee.

Comprehensive Examination

A written and oral examination is completed by end of the student’s second year in the program. The written exam consists of questions from each of the student’s committee members, and after successful completion an oral exam is scheduled.

Requirements for Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science

Satisfactory completion of the written and oral components of a comprehensive examination.