TURFGRASS SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT, A.S.

Begin Campus: World Campus
End Campus: World Campus

Program Description

The Turfgrass Science and Management (2TSM) major prepares graduates for the Bachelor of Science in Turfgrass Science (TURF) program or direct entry into the work place. The primary objective of this major is to train current/future turfgrass facility managers in communicative and mathematical skills, and initiate student mastery of technical aspects unique to management of turfgrass systems.

Graduates of this program are qualified to support golf course, landscape, and athletic field maintenance operations; production of sod commodities; equipment sales and service; and technical research programs. Graduates may also apply their credits to pursue completion of Baccalaureate programs such as Environmental Resource Management, Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Management, and Turfgrass Science (TURF). Students who plan to continue in the TURF degree program should meet with their advisers regarding entrance to major and other requirements.

What is Turfgrass Science and Management?

The Turfgrass Science and Management major provides an integrated program of study that includes basic and applied plant sciences, business management courses, and an internship to prepare students for careers as decision makers in golf course, sports field, and landscape construction and management.

You Might Like this Program If...

• You enjoy working outdoors
• You want to be part of the sports industry
• You want to use your technical expertise to solve problems related to plants and the environment
• You have a sense of accomplishment seeing your work appreciated by others

Entrance to Major

Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to change to this Associate degree after admission to the University.

Direct Admission to the Major

Incoming first-year students who meet the program admission requirements are admitted directly into the major. Admission restrictions may apply for change-of-major and/or change-of-campus students.

For more information about the admission process for this major, please send a request to the college, campus, or program contact (listed in the Contact tab).

Degree Requirements

For the Associate in Science degree in Turfgrass Science and Management, a minimum of 61 credits is required:

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15 of the 21 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GN courses; 3 credits of GQ courses; 3 credits of GWS courses; 3 credits of GH courses.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

• Quantification (GQ): 3 credits
• Writing and Speaking (GWS): 3 credits

Knowledge Domains

• Arts (GA): 3 credits
• Humanities (GH): 3 credits
• Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
• Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Foundations or Knowledge Domains

• A General Education course selected from GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, or GS, and may include Integrative Studies (Inter-domain or Linked) courses: 3 credits

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement
3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.
Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44. Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
Ent 317 Turfgrass Insect Pest Management
Soils 101 Introductory Soil Science
Turf 230 Turfgrass Pesticides
Turf 235 The Turfgrass
Turf 238 Turf and Ornamental Weed Control
Turf 295 Internship

Additional Courses
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
Chem 101 Introductory Chemistry
Chem 110 or 130 Introduction to General, Organic, and Biochemistry

Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 9 credits from department professional agriculture list
Select 9 credits from department professional management and economics list

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY

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Suggested Academic Plan
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2019-20 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

World Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
Enl 15†† 3 Chem 110 or 101 3
MATH 21†† 3 Soils 101†† 3
Biol 11† 3 Turf 230 1
Turf 235† 3 Supporting Course (Professional Agriculture) 3
General Education Course 3 Supporting Course (Professional Agriculture) 3
Supporting Course (Professional Management) 3

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Second Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
Ent 317† 3 Turf 238 3
Chem 202† 3 Phil 103W† 3
Turf 295† 3 Supporting Course (Professional Management) 3

3
Supporting Course (Professional Agriculture) 3 General Education Course 3
Supporting Course (Professional Management) 3 Elective 3

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Total Credits 61

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GN, GA, GH, and GS). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Career Paths

Graduates manage golf courses and professional stadium playing surfaces. Turfgrass professionals utilize grasses in conservation areas, and suburban and urban landscapes to enhance and beautify the environment. Some alumni pursue careers in agricultural enterprises that support the turfgrass industry.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE TURFGRASS SCIENCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (http://plantscience.psu.edu/research/centers/turf)

Contact

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http://plantscience.psu.edu/

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https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/turfgrass-science-and-management-associates/overview