# PLANT SCIENCES

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**
- Residential Design
- Landscape Construction
- Landscape Maintenance
- Specialty Installation (Irrigation systems, ponds, rockscapes, lighting)
- Sales and Contracting

**TURFGRASS SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**
- Golf Course Management
- Sport Turf Management
- Sod Production
- Residential Lawn Installation and Management
- Irrigation Systems
- Research

### EMPLOYERS

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**
- Landscape design companies
- Garden centers
- Parks, amusement parks, and zoos
- Golf courses
- Sport fields
- Cemeteries
- Large hotels and resorts
- Industrial sites
- Colleges and universities
- Local/city governments
- State highway departments
- Self-employment

**TURFGRASS SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**
- Golf courses
- Lawn care companies
- Colleges and universities
- Sport and athletic fields
- Local/city governments
- Parks and amusement parks
- Sod production firms
- Pest management companies
- Landscape companies
- Irrigation firms

### STRATEGIES

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**
- Get practical experience in the field through internships or summer and part-time jobs.
- Be prepared to work seasonally or move to a climate where more year-round opportunities are available.
- Develop skills in speaking, writing, and photography.
- Obtain a business or agricultural economics minor if interested in management or self-employment.
- Earn a landscape architect degree and obtain professional certification as a landscape architect for better positions, advancement opportunities, more responsibility, and higher pay.
- Participate in the annual American Landscape Contractor's Association competition.

**TURFGRASS SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT**
- Get practical experience with golf courses and other turf businesses through internships or summer and part-time jobs.
- Participate in relevant student organizations and professional associations, e.g. the Turf Club or Hort Club.
- Develop effective communication skills.
- Obtain a business or agricultural economics minor if interested in management or self-employment.
- Be prepared to work seasonally or move to a climate where more year-round opportunities are available.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC HORTICULTURE</strong></td>
<td>Public and botanic gardens</td>
<td>Develop excellent writing and speaking skills.</td>
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<td>Adult and Youth Education</td>
<td>Arboreta and conservatories</td>
<td>Join student organizations and seek leadership roles.</td>
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<td>Urban Horticulture</td>
<td>Radio and television stations</td>
<td>Learn to work well with all types of people.</td>
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<td>Plant Collections</td>
<td>Magazines, newspapers and internet sites</td>
<td>Gain practical experience in the field through internships and summer and part-time jobs.</td>
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<td>Urban Forestry</td>
<td>Zoos and aquariums</td>
<td>Earn Registered Horticultural Therapist licensure for plant therapy or become a Certified Horticulturist.</td>
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<td>Horticulture Therapy</td>
<td>Cities and parks</td>
<td>Obtain teacher certification for public school positions.</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
<td>State highway departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Universities</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cemeteries</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Theme parks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Extension Service</td>
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<td>Hospitals and therapy centers</td>
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<td>Nursing homes and senior centers</td>
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| **PLANT SCIENCES, HORTICULTURE, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY** | Nurseries, greenhouses, florists, and other wholesale and retail companies | Gain practical experience in the field through internships and summer and part-time jobs. | 
| Greenhouse and Nursery Management | Extension Service | Assist a professor with a research project. | 
| Vegetable and Fruit Production | Biotechnology companies | Join horticultural or agronomy clubs or other student professional associations to network and cultivate related academic interests. | 
| Plant Biotechnology | Agribusinesses | Become a Certified Horticulturist. | 
| Plant Breeding and Genetics | Plant propagation and production businesses | A master’s or doctoral degree may be necessary for advancement. Some federal and private agency work, consulting positions, and especially research positions require a graduate degree. | 
| Agronomy | Harvesting and fertilization manufacturers | Maintain a strong grade point average to be competitive for graduate school admission. | 
| | Consulting firms | | 
| | Government agencies: local, state, federal, and international | | 
| | High schools, colleges, and universities | |
GENERAL INFORMATION

• For entry level positions in most areas of landscape design, horticulture, turf, agronomy and biotechnology, a bachelor’s degree is sufficient. A graduate degree may be necessary for advancement in some fields such as research and consulting.

• Depending upon which specialty you choose, supplement curriculum with important supporting courses: business, journalism, planning, geology, entomology, soils, biology. Take communications courses and develop computer skills.

• Majoring in two subject areas or pursuing a minor can increase marketability. For example, study in landscape design and business, or public horticulture and journalism, can lead to greater opportunities.