Horticulture

What is Horticulture?
Horticulture is the science, artistry, business and technology used to produce specialty crops for food and beautification of the environment. Opportunities for horticulture students are far reaching and unique. This includes learning sustainable practices with hands-on hydroponics or vertical growing systems, gaining experiences related to plant production, maintenance, business practices and client relations, or even traveling abroad to experience global horticultural development and market trends. Additionally, students will be able to discover opportunities in arboriculture, turfgrass science and public garden management through The Botanic Garden at OSU, which frequently is utilized by students as an outdoor learning laboratory.

Why Study Horticulture?
Plants make our world healthy and beautiful. From greenhouses and laboratories, to global food security and eco-awareness to landscapes, horticulture connects people to the environment. Global dependence on technological advancements and sustainable resource use will require knowledgeable persons to solve the increasingly complex challenges which will arise in feeding our ever increasing populations with limited resources, and creating and maintaining beautiful environments in which to live.

Horticulture career opportunities are ever changing. Horticulture graduates are highly marketable in a career field in which there is a shortage of well-trained graduates to fill available positions.

Finish in 4
For each undergraduate degree program in CASNR, we have prepared example plans of how you may successfully complete your degree plan in four years.

Student Spotlight
Jeff Jackson
Amber, Oklahoma
“CASNR has provided me with an excellent learning environment and a program that has been rigorous and continuously challenged my abilities. With numerous professionals helping me develop as a student, person, and professional, I feel confident in any task that is in my future.”

Where Do You See Yourself?
- Athletic field manager
- Botanic garden director
- Business sales representative
- Community garden coordinator
- Extension specialist
- Food processing specialist
- Golf course superintendent
- Greenhouse manager
- Lawn management specialist
- Nursery manager
- Plant breeder/geneticist
- Plant health inspector
Major Options

Within horticulture, you have the option to select a predefined emphasis area or work with your faculty advisor to customize your plan of study.

Horticultural Business
Prepares students for entry into a horticultural business enterprise with a choice between three built-in minors: agricultural economics, entrepreneurship or general business.

Horticultural Science
Emphasizes both the “why” and “how” of horticultural science, including topics such as genetics and plant physiology.

Public Horticulture
Emphasizes the design, installation and management of horticultural plantings in public spaces including arboreta and municipalities. Choose between two areas of emphasis: public garden management or urban horticulture.

Turf Management
Prepares students for production and management of turfgrass in settings including golf courses, parks, athletic fields, landscapes and roadsides.

Oklahoma State University
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

Horticulture Major

OSU-developed turfgrasses can be found in professional ball parks and stadiums across the country including the Tennessee Titans’ Nissan Stadium, Kansas City Chiefs’ Arrowhead Stadium, the Texas Rangers’ Global Life Park and the Kansas City Royals’ Kauffman Stadium.

Fast Fact

Highlight

Horticulture students have the opportunity to travel abroad to experience global greenhouse horticultural production. Countries explored include Belgium, France, Germany and Holland.

Expanding Minds, Inspiring Purpose

Real-World Experience

Hands-on laboratories are included in many courses, and students in the department have the unique advantage of utilizing The Botanic Garden at OSU and the Water Conservation and Irrigation Training Center. Additionally, all students in the department are required to complete an internship prior to graduation.

Scholarship Dollars

The OSU Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture annually awards more than $100,000 in scholarships to undergraduate students in the department. Last year, CASNR awarded an additional $600,000 to students within the college.

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