

2) pass a **Final Oral Examination** based on the document as determined by the Advisory Committee.

Core Courses (11 credits):

EVSC 0500	Biostats I*	3 credits
EVSC 0501	Biostats II (AGEC 0615 – Quantitative Methods or equivalent)	3 credits
AGSC 0600	Non-Thesis/Thesis Graduate Project Seminar I	1 credit
AGSC 0604	Non-Thesis/Thesis Graduate Project Seminar II	1 credit
PLSS 0700	Research in Plant and Soil Sciences	6 credits

*Courses in discipline approved by Advisory Committee may be substituted for these courses.

Advisory Committee

A Major Advisor will be assigned to the student by the department head if the student has not already identified one. The Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the Dean of Graduate Programs encourage the formation of an Advisory Committee during the first semester of your graduate studies. In consultation with the Major Advisor, the Advisory Committee should be selected and is comprised of three members (including the Major Advisor). At least two must be in the area of the student’s research interest. Together with the Major Advisor, the student will identify a research problem (subject matter to study) and prepare a research proposal for subsequent approval by the committee. It is the student’s responsibility to contact each prospective committee member to see if he/she will serve on the Advisory Committee. It is recommended that the student obtain the written approval of each committee member. After the approvals are received, the Department head, College and Graduate School deans are to be notified of the committee members. The Major Advisor serves as chairperson of this committee and will convene meetings at his/her discretion.

Other:

Professional Development Document/Thesis

The final draft of the non-thesis document or the thesis must be filed with the student's Advisory/Examining Committee at least 30 days before the date listed in the university calendar for final copies to be submitted during the semester in which the student expects to graduate. The student must present to the Dean of Graduate Programs a “Preliminary Approval Sheet” (PAS) bearing the signature of the Major Professor before the final oral examination may be scheduled and before copies of the thesis are distributed to members of the Advisory/Examining Committee. After the “Preliminary Approval Sheet” has been signed, it should be submitted to the Dean of Graduate Programs before the final examination is scheduled and before the final draft of the thesis/dissertation is prepared for final approval. Approval of the Professional Development Document/Thesis in its final form rests with the Advisory/Examining Committee.

Transfer Credits

A **maximum of nine (9) semester hours** may be transferred from graduate courses taken at other university provided the student has grades of **“B”** or better in these courses. For students who are pursuing a second Master's degree at Tuskegee University nine hours of credit are transferable from courses taken to fulfill the requirements of the first degree. **Correspondence course credits are not acceptable.** Transfer credits may be recommended under both core and elective categories.

Admission to Candidacy

Immediately after completing 15 credits of course work at Tuskegee University, the student must submit to the Dean of Graduate Studies, a completed application for the Candidacy for the degree.

Seminars

A student pursuing the Master of Science degree in Plant and Soil Sciences must present at least two seminars. The first seminar (AGSC 0600) shall be the presentation of the student's research proposal of the Master's thesis. The second (AGSC 0604) shall be his/her final seminar. The student is also required to participate in all seminars arranged by the department regardless of if he or she is enrolled in the course or not.

Research and Teaching Assistantships

Funding through research and teaching assistantships is available for accepted graduate students on a competitive basis. While thesis option students may qualify for support for tuition and stipend; non-thesis option students may only qualify for a work study (15 hr/wk). Research and teaching assistants are expected to provide service to the Department through conducting or assisting with research, teaching and other projects related to the college. Continuation of the financial support depends on student's performance in course work, satisfactory progression on research/professional development project and availability of funds.

List of Courses

(Master of Science Non-Thesis and Thesis Options)

AGEC 0505. AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT: 2nd Semester. Lect. 3. Economic principles applied to organization and operations of farms; introduction to farm financial management techniques.. 3 credits.

AGEC 0615. QUANTITATIVE METHODS. 1ST Semester. Lect. 3. Statistical methods and their applications: probability density and distribution functions as background studying principles of economic models analyses; prediction problems, programming, scheduling and network; special topics of current interest 3 credits. Prerequisites: AGECE 553; ECON 352, 353.

AGSC 0600. NON-THESIS GRADUATE PROJECT PROPOSAL SEMINAR I. 1st and 2nd Semesters. Lect. 1, 1 credit. Lectures from visiting scientists, and other organizations on topics

PLSS 0530. PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY. 2nd Semester. Lect. 3, 3 credits. A lecture discussion course for upper-level undergraduate and graduate students in agronomy and horticulture. The purpose is to introduce students to principles and applications of plant molecular and cellular genetics with emphasis on

chemistry techniques to investigate physico-chemical properties of soils. Prerequisites: PLSS 0626 and Permission of instructor.

PLSS 0680. ADVANCED PLANT BREEDING. 2nd Semester, odd years. Lect. 2, Lab 3, 3 credits. A study of the relationships between plant breeding methods and their utilization in advancing genetic material. Both practical and theoretical uses will be dealt with as related to crop improvements. Prerequisites: PLSS 0530 or Consent of advisor.

PLSS 0681. ADVANCED VEGETABLE CROPS. 2nd Semester, even years. Lect. 2, Lab 3, 3 credits. A study of cultural practices of specific vegetable crops with emphasis being placed on growing, harvesting and marketing. Prerequisites; PLSS 530 or consent of advisor.

PLSS 0695. SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL, NATURAL RESOURCE AND PLANT SCIENCES. 1st and 2nd Semester. Lect. 3, 3 credits. Topics at the advanced level may be selected from the following: biochemistry, plant physiology and soil sciences.

PLSS 0752. CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION. 1st and 2nd Semesters, Summer. 0 credits. Restricted to graduate students who have taken all courses including PLSS 0700 and need to use the service and resources of the University to complete their theses or reading for graduate examination. Students may have a maximum of two registrations only; afterward registration as a regular graduate student will be required until degree requirements have been completed. Prerequisite: Permission of major advisor.

PLSS 0754. CANDIDATE FOR DEGREE ONLY. 1st and 2nd Semester, Summer. 0 credits. Restricted to graduate students who have completed all requirements for graduate degree including final oral or comprehensive examination, submission of thesis and approval of the thesis by the Office of the Graduate Programs. Students will be permitted to register in the category one time only.

EVSC 0500. BIO-STATISTICS I. 1st Semester. Lect. 2, Lab 3, 3 credits. Statistical methods

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serve as learning guides. Extensive student preparation prior to class is essential. Students are expected to participate significantly in class discussion and conscientiously contribute to group work. Independent student research will be required. There are no prerequisites.

****Note: At the time of program development the listed courses comprise PLSS courses; however, any PLSS courses developed hereafter and meet the requirements indicated may be used to fulfill the concentration requirement indicated above. Further, elective courses may include those in any discipline offered at the graduate level (500 or above) as specified above.**

Key Graduate Faculty

Name