

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, MAJOR IN PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCES

The Plant and Soil Sciences curriculum provides an educational background to those interested in employment in fields related to production, marketing and/or management of horticultural or agronomic crops; landscape design, installation, and maintenance; and other related businesses. Employment opportunities include, but are not limited to, nursery management, greenhouse plant production, turf management, landscape design and maintenance, floral industry, field crop production or consulting, natural resource conservation programs, chemical and seed production and sales, agricultural extension, and research/teaching.

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/bachelor-of-science-in-plant-and-soil-sciences/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

Code	Title	Hours
Bachelor of Science, Major in Plant and Soil Sciences		
Core Curriculum (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/)		
Component Area I (Communication)		6
Component Area II (Mathematics)		3
Component Area III (Life and Physical Science) ¹		8
Component Area IV (Language, Philosophy, and Culture)		3
Component Area V (Creative Arts)		3
Component Area VI (U.S. History)		6
Component Area VII (Political Science/Government)		6
Component Area VIII (Social and Behavioral Sciences)		3
Component Area IX (Component Area Option) ²		4
Degree Specific Requirements		
ACOM 3360 or ENGL 3330	Communication Skills for Agriculturists Introduction to Technical Writing	3
AGRI 1309 or CSTE 1330	Computers in Agriculture Introduction to Computers	3
CHEM 1406	Inorganic & Environmental Chemistry ¹	4
CHEM 1407	Introduction to Organic and Biochemistry ¹	4
COMS 1361 or COMS 2382 or AGRI 4388	Public Speaking ² Communication for Business & the Professions Principles of Agriculture Leadership & Community Development	3
MATH or STAT Elective		3
Major: Foundation		
AGRI 4120	Professional Career Skills	1
ANSC 1319 & ANSC 1119	Animal Science and Animal Science Laboratory ³	4
PLSC 1307 & PLSC 1107	Plant Science and Plant Science Laboratory	4
PLSC 2395	Ornamental Plant Identification	3
PLSC 3300	Applied Plant Physiology	3
PLSC 3395	Plant Propagation Techniques	3
PLSC 3440	Soil Science	4
Major: Prescribed Electives		
Select 26 advanced hours from the following:		26
AGRI 4096	Independent Studies	
PLSC 3320	Landscape Plant Materials	
PLSC 3374	Controlled Environment Agriculture	
PLSC 3379	Turfgrass Culture	
PLSC 3398	Landscape Design I	

PLSC 4320	Fruit & Vegetable Production	
PLSC 4330	Soil Fertility Management and Fertilizers	
PLSC 4358	Landscape Operations	
PLSC 4368	Landscape Design II	
PLSC 4370	Forage Crops and Pasture Management	
PLSC 4397	Integrated Pest Management	
Select 3 hour elective from: AGBU, AGET, AGRI, ANSC, EQSC, PLSC, or WGMT		3
Minor: Required ⁴		
Minor		12
Minor Advanced Hours		6
Total Hours		120

¹ CHEM 1406 and CHEM 1407 satisfy the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area III (Life and Physical Science) and the degree specific requirement.

² COMS 1361 or COMS 2382 satisfies three hours of the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area IX (Component Area Option) and the degree specific requirement. AGRI 4388 does not satisfy this requirement.

³ Or an approved BIOL four semester credit hour elective.

⁴ The following minors cannot be paired with this degree program: Minor in Early Childhood Education and Minor in Plant and Soil Sciences.

Notes

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum overall GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.5 minimum overall major GPA in all major coursework.

Students must earn a 2.0 minimum SHSU GPA in all coursework.

Students must meet a 2.5 minimum SHSU major GPA in all major coursework.

Students should use elective and/or minor hours to satisfy the 42 advanced hour requirement.

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/bachelor-of-science-in-plant-and-soil-sciences/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Component Area I (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareai)		3 Component Area I (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareai)	3
Component Area II (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaii)		3 Component Area VI (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavi)	3
Component Area VI (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavi)		3 Component Area VII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavii)	3
PLSC 1307 & PLSC 1107		4 AGRI 1309 or CSTE 1330	3
		ANSC 1319 & ANSC 1119 ¹	4
		13	16

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Component Area IV (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaiiv)		3 Component Area VII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareavii)	3

Component Area V (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareav)	3	Component Area VIII (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaviii)	3
CHEM 1406 ²	4	CHEM 1407 ²	4
MATH or STAT Elective	3	Minor ³	3
PLSC 2395	3	PLSC 3395	3
	16		16
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Component Area IX (https://catalog.shsu.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures/degree-requirements-academic-guidelines/core-curriculum/#componentareaix)		1 PLSC 3300	3
ACOM 3360 or ENGL 3330		3 Major: Prescribed Electives ⁵	6
COMS 1361, 2382, or AGRI 4388 ⁴		3 Minor ³	6
Major: Prescribed Electives ⁵		3	
PLSC 3440		4	
	14		15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
AGBU, AGET, AGRI, ANSC, EQSC, PLSC, or WGMT Elective		3 AGRI 4120	1
Major: Prescribed Electives ⁵		6 Major: Prescribed Electives ⁵	11
Minor Advanced ³		6 Minor ³	3
	15		15

Total Hours: 120

- ¹ Or an approved BIOL four semester credit hour elective.
- ² CHEM 1406 and CHEM 1407 satisfy the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area III (Life and Physical Science) and the degree specific requirement.
- ³ The following minors cannot be paired with this degree program: Minor in Early Childhood Education and Minor in Plant and Soil Sciences.
- ⁴ COMS 1361 or COMS 2382 satisfies three hours of the Core Curriculum requirement for Component Area IX (Component Area Option) and the degree specific requirement. AGRI 4388 does not satisfy this requirement.
- ⁵ See Prescribed Electives course list below.

Code	Title	Hours
Major: Prescribed Electives⁵		
Select 26 advanced hours from the following:		
AGRI 4096	Independent Studies	
PLSC 3320	Landscape Plant Materials	
PLSC 3374	Controlled Environment Agriculture	
PLSC 3379	Turfgrass Culture	
PLSC 3398	Landscape Design I	
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The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's **60x30TX plan** and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those skills valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The BS in Plant and Soil Sciences is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Recognize soil characteristics for optimum plant growth.
- Evaluate plants of importance in our society and how those plants are utilized.
- Analyze major insect, disease and weed pests, and control strategies.
- Apply independent and team-working skills to accomplish objectives and meet organizational goals.
- Demonstrate a work ethic and soft skills that are desirable of an employee.
- Use professional oral and written communication skills for the transfer of technologically-rich knowledge.