



2023-2024 Academic Year

Plant Science

Associate in Science Degree (A.S.)

B-STEM Division

Business, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

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The **Plant Science** program prepares students for the junior year of study at a college or university offering such fields as horticulture, botany, conservation, environmental science, ecology, and forestry. Horticulture students who plan to pursue a baccalaureate degree should consider this alternative.

Facilities to support the program include well-equipped biology and chemistry laboratories, a modern greenhouse complex, and an extensive woody plants collection throughout the 292-acre West Windsor Campus. Occasional field trips to Longwood Gardens, the New Jersey Pine Barrens, Marquand Park, and elsewhere offer additional opportunities for specialized study of plant specimens.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Explain the structures and processes related to plant growth and function;
- Identify common insects, diseases, and woody plants found in our region;
- Understand key environmental issues as they relate locally, nationally, and globally;
- Exhibit proficiency in the laboratory and in the field by using standard equipment and measurement and observation techniques that allow one to gather, analyze, and interpret qualitative and quantitative data;
- Transfer and successfully pursue a baccalaureate degree in a related field.

Admission to the Plant Science program requires a high school diploma or its equivalent with at least one year of science (biology or chemistry) and two years of algebra.

SEE ALSO:

[Biology](#) degree program

[Ornamental Horticulture](#) degree program

[Ornamental Horticulture](#) certificate program

DEGREE CURRICULUM

2023-2024 Academic Year

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The course sequence below represents a recommended example of how this degree program can be completed in two years, presuming a Fall Term start and satisfaction of all Developmental Studies (foundation courses) requirements and prerequisites. Actual approaches toward completion depend on each student's anticipated transfer institution, career objectives, or other individual circumstances.

Students are encouraged to meet regularly with an academic advisor or Success Coach to consider options, establish plans, and monitor progress.

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits	To Do This Semester
FIRST SEMESTER			
BIO 101	General Biology I (3/3)	4	✓ Meet with your faculty advisor to complete an academic plan. Make sure you are aware of any course prerequisites you may need to take, and how long it will take to complete your degree.
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3	
OHT 101	Plant Science (2/2)	3	
— —	Humanities general education elective	3	
— —	Social Science general education elective	3	✓ Use your online tools: Check your MercerMail daily, utilize features of Office 365, and get to know Student Planning . ✓ Take advantage of Learning Centers or Online Tutoring to support your studies and assignments.

SECOND SEMESTER

BIO 102	General Biology II (3/3)	4	✓ Transitioning to college can be challenging. Meet with your Success Coach for guidance and support.
CMN 111	Speech: Human Communication (3/0)		
	<i>OR</i>	3	✓ Apply for financial aid by May 1.
CMN 112	Public Speaking (3/0)		
ENG 102	English Composition II (3/0)	3	✓ Contact professors with questions and use their office hours to develop a connection.
MAT 146	Pre-Calculus (4/0)	4	✓ Apply for Continuing Student scholarships at www.mccc.edu/m-scholarships .
			✓ Begin attending college transfer events and visit campuses. Be sure to visit the Transfer Services and Career Services offices to get to know how the transfer process works and to explore career options.
			✓ Plan for how you will complete transfer applications while finishing your classes.

THIRD SEMESTER

BIO 203	Entomology (3/3)	4	✓ Keep in contact with each professor and your faculty advisor. Make sure you are on track to graduate.
BIO 204	Ecology (3/3)	4	
CHE 101	General Chemistry I (3/3)	4	
OHT 204	Plant Diseases (2/2)	3	

✓ Complete your applications to desired transfer institutions.

✓ Develop team and leadership skills by getting involved in [activities and clubs](#).

✓ Manage your stress! Take advantage of the MCCC pool, [Fitness Center](#), free yoga and Zumba. Reach out for [counseling](#) or other support if you need it. Your [Success Coach](#) can connect you with resources.

FOURTH SEMESTER

BIO 202	Woody Plants (3/3)	4	✓ Apply for financial aid by May 1.
CHE 102	General Chemistry II (3/3)	4	✓ Talk to your faculty advisor and the Transfer office for advice on how to successfully transition to a new school.
OHT 108	Soil and Plant Nutrition (3/3)	4	✓ Apply for Graduating Student scholarships at www.mccc.edu/m-scholarships .
— —	Social Science or Humanities general education elective	3	

NOTE: Plant Science majors must earn a minimum grade of C in all BIO and OHT courses.