BOTANY, M.S.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Credit Requirement</th>
<th>30 credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>Students must earn a B or above in all track coursework.</td>
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Assessments and Examinations

A written thesis or research report based on work conducted in a formal research course and a final oral exam are required of all students who expect to continue for the Ph.D. degree. All master's theses must be deposited at Memorial Library.

Students who wish to terminate their graduate studies at the master's level may submit a literature review instead of a thesis.

Language Requirements

No language requirements.

COURSES REQUIRED

A minimum of 30 credits in natural sciences (undergraduate and graduate program courses combined) is required. A minimum of 6 credits in graduate-level botany courses must be completed at UW–Madison. Seminars and research credits do not count toward the 6 credits in botany. Courses may be required to address deficiencies in the following: GENETICS 466 Principles of Genetics or equivalent; CHEM 103 General Chemistry I and CHEM 104 General Chemistry II or equivalent; CHEM 341 Elementary Organic Chemistry or equivalent; a physics course including electricity and light; one semester of statistics; one semester of calculus. Contact the department for more information.

M.S. students complete a minimum of 16 credits while in residence at the UW, including:

- Courses required for their selected track (see below)
- Six (6) credits within the botany department (can also fulfill track requirements)
- Two (2) seminar courses
- Courses assigned by the Academic Advisory Committee and/or the student’s M.S. committee
- Research credits

Each graduate student in botany selects one of the following tracks:

1. **General Botany Track**
   M.S. students must have one course from at least six of the seven.

   - genetics,
   - biochemistry, cell or molecular biology,
   - plant physiology or plant developmental biology,
   - cryptogamic botany,
   - plant anatomy or morphology,
   - ecology, and
   - evolution or systematics

1 These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

1. **Ecology Track**
   M.S. students must have a minimum of five courses as follows:

   - at least three courses (minimum of 9 credits) in ecology,
   - one course in evolution, and
   - one course in any of the following: systematics; cryptogamic botany; biochemistry, cell or molecular biology; plant physiology or plant developmental biology; plant anatomy or morphology; or genetics
These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

**Evolution Track**
M.S. students must have a minimum of five courses, at least one from each of the following:

- evolution,
- systematics or cryptogamic botany,
- population or quantitative genetics,
- ecology, and
- one course in any of the following: biochemistry, cell or molecular biology; plant physiology or plant developmental biology; or plant anatomy or morphology

**Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology (MCDB) Track**
M.S. students must have a minimum of five courses, at least one from each of the following:

- plant anatomy or morphology,
- biochemistry, cell or molecular biology,
- plant physiology,
- plant developmental biology or genetics, and
- one course in any of the following: ecology; systematics; evolution; or cryptogamic botany

These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.