

Department of Soil and Crop Sciences Honors Program

The Department of Soil and Crop Sciences (SCSC) Honors Program is designed for highly-motivated students majoring in either of our two undergraduate programs, Plant and Environmental Soil Science (PSSC), or Turfgrass Science (TGSC), to enhance learning through challenging classroom, laboratory, and field experiences.

Departmental Requirements

Students must complete 18 hours of Honors coursework, including:

1. A minimum of 12 hours of Honors coursework in SCSC, of which 3-6 hours must come from SCSC 491 (research) and/or SCSC 485 (directed studies)
2. 6 additional hours of Honors course work (may come from outside SCSC)

Each SCSC Honors student is required to have a designated SCSC faculty mentor and meet at least once per semester with the mentor.

Honors Recognition and Graduation with Honors

All completed Honors courses taken at Texas A&M University are designated as such on the student's official transcript. After graduation, the transcript will note that the student has achieved the distinction of Plant and Environmental Soil Science Honors, or Turfgrass Science Honors.

Admission to the Honors Program in Soil and Crop Sciences

Current and potential majors with an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher are eligible for admission. Students are encouraged to consult with the SCSC academic advisor as early as possible in their academic career to plan their course of study. To graduate with honors a student must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, a 3.25 GPA or higher in Honors courses, and no grade lower than a B in any Honors course.

SCSC Honors Courses:

Soil and Crop Sciences Core Courses

SCSC 301 – Soil Science (3-2). Credit 4

SCSC 309 – Water in Soil and Plants (3-2). Credit 4

SCSC 485 – Directed Studies. Credit 1-4

SCSC 491 – Research. Credit 1-4

Plant and Environmental Soil Science – Crops Emphasis

SCSC 304 – Plant Breeding and Genetics (3-0). Credit 3

SCSC 441 – Crop Production Systems (3-0). Credit 3

Plant and Environmental Soil Science – Soils Emphasis

SCSC 405 – Soil and Water Microbiology (3-2). Credit 4

SCSC 455/657 – Environmental Soil and Water Science (3-0). Credit 3

Turfgrass Science

SCSC 302 – Recreational Turf (3-0). Credit 3

SCSC 429 – Turf Management Systems (3-2). Credit 4