



Program goals are to:

- Train **Plant Doctors** in the prevention, rapid and accurate diagnosis and environmentally compatible management of plant and crop problems.
- Respond to the worldwide need for broadly trained plant health practitioners. Program graduates will find interesting and rewarding careers in private consulting, production agriculture, agrichemical companies, and state and federal regulatory agencies in developed and developing countries.
- Increase plant and crop production and quality and grower profitability by promoting the use of integrated crop management practices. All aspects of plant health management are stressed in this interdisciplinary approach.

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Plant Medicine Program

Promoting Plant and Crop Health
While Protecting the Environment

For additional information on the Plant Medicine Program including funding opportunities please contact the program director and visit the PMP website:

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UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Academic Programs
College of Agricultural
and Life Sciences



The world's population has exceeded 6.5 billion and we are confronted with the challenge of maintaining sufficient food and fiber supplies to support this large number, while at the same time preserving the environment. Plant pathogens, insects, and weeds including invasive species annually destroy approximately 40% of the world's food crop production, natural resources, and ornamentals. The estimated worth of these losses ranges from \$400-500 billion annually. Growers will spend tens of billions of dollars on control methods. We believe that **Plant Doctors** will have a profound effect on plant/crop production worldwide; their emphasis on effective integrated crop management will lead to increases in production and food security with lower environmental impacts.

Doctor of Plant Medicine Degree

The University of Florida's College of Agricultural & Life Sciences has taken the lead in teaching the intricacies of plant and crop health management by establishing the Plant Medicine Program (PMP). The PMP is a unique 3 to 4-year multidisciplinary graduate program that leads to a Doctor of Plant Medicine (DPM) degree that parallels the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), and Doctor of Human Medicine (MD) degrees. **Plant Doctors** are trained in all aspects of plant health including the prevention, diagnosis and management of plant problems caused by arthropods, pathogens, weeds and non-living factors.

required to take 30 credit hours of internship in pest management and crop production. These multidisciplinary internships are conducted under the guidance of faculty from the component departments of the PMP, crop consultants, agribusiness personnel, and state and federal plant health regulators. Plant Doctors can look forward to interesting and rewarding employment opportunities in private practice, the state extension service, state and federal regulatory agencies, agricultural production, agrichemical companies, municipalities, etc.



Coursework. DPM students take 90 credits of graduate courses on plant problems, protection, and management in these disciplines:

- Agronomy
- Entomology and Nematology
- Horticulture
- Plant Pathology
- Soil and Water Science
- Weed Science

DPM students are given the opportunity to specialize in crop areas and to develop personalized career paths through elective courses and internships offered by the program and relevant departments. Additional courses are available in communication, business management, agricultural law, and other related areas.

Internships/Employment. The PMP does not require students to conduct research or write a thesis or dissertation. However, all students are

Faculty/Facilities. While at the University of Florida, DPM students will be given the opportunity to take advantage of an outstanding faculty, a wide variety of courses, and excellent facilities. Florida provides excellent conditions for studying plant problems in a wide variety of agronomic and horticultural crops in temperate, subtropical and tropical environments. The comprehensiveness and diversity of the UF Plant Medicine Program makes it relevant to students from all over the world.

