Twin Cities Campus

Sustainable Agriculture Systems Minor

Agronomy & Plant Genetics

College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
Director of Graduate Studies, Sustainable Agriculture Systems Minor, 411 Borlaug Hall, 1991 Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108 (612-625-3754; fax:612-625-1268)
Email: sheaf001@umn.edu
Website: http://www.misa.umn.edu/StudentPrograms/GraduateMinor/index.htm

- Program Type: Graduate free-standing minor
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Length of program in credits (Masters): 6
- Length of program in credits (Doctorate): 12
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the General Information section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The minor in sustainable agriculture systems offers master's (MA and MS) and doctoral students an interdisciplinary curriculum that considers the biological, sociological, and economic aspects of agriculture. The minor emphasizes a holistic perspective to designing farming and food systems and solving problems in agriculture. The importance of yield and profitability are balanced by considerations of the environment and the health and social well-being of producers, consumers, and communities. A unique component of the minor is an on-site internship with growers, grassroots organizations, or public agencies working in sustainable agriculture. The minor complements major programs in ecology, conservation biology, forestry, sociology, geography, political science, and public affairs, as well as majors in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:
Admission is contingent upon prior admission to a master's or doctoral degree-granting program.

Special Application Requirements:
Contact the director of graduate studies in sustainable agriculture systems for an Intent to Enroll Form. Students are admitted each semester.

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

Required Coursework (6 Credits)

All students pursuing the Sustainable Agriculture Systems minor must complete the following courses for a total of 6 credits. Take SAGR 8020 for 1 credit.
SAGR 8010 - Colloquium in Sustainable Agriculture (2.0 cr)
SAGR 8020 - Field Experience in Sustainable Agriculture (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
AGRO 5321 - Ecology of Agricultural Systems (3.0 cr)

Program Sub-plans

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Students are required to complete one of the following sub-plans.
Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

Masters

Master's-level Minor

The master's-level Sustainable Agriculture minor comprises the 6 required course credits noted above.

Doctoral

Doctoral-level Minor Electives (6 Credits)

In addition to the 6 required credits, select at least 6 credits in consultation with the Sustainable Agriculture Systems director of graduate studies to complete the 12-credit minimum.

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