



PhD Program in Plant Sciences

MAKE YOUR SKILLS VISIBLE
AND INTERNATIONALLY COMPETITIVE



LEARN NEW RESEARCH METHODS

3D Microscopy Imaging, Crop Phenotyping, Remote Sensing, Genetic Diversity Techniques, Genomics Analysis, Plant Breeding

EXPAND DIGITAL COMPETENCE

Programming, data science, machine learning & AI for plant & environmental sciences

IMPROVE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS & TECHNIQUES

Compositional Data Analysis, Statistical Modelling, R courses, GWAS

MASTER COMMUNICATION SKILLS

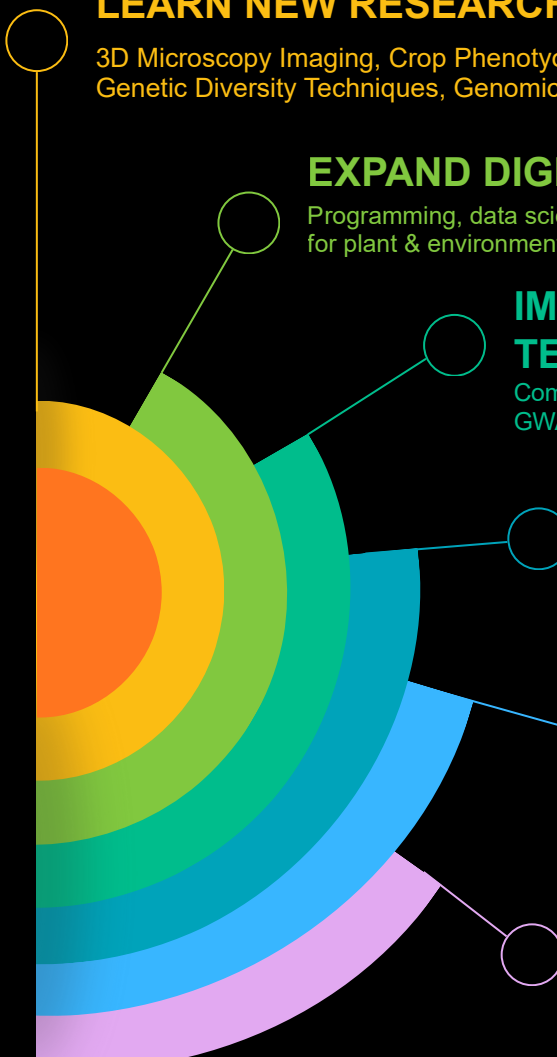
Scientific writing, presenting, public communication & creative presentation

GAIN TRANSFERABLE SKILLS FOR RESEARCH AND BEYOND

Project design and management, grant writing, data & research management

INCREASE PROFESSIONAL VISIBILITY

Join PSC Symposium organisation committee, attend PSC networking events and present your research



What is the PhD Program in Plant Sciences?

The PSC PhD Program in Plant Sciences is the structured doctoral training program offered to doctoral students who do their research and thesis at ETH Zurich, University of Zurich or University of Basel. The PhD Program is part of the Life Science Zurich Graduate School.



You pursue your PhD thesis as usual — and in parallel, you complete a structured doctoral curriculum that leads to a Diploma Supplement certifying your professional, digital and transferable skills development. This supplement is considered a benefit by funding agencies, postdoc programs and non-academic employers.

- Access to a curated portfolio of doctoral-level courses
- Hands-on training introduces you to up-to-date research techniques
- Training in machine learning, AI, data analysis, and digital research skills
- Transferable skills for academic and non-academic careers
- A recognized Diploma Supplement documenting your competencies
- Integration into a community of 600+ researchers in plant sciences



Your research is the core.

The PhD Program in Plant Sciences sharpens your professional profile and formally documents your skills for future employers.

Curriculum

Students can tailor coursework to their needs. The ECTS required for program completion should be selected as follows:

Course Category		MANDATORY ECTS		
		ETHZ	UZH	UNIBAS
PhD Program Compulsory Activities	PSC Colloquium “Challenges in Plant Sciences”	2	2	2
	Training in Ethics / Research Integrity from your host University / Department	1	A	B
Core Elective Activities	Research & Technical Skills Courses Digital Skills & Statistics Courses Transferable Skills Courses Courses of the PhD Program in Science and Policy External courses* <small>*may be recognised with adequate documentation</small>	6	6	6
Other Elective Activities	Talk or Poster Participation in International Scientific Symposium (max. 1 ECTS) Green Labs (max. 2 ECTS) Organisation of PSC PhD Symposium (2 ECTS)	OPTIONAL		
TOTAL ECTS REQUIRED		12	12	18

A-UZH Students have to attend Introductory Lecture to Good Scientific Practice and Scientific Integrity. (mandatory, no ECTS)
 B-UNIBAS students can choose Research Integrity self-study, ECTS 0 (GRACE) .

About Us

The Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center (PSC) is a competence center that links and supports the plant science research community of the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich and the University of Basel.

At PSC, we are dedicated to advancing plant and environmental sciences through supporting innovative research, transdisciplinary collaboration and effective education. We are committed to exploring new horizons and pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation in plant sciences.

The PhD Program in Plant Sciences was established in 2002 and approved as a structured training program by the three partner universities and the Life Science Zurich Graduate School.

Contact

Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center
Tannenstrasse 1, 8092 Zurich, Switzerland

Dr. Bojan Gujas

PSC PhD Program Coordination Office

✉ psc_phdprogram@ethz.ch

☎ +41 (0)44 632 07 96

✉ gujasb@ethz.ch

 [zurich-basel-plant-science-center](https://www.linkedin.com/company/zurich-basel-plant-science-center)

 <http://www.plantsciences.ch>

PSC COURSE CATALOGUE



- RESEARCH METHODS & TECHNIQUES
- DIGITAL COMPETENCIES
- STATISTICS & MODELLING
- DATA MANAGEMENT & VISUALIZATION
- MACHINE LEARNING & AI
- TRANSFERABLE SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION & PRESENTATION SKILLS
- SCIENTIFIC WRITING
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR RESEARCH
- FUNDING STRATEGIES
- SCIENCE & POLICY COURSES
- CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND MORE

We organise two welcome events every year, always in the first week of February and September. This a great occasion to meet in person and for you to learn more how to benefit from our PhD program. Contact us, we are always happy to meet you!

Your PhD gives you a thesis.
The PSC PhD Program gives you a professional profile. It makes your training visible, structured and internationally competitive.