



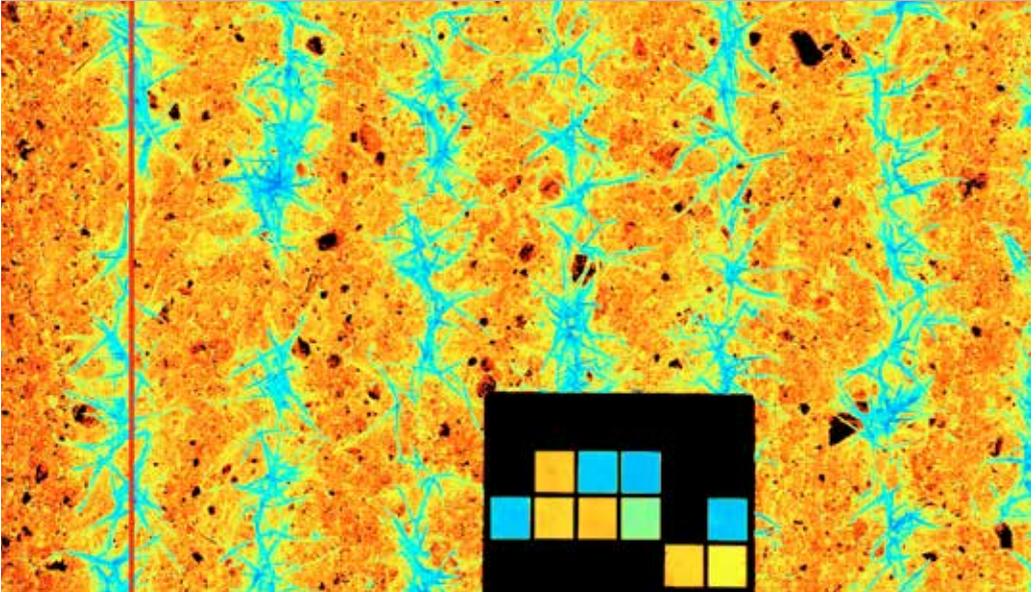
Universität
Zürich^{UZH}

ETH zürich



Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

PhD Program in Plant Sciences



Plant Sciences



General Information

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

The PSC promotes fundamental and applied research in the plant sciences. We seek creative approaches to research mentoring and coursework for students and post-docs, and we provide platforms for interactions with peers, policymakers, industry and stakeholders. We help graduate students put together the right package of classes in the plant sciences, statistics, policy, communication and other transferable skills. Finally, we help match students and PIs with appropriate funding sources to take on some of society's most important questions.

www.plantsciences.ch

Degree

Students will obtain the PhD from the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich or the University of Basel; an additional program certification and diploma supplement are issued by the PSC.

Length of the program

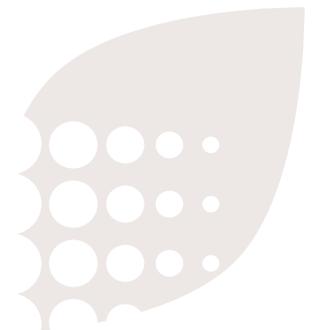
3 years

Registration

www.plantsciences.ch/education

Help desk

psc_phdprogram@ethz.ch



Who can join?

Students accepted for a PhD position in a plant science-related research group based at the Faculty of Science (University of Zurich), the Department of Environmental System Sciences, the Department of Biology (ETH Zurich), or the Department of Environmental Sciences (University of Basel) are welcome to join the program.

Once enrolled at one of the universities, you can apply directly for the program at:

psc_phdprogram@ethz.ch

You must hold a Master's degree or equivalent in natural sciences.

For the registration form and further details, please visit:

www.plantsciences.ch/education

Plant science students may also apply directly to the program, as we offer a limited number of open PhD positions (twice yearly). Information and online application at

www.lifescience-graduateschool.ch

Deadlines: December 1st and July 1st



Courses and Modules

The PhD Program in Plant Sciences responds to the evolving needs of PhD students with a diverse set of offerings.

Frontiers in plant science and technical skill courses

World-class experts from Switzerland and abroad share their specialties with our PhD students. Our offerings are constantly evolving based on guidance from faculty, students, and progress in the plant sciences.

Example topics:

- Meta-analysis
- Insights in DNA barcoding and meta-barcoding
- Pathways and fluxes: exploring the plant metabolic network
- RNA sequencing – a practical course for plant scientists
- Visualization of complex data sets
- Next-generation sequencing
- Computational biology

Transferable skills

The program offers a broad range of topics, including:

- Dealing with the publication process
- Grant-proposal writing
- Project management in research
- Statistics with R
- Scientific writing

Summer Schools

PSC summer schools address some of the biggest challenges facing science and society. These intensive programs allow students to explore cutting edge plant science topics and meet experts from around the world.

Recent and upcoming topics:

- Emerging technologies and global sustainable agriculture
- Governing the transition to a bio-based economy
- Terrestrial ecosystem dynamics in a changing world
- Food security – how can science and policy contribute?

Peer Workshops and Mentoring for Research Impact

This special program helps students tap into existing resources and networks to optimize their efforts in outreach, science communication, and policy impact.

Example topics:

- Teaching skills – how to get meaningful experience
- Linking research to outreach
- Orienting your research towards impact at the science-society interface

Curriculum

Students can tailor coursework to their needs within the flexible curriculum of the PhD program. The 12 ECTS required for program completion should be selected as follows:

Course Categories	ECTS
Mandatory course Colloquium “Challenges in plant sciences”	2
4-10 ECTS must be selected from Frontiers in plant sciences Technical skill courses Statistical methods Transferable skill courses	4 - 10
Any remaining ECTS may be selected from Personal contribution at an international scientific symposium (1 ECTS) Organization of a PSC PhD Symposium (3 ECTS) Other scientific or transferable skill courses	up to 6
Total ECTS necessary for program completion	12

