

THE FIELD

The demand for turfgrass management professionals continues to grow. Turfgrass managers combine the technical expertise of turfgrass culture and physiology with the challenges of managing insects, diseases, and weed populations to keep turf areas green and healthy. The green industry continues to expand and provide many levels of excellent career opportunities. For example, New England has more than 800 golf courses, and the sod industry in southern New England is composed of thousands of acres, with a farm value in the tens of millions of dollars.

THE MAJOR

The turfgrass management major was introduced in 1946 by Dr. Lawrence Dickinson and is the oldest in the United States. The Stockbridge School's program carries on this proud tradition by offering a two-year professional education leading to an associate of science (AS) degree that is designed to prepare students for employment in this rapidly growing green industry. This major provides students with the technical training and scientific knowledge necessary to meet the maintenance challenges of golf courses, sports turf, lawn care, and parks.

JOSEPH TROLL TURF RESEARCH CENTER

The Joseph Troll Turf Research Center is the center of the UMass turf program's field research. Located seven miles north of campus in South Deerfield, the silt loam soils and gentle topography of the center make it a site well suited for turfgrass research. The center is named in honor of Dr. Joseph Troll, a longtime leader in the turf program at UMass Amherst. A 3,000-square-foot building supports an integrated team of faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, and technical staff.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The field includes seed and sod production, lawn establishment and maintenance, sports turf, parks, schools, cemeteries, and golf courses. Opportunities exist in municipalities and state agencies, private and public golf courses, lawn and landscape companies, and self-employment. Some turfgrass management graduates work as technical representatives in sales for suppliers of turf products or as private consultants. Stockbridge students gain valuable experience and build professional contacts through internships, job fairs, and industry association events. Students intern at many of the finest turf facilities in the nation, including top 100 U.S. golf courses and Major League Baseball and National Football League stadiums.

INDUSTRY-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Many national and regional turfgrass organizations, such as the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the Professional Grounds Management Society, the Sports Turf Managers Association, the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund, and the New England Sports Managers Association award scholarships annually to eligible students. Turfgrass management students also have the unique opportunity to apply for the Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund, which sponsors selected students for international internships at world-acclaimed golf and sports turf facilities.

RECOMMENDED TWO-YEAR COURSE SEQUENCE:

FIRST SEMESTER

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| ENGLWRIT 111/112 | Based on Placement Exam |
| STOCKSCH 105 | Soils |
| STOCKSCH 108 | Introductory Botany |
| STOCKSCH 230 | Intro Turfgrass Management |
| STOCKSCH 192F | First Year Seminar |

SECOND SEMESTER

First seven weeks

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| STOCKSCH 101 | Insects and Related Forms |
| STOCKSCH 104 | Plant Nutrients |
| STOCKSCH 111 | Horticultural Plant Pathology |

Second seven weeks

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| STOCKSCH 112 | Turfgrass Path. Lab |
| STOCKSCH 232 | Turf Machinery |

Full semester

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| STOCKSCH 107 | Turfgrass Insects |
| STOCKSCH 198T | Internship (June–August) |
| STOCKSCH 240 | Applied Calculations in Turf Management |
| STOCKSCH 275 | Turfgrass Physiology and Ecology |

THIRD SEMESTER

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| MATH | Based on Placement Exam |
| NRC 232 | Principals of Arboriculture |
| STOCKSCH 310 | Principles of Weed Management |
| STOCKSCH 335 | Plants in Landscape |

FOURTH SEMESTER

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| STOCKSCH 182 | Principles of Pest Management |
| STOCKSCH 234 | Irrigation and Drainage |
| STOCKSCH 340 | Advanced Turfgrass Management (Advisor Approved) |
| ELECTIVES | Public Speaking |
| COMM 260 | |
| SPANISH | |
| NRC 261 | Wildlife Conservation |
| MATH 104 | Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry |
| RES-ECON 102 | Intro to Resource Economics |

THE STOCKBRIDGE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

The Stockbridge School is unique in that its students have all the advantages of being members of the larger UMass Amherst community and the College of Natural Sciences while keeping the close student-faculty relationships of a small school. Students can be involved in a broad range of activities, including clubs, intramural sports and residential activities. Stockbridge faculty members teach at both the undergraduate and graduate level, participate in research, and are highly trained professionals. Stockbridge is a small school with big opportunities.

Levi Stockbridge, who was the university's first professor of agriculture and its fifth president, pioneered "Learning by Doing," a concept which combines classroom lectures with practical experiences. We follow his philosophy to this day.

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES

The College of Natural Sciences unites the life, environmental, computational, and physical sciences on campus. Students take advantage of a range of inquiry-based classroom and laboratory experiences, hands-on undergraduate research opportunities, multidisciplinary and cross-departmental education and research initiatives, and a variety of science student organizations. In addition, they are encouraged to develop strong written and oral communication skills, as well as leadership and problem-solving abilities.

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