Graduate Study in Entomology

Graduate students in Entomology learn and work alongside outstanding faculty in a department that has been a core component of the Purdue College of Agriculture since 1879. Current students benefit from multidisciplinary research opportunities and participation in the university’s teaching and extension missions. Our graduates get jobs: They are in demand in academia, the private sector, and government agencies.

- Opportunities for cross-disciplinary training with allied departments
- Access to Purdue core facilities for state-of-the-art analytical techniques
- Active research programs ranging from molecular to ecosystem-level studies involving insects
- Meaningful experience in all three pillars of the Land Grant mission: learning, discovery, and engagement
- Faculty addressing applied and basic questions both in the US and abroad

Degree programs
Entomology M.S., Ph.D.

Research areas

**Insect biochemistry and cell biology:** Basic mechanisms of insect physiology, biochemistry, molecular biology, and insect-microbe interactions to develop better pest control technologies and define new niches in insect-based biotechnology.

**Insect-plant interactions:** Blends cutting-edge behavioral and chemoecological research with modern "omics" approaches to understand the evolutionary forces driving interactions between insects and plants.

**Integrated pest management:** Broad-ranging programs in urban entomology, crop, horticultural, and livestock pest management have made Purdue Entomology one of the premier institutions in the world addressing development and implementation of modern IPM strategies.
“I’m studying the chemical ecology of wood-boring beetles. The culture of working together here is really helpful—the sense of camaraderie and encouragement.”
—Gabriel Hughes, Ph.D. student

Molecular, behavioral, and population genetics: The genetic bases of a broad range of insect traits, including honey bee behavior, pesticide resistance, and co-evolutionary relationships with host plants.

Systematic entomology: Cutting-edge research in biodiversity informatics, integrative taxonomy, phylogenomics, evolutionary biology, and chemoeckology.

Vector biology: Focused on the genomics of arthropod vectors of human disease, including mosquitoes and ticks, with an overall objective of developing novel control strategies.

General degree requirements
The Graduate School governs admissions, advisory committee structure, course credit, plan of study, and registration requirements. Information specific to graduate study in Entomology can be found at https://www.entm.purdue.edu/prospective-grads.

Financial support
All students are supported through research or teaching assistantships. Assistantships and other funding from Graduate School fellowships and external sources often cover tuition costs. Look for financial information in the Funding section of the Graduate School website, www.purdue.edu/grad.

Keys to your success
• Take an active interest, and make your research your own.
• Engage in a challenging and fast-paced research environment.
• Get others excited about your work! Present your research at scientific conferences and publish in peer-reviewed journals.

Application
Begin your application for graduate study in the Department of Entomology online. Visit www.purdue.edu/grad and follow the instructions on How to Apply under Admissions. Entry dates are August, January, and May.

Learn more
Contact Amanda Wilson
Academic Program Administrator
apendle@purdue.edu
765-494-9061
https://www.entm.purdue.edu/prospective-grads

College of Agriculture at Purdue University
Entomology at Purdue is part of one of the world’s leading colleges of agricultural, food, life, and natural resources sciences. Our researchers ask and answer questions about six strategic themes that guide our efforts:
• Building a sustainable and secure food production system
• Utilizing molecular approaches to expand the frontiers of agriculture and life sciences
• Developing a robust bioeconomy to feed the world
• Enriching food and health
• Strengthening ecological and environmental integrity in agricultural landscapes
• Facilitating informed decision making to improve social well-being

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.