

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is a graduate admission test, or GRE, required?

No, the GRE is not required for admission to the program.

Is an undergraduate degree in horticulture required to pursue a M.S. in urban food systems?

No. Many of our students have backgrounds in non-horticultural fields, such as liberal arts, history, sociology and others.

In addition, students interested in Urban Food System classes can take up to nine credit hours after applying to the Graduate School as a non-degree seeking student.

How long will it take me to complete the program?

Most full-time students should be able to complete the program in two years.

Where do graduates of this program work?

In this rapidly growing field, you can have a strong influence through your understanding of how agriculture and food systems impact the lives of people in our communities. Be a force for change in community and economic development, local food accessibility, public and farmer education, or by working to provide nutritious, local and regional food to communities that need them. Graduates and current students are employed in:

- Food systems project management
- Nonprofit management
- Urban planning and landscape design
- Municipal (city/county) horticulture
- Extension and public education
- Urban farming or food production projects
- Food aggregation and distribution
- Farmers market organization and management
- Community garden coordination




Master's Degree in Horticulture

URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS



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WHY URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS?

Our food system is complex and requires an interdisciplinary approach to address issues associated with urbanization. This M.S. degree targets a growing workforce that focuses on the impact of food systems on the economic and social aspects of urban communities. If you are interested in local and/or sustainable agriculture, international agriculture, food systems project management, farmer education, grant writing, horticulture science or urban food production, this program is right for you.

Program advantages

- Kansas City offers a vibrant urban agriculture scene with numerous community food-based projects, nonprofits and local urban and peri-urban farmers working to provide access to fresh, healthy food.
- K-State Olathe's location provides opportunities to work at the Olathe Horticulture Research and Extension Center as well as other institutions in the metro region.
- Work with an interdisciplinary cohort of students and faculty in Olathe and Manhattan.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Choose between a 30-credit hour thesis track or a 36-credit hour professional track. Customize your program to your area of interest with 8-18 elective credit hours. Students also have the opportunity to work on commercial farms, research stations and other nearby food projects in the practicum course.

Topics include:

- Urban agriculture
- Urban food systems
- Professional development in urban food systems
- Urban food production practicum
- Urban agriculture study tour
- Sustainable agriculture
- Health-promoting phytochemicals of fruits and vegetables
- Postharvest technology and physiology of horticultural crops
- Farm to fork produce safety