ADVISING

Plant Biology students have both a Professional Academic Advisor, in the CNAS Undergraduate Academic Advising Center (http://cnasstudent.ucr.edu), and a Faculty Advisor, in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences. The Faculty Advisor meets with each student on a quarterly basis to discuss course plans and specializations, research opportunities, internships, career opportunities, and the possibilities for graduate and professional school studies. The Faculty Advisor can also provide advice on admission to the program.

Faculty Advisor
Professor Louis Santiago
(951) 827-4951
louis.santiago@ucr.edu

Professional Academic Advisor
Denise Correll
(951) 827-1763
denise.correll@ucr.edu
1223 Pierce Hall

The Professional Academic Advisor will assist with information regarding UCR and CNAS policies, procedures, regulations, and campus resources, and will confirm that all degree requirements have been met.

Current course requirements are available online in the UCR General Catalog at http://catalog.ucr.edu. For additional information regarding the CNAS Undergraduate Academic Advising Center, 1223 Pierce Hall, please visit our website at www.cnasstudent.ucr.edu.
ABOUT PLANT BIOLOGY

Plant Biology is the field of science dealing with the study of the form, function, development, genetics, diversity, reproduction, evolution, and uses of plants and their interactions with the biosphere.

UC Riverside offers an interdepartmental undergraduate program leading to a B.S. or B.A. degree in Plant Biology, with the goal of providing students with a solid background in modern principles and practices of plant biology, along with an area of specialization. Students choose from these areas:

- Plant cellular, molecular, and developmental biology
- Plant genetics, breeding, and biotechnology
- Ecology, evolution, and systematics
- Plant pathology, nematology, and pest management

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

UC Riverside is the major center for plant biology research in Southern California. UCR’s faculty are noted for their integration of basic and applied research, with particular strengths in plant cell biology, bioinformatics, epigenetics, chemical biology, plant responses to environmental stresses, plant ecology, genetics, genomics, evolution, and programs focusing on subtropical crop plants such as citrus and avocado. All students have the opportunity to gain research experience by working with faculty mentors on a research project, and to write a paper on their own results.

FACILITIES

Students have free access to the University’s Botanic Gardens, whose 40 acres includes a variety of natural ecosystems and urban landscapes. Other facilities include:

- Center for Plant Cell Biology
- Institute for Integrative Genome Biology
- Center for Conservation Biology
- Biotechnology laboratories
- Extensive plant teaching collection
- Greenhouses, lath houses, growth chambers
- Citrus Variety Collection
- Community organic garden
- University of California Natural Reserve System
- The Botany and Entomology Undergraduate Student Association (BEUSA)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Plant biologists work in food, horticulture, and seed companies; pharmaceutical, energy, and biochemical industries; biotechnology, environmental protection, or agri-business; the USDA, Department of the Interior, and other state and national agencies; and public and private schools, colleges, and universities. A degree in plant biology is an excellent background for students wishing to enter graduate school and other professional schools such as education, pharmacy, medicine, law, or journalism.