Discover Turf

For more information, contact:
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Or view these Web addresses:
Turfgrass Science & Management:
http://plantsciences.utk.edu/ug_conc_turf.htm
Career examples: http://plantsciences.utk.edu/jobs/
Department of Plant Sciences:
http://plantsciences.utk.edu/
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources:
http://casnr.tennessee.edu/
Undergraduate Admissions:
http://admissions.utk.edu/undergraduate/
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships:
http://web.utk.edu/~finaid/

Financial Aid
In addition to the Tennessee Hope Scholarship, a variety of financial aid is available. About one-third of the students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources receive scholarships directly from the college, averaging about $2200 per student annually. Students are also eligible for a variety of university scholarships, as well as scholarships offered by state and national turf associations such as the Tennessee Turfgrass Association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the Sports Turf Managers Association.

WHAT IS TURFGRASS SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT?

Turfgrass Science and Management, a concentration of study in the Plant Sciences Department, is a diverse program that combines the study of grasses, soils, water and pests. Turfgrass managers are involved with the production and maintenance of grasses for recreational, aesthetic and environmental uses. This program is offered to those interested in careers in golf courses, athletic field and commercial turf management. Students have the opportunity to develop a personalized program in turfgrass science by selecting classes offered in a wide variety of areas, including environmental horticulture, soil and water sciences, entomology and nematology, and plant pathology.
Turfgrass is a multi-billion dollar industry in the United States and continues to grow at a record pace. The turfgrass industry is often associated with golf courses and sports facilities; however, the industry also includes home and commercial lawns, parks, athletic fields, schools and industrial parks. Growth in all of these areas continues to create a constant need for well-trained turfgrass managers. With more than 17,000 golf courses in the United States and with new courses continually being built, there is a steady demand for technically trained management personnel. Even if you don’t like the idea of spending your day working on a beautiful golf course or at a finely manicured sports facility, there are many career options for professionals with training in turfgrass management.

The curriculum builds upon the university-wide general education requirements with critical courses in plant physiology, entomology & plant pathology, weed science, soils and business. Turf students take numerous turfgrass classes involving construction for golf courses and athletic fields, environmental considerations, and general management and professionalism.

A variety of student activities are available on campus, ranging from intramural sports to student branches of professional turf societies, such as TennTurf, the student chapter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Our students have traveled across the country participating in contests, attending conferences and accepting awards. Our turf students get training in developing and delivering presentations through seminars, poster sessions and professional papers. Our low student-to-professor ratio means more individual time with professors for academic advising, assistance with course work and career planning. Opportunities are provided to work with professors doing cutting-edge research in a variety of areas.