



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMH
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Coláiste na hEolaíochta
& na hInnealtóireachta

College of Science
& Engineering



GY301 Science (Bachelor) Botany and Plant Science

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Why choose this course?

The GY301 Bachelor of Science degree programme allows you to take a variety of subjects in Science before you decide which scientific area to specialise in for your four-year honours degree.

You have the flexibility to discover your unique interests and build a tailored skillset, specialising step by step as you progress from year to year.

Botany and Plant Science is one such pathway of study offered within the GY301 Science programme.

Course Overview

Botany and Plant Science involves the study of plants and algae in both natural and human-dominated environments. Primary producers are of fundamental importance to both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and to the proper functioning of our planet. With the increasing pressures of the biodiversity crisis, climate change and land use change, understanding how plants/algae grow, function and interact with the rest of the world is more important than ever. Particular emphasis is placed on plant and algal interactions with their environment; physiology and development; and ecology.

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Career Opportunities

A Botany and Plant Science degree ideally positions students for emerging, and rapidly growing, 'green' economy and 'blue' (marine) economy opportunities across a range of industries and sectors. These include marine/plant biotechnology, food, fermentation, drug discovery, genetics, wildlife protection, ecology, environmental monitoring, biodiversity, bioenergy and agriculture.

Past graduates work in education, science journalism, conservation and habitat restoration, sustainable development, regulatory affairs and government policy sectors. The diverse graduate employment opportunities range from environmental organisations (e.g., National Parks and Wildlife Services) to lab-based biotechnologists investigating ways to improve food security such as increasing shelf-life and decreasing yield loss to pathogens (waste reduction).

Duration

4 years

I always wanted to be a conservation biologist and immediately on finishing my degree I was hired by a consultancy. I was headhunted for the job as there is a huge shortage of botanists. I had wanted to do Zoology but without making the switch to plants I wouldn't have got hired! Being able to choose my modules was also vital in ensuring I had the right mix of geographical, chemical and biological experience to become the ecologist I am today

Finbar McCann
2022 Graduate



Find out more
School of Natural Sciences



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