

## Master's Degree (Second Cycle) Programme in Plant Productions and Technologies

### General Information

Nigde University, Plant Production and Technologies Department launched its education activities in 2013-2014, by recruiting its first undergraduate and M.Sc. and PhD students,. English Preparation program became compulsory before the undergraduate program and currently at least 30% of lectures are given in English.

4 Professors and 4 Assistant Professors are currently employed. The department consists of 3 divisions: Plant Production and Technologies, Postharvest Physiology and Technologies and Organic Agriculture. Also a number of projects supported by The Scientific and Technology Research Council of Turkey, State Planning Organization, Ministry of Agriculture, etc, are carried out by the research groups in the department.

Nigde University Plant Production and Technology Department; with modern building, computer-aided classrooms, special students laboratories as well as research laboratories used by faculty members for their research studies, field and greenhouses for field trials, new laboratory equipments and dormitories two-person rooms located in the university campus for undergraduate students; with research laboratories supported by research projects for M.Sc. and PhD students trains students as competent Agriculture Engineer.

### Aims and Objectives

#### Aims:

Train agronomists who has following qualifications;

- Specializing in crop production,
- Able to follow current developments in agriculture,
- In order to establish international collaborations; has knowledge of foreign languages and various information technologies
- Knows all the steps involved in the process of crop production,
- Capable of understand crop production problems, encountered and solutions
- Strong aspects of social events, communication skills, creativity and entrepreneurship
- Prone to teamwork

#### Objectives :

Facilitate following high quality educational program for agricultural engineers;

- Ability to compete with the knowledge in the field of crop production at the national and international levels,
- Able to follow recent developments and implement in practice,
- Capable of plan and conduct projects to solve problems at the each stage of agricultural production,
- Transfer generated new information and technology to manufacturers and related industries.

## **Qualification Awarded**

Upon successful completion of this program, students are awarded with the qualification of MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE in PLANT PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGIES.

## **Level of Qualification**

Master's Degree with thesis in Plant Production and Technologies Department is a two-year (4 semesters) program with 120 ECTS credits. The program meets the requirements both for ECTS credits and level descriptors of the "Second Cycle" degree qualifications of the Overarching Framework of European Qualifications Framework HE (QF-EHEA) and the "7th Level" qualifications of the Turkish Qualifications Framework for HE (TYYÇ, NQF-HETR), as well as the "7th Level" requirements of the qualifications of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (EQF-LLL) in terms of the level descriptors.

## **Specific Admission Requirements**

Admission requirements are determined in line with the regulations set by Higher Education Council of Turkey. Information on application for Master programs and access requirements are announced on the web page of the university at the beginning of each academic year. The following requirements are applied for both national and foreign students:

- To have a First Cycle (BSc) degree in Plant Production and Technologies Department or Horticulture, Plant Protection, Field Crops and Soil Science and Plant Nutrition Departments of Agriculture Faculty.
- To have ALES (Entrance Exam for Academic Personnel and Postgraduate Education) with minimum score of 55 (or equivalent)
- To have a foreign language proficiency from national exams such as YDS (Foreign Language Proficiency Test), UDS (The Interuniversity Foreign Language Examination) or KPDS (The Foreign Language Examination for Civil Servants) or from international exams such as IELTS (International English Language Testing System) or TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) accepted by Interuniversity Board. Students who do not have a foreign language proficiency might apply yet their foreign language score is evaluated as 0.
- The candidates with a Bachelor's Degree from abroad must have the certificate of equivalence from the Council of Higher Education (YOK).
- ALES score is valid for 3 years.
- The candidates must apply in person. The applications with incomplete documents will not be evaluated.

For further and detailed information please visit General Admission Requirements and Registration Procedures in the menu items of the Information on the Institution.

For further information on the admission requirement for foreign students, please contact to Nigde University International Office.

**Contact:****International Office****Niğde Üniversitesi, Kampüs, Bor Yolu, Niğde, TÜRKİYE****Phone: 0 388 225 21 48****Fax: 0 388 225 23 85****E-mail: erasmus@nigde.edu.tr****Web: <http://www.nigde.edu.tr/uluslararasi/index.php?ln=en>****Specific Arrangements for Recognition of Prior Learning**

With an understanding of lifelong learning, Nigde University recognizes the previously taken courses in another institution and exempt them from graduation credit, as long as the courses match with the learning outcomes of the registered Master's Degree (Second Cycle) programme in Plant Production and Technologies Department at Nigde University.

**Profile of the Programme**

Plant Production and Technologies Department was established to provide a high-quality program to follow and to learn about the latest technologies and at the same time to ensure the participation of applied and theoretical research. Master's Degree program is prepared in accordance with the understanding of a joint training strategy and gain experience with practicing.

The program includes primarily fields of crop production systems and methods, horticulture, agronomy, plant protection, soil science, plant breeding and genetics. For this reason, to gain skills of application of basic sciences and engineering knowledge to agricultural engineering problems, understanding the different areas of plant production.

Master's Degree program in Plant Production and technologies Department ("Second Cycle" in QF-EHEA and "7th Level" in TYYÇ ) is an academically-oriented program giving access to degree and non-degree research programs and professional practice demanding advanced levels of knowledge, skills and competencies. The program can be classified in regards to ISCED (The International Standard Classification of Education) 2011 and NQF-HETR (The Turkish Qualifications Framework for HE) profiles and fields of education as follows:

- ISCED Field of Education:62 – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery
- ISCED 2011 Level: 7, Orientation (Profile): 64, Subcategory: 645- Academically-oriented "second cycle"
- NQF-HETR Field of Education: 62 - Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery
- NQF-HETR Profile of Education: Academically-oriented "second cycle"

## **Learning and Teaching Methods**

The most frequently used instructional methods of the educational programs of Nigde University are given below. Programmes commonly apply these methods as appropriate instructional approaches in accordance with their aims and objectives.

The instructional methods applied for achieving the goal of meeting the expected learning outcomes of the Master's Degree program in Plant Production and Technologies Department program at large are indicated in the section of 'program learning outcomes', and those methods utilized for individual course units are indicated in the relevant section of "description of individual course unit".

### Learning and Teaching Methods

- Lecture & In-Class Activities
- Land Surveying
- Group Work
- Laboratory
- Reading
- Assignment (Homework)
- Project Work
- Seminar
- Web Based Learning
- Implementation/Application/Practice
- Thesis Work
- Field Study
- Report Writing

## **Occupational profiles of graduates with examples**

The global natures of Plant Production and Technologies and Agricultural Engineering ensure many career opportunities in Turkey as well as in Europe and beyond. Students who will graduate from the department will have the opportunity of employment in private companies operating in the fields of agricultural production, nursery and seed production, cultivar improvement, marketing etc. Since graduates also have general information about agricultural engineering; they will be employed in all companies operating in agricultural production and in related fields. Moreover, graduates can also be employed in the public sector relevant to agriculture such as Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Environment and Urban Development and Ministry of Industry and Trade; General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works, The Central Union of Turkish Agricultural Credit Cooperatives, producer associations related to agriculture (eg, Taris, Çukobirlik, Pankobirlik, etc.); General Directorate of Agricultural Enterprises, etc. They can establish their own enterprises on agricultural production, consulting, etc.

## **Qualification Requirements and Regulations**

Master's Degree program (second cycle) in Plant Production and Technologies Department is awarded to students who have scored a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of not less than 2.50 /4.00, defended his/her thesis successfully, and have completed all the courses (240 ECTS) with at least a letter grade of CB or S in the program.

For detailed information: Please see "Nigde University's Rules & Regulations for Graduate Education"

## **Access to Further Studies**

Upon successful completion of this programme, students may apply to doctorate (third cycle) degree programmes in or related fields of Plant Production and Technologies Department.

## **Examination Regulations, Assessment and Grading**

The methods applied for assessment of the achievement of the expected program learning outcomes for the entire Second Cycle program of Plant Production and Technologies Department are shown below and those for the individual course units are given in the relevant section of the course description with their contribution to the final grades.

- Lecture & In-Class Activities
- Land Surveying
- Group Work
- Laboratory
- Reading
- Assignment (Homework)
- Project Work
- Seminar
- Internship
- Technical Visit
- Web Based Learning
- Implementation/Application/Practice
- Practice at a workplace
- Occupational Activity
- Social Activity
- Thesis Work
- Field Study

## Reports

Mid-term and final examinations are conducted in dates, places and times determined and announced by the University. The students' final semester grade is given by their instructors based on mid-term examination, homework evaluation, final examination results taking into account the students' compliance with attendance to the course activities.

The contribution of assessment grades of the in-term activities to the final grade is 40% and that of the final exam is 60% for all the course units.

### Grading

The success of a student for each assessment (in-term and final) defined for each course unit is evaluated by the instructor. Evaluations are made over a scale of 100 points and converted to the letter grades at the end of the semester.

A student is considered to be successful in a course if he/she gets one of the following grades: AA, BA, BB, CB or S (Successful). The student's academic standing is calculated in the form of a Grade Point Average (GPA) out of a scale of 4.00 and announced at the end of each semester. The total grade point of a course is obtained by multiplying the grade point by the course ECTS credit. The semester GPA is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points of courses gained in that semester by the total amount of ECTS credits of courses taken in the semester. The yearlong courses are included in the spring semester GPA. Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points of all the courses in the curriculum to be taken by the total amount of 240 ECTS credits. For each course taken, the student is given one of the following letter grades and grade points:

Course Score	Course Grade	Grade Points
90-100	AA	4.00
85-89	BA	3.50
80-84	BB	3.00
75-79	CB	2.50
70-74	CC	2.00
65-69	DC	1.50
60-64	DD	1.00
50-59	FD	0.50
0-49	FF	0.00

### Classification of the qualification

A student who obtains a CGPA of 2.00-2.99 is considered as a Satisfactory Student, the one who obtains a CGPA of 3.00-3.49 is considered as a Honours Student, and the one who obtains a CGPA of 3.50-4.00 is considered as a High Honours Student.

### Graduation Requirements

In order for a student to graduate from Master's Degree (Second Cycle) Programme in Plant Production and Technologies Department, he/she has

- Completed 120 ECTS credits with passing grades (54 ECTS credits for 7 graduate courses, 6 ECTS credits for a Seminar Course, 20 ECTS credits for 2 Special Topics Courses, and 40 ECTS credits for Thesis Studies taken at 2 consecutive semesters).
- A cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 2.50 out of 4.00.
- Prepared and defended a thesis successfully.

## Mode of Study

Master of Science Programme in Plant Production and Technologies Department at Nigde University is a full time / face to face programme.

## Contact (Programme Director or Equivalent):

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