PhD in Agrobiosciences

Overview
The PhD in Agrobiosciences is a three-year programme that aims at educating highly competent researchers with an interdisciplinary background that will be able to face research frontiers in plant sciences.

The programme is structured in two curricula: i) Genomics and crop production and ii) Agriculture and environment, offering training in frontier topics of plant sciences, including molecular biology, plant genomics and biotechnology, environmental and agronomic sciences.

The course gives doctoral research students the opportunity to carry out research in a stimulating and supportive environment, being directly involved in research activities in the laboratories of the Institute of Life Sciences: BIOLabs, LANDLAB and PLANTLAB.

To assist in the delivery of learning outcomes, assessment of an individual student’s progress is made via a standard series of review protocols including the drafting of yearly reports, delivery of seminars, and preparation of a thesis submitted to a review process by highly qualified experts in the field. Upon recommendation of the referees, the student is admitted to the final examination for the award of the Doctoral Degree.

Areas of study and research facilities
Doctoral research students are expected to develop research and techniques skills, including the ability to address research problems and to formulate and test hypotheses and a full understanding of relevant research methodologies and techniques. Students will also be trained to develop communication skills for effective writing and oral presentation of research outcomes to a range of audiences.

Different mechanisms will be applied to achieve this goal, including supervisor support and mentoring, institute support, workshops, conferences, elective training courses, formally assessed courses and informal opportunities.

Doctoral research students are also required to undergo a 3-6 month research period aboard, as a visiting scholar at foreign University or Research Center deemed relevant for their PhD project.

Students are expected to make a substantial, original contribution to knowledge in their area, normally leading to published work.

Research activities of the students are carried out in BIOLabs, LANDLAB and PLANTLAB, equipped with state-of-the-art laboratory instruments and technologies and open field facilities.

Job Opportunities
The programme aims to apply innovative teaching and research methodologies to train brilliant and highly motivated young researchers who will be able not only to carry out solid and high-quality academic research, but also to undertake professional careers within a wide range of international, national and regional entities, in both the private and the public sectors in the field of plant biotechnology and crop production.

Highlights
The PhD programme in Agrobiosciences takes three years of full-time study to complete and consists of research and courses as required under academic supervision.

For the accomplishment of their research projects, the doctoral research students rely on a very qualified and fertile scientific environment, including a small but dynamic Faculty with eminent scientists involved in international research networks. This allows doctoral research students to develop solid research and transferable skills, useful for a future both, in and outside of academia.

ABS training provides conceptual and technical approaches in research and also up-to-date methodological knowledge from research frontiers in plant sciences. Courses and workshops are offered with the aim to enhance interdisciplinary research competence of doctoral research students in the field of plant sciences.

Info and contacts
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Scan the QR code: more detailed information on the Programme and the call for admission