

# Entomology

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[www.ndsu.edu/entomology/](http://www.ndsu.edu/entomology/)

**Director:** Dr. Frank Casey, School of Natural Resource Sciences

**Program Leader:** Dr. Jason Harmon ([jason.harmon@ndsu.edu](mailto:jason.harmon@ndsu.edu))

**Department Location:** Hultz Hall

**Telephone Number:** (701) 231-7582

**Degrees Offered:** Ph.D., M.S.

**Application Deadline:** International applications are due May 1 for fall semester and August 1 for spring and summer semesters. Domestic applicants should apply at least one month prior to the start of classes.

**English Proficiency** TOEFL iBT 79

**Requirements:** IELTS

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## Program Description

The Department of Entomology in the School of Natural Resource Sciences offers graduate study leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Advanced work involves specialized training in the following areas: behavior, biochemistry, biodiversity, biological control, chemical ecology, ecology, host plant resistance, insect pathology, pest management, molecular genetics, physiology, and systematics. The Department also participates in interdisciplinary programs in Environmental and Conservation Sciences and Natural Resources Management.

The close working relationship between the Department and the USDA Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center, located on campus, provides students many opportunities for research and consultation. Students may conduct their research program under the direction of USDA scientists holding adjunct appointments in the Entomology.

Student research and academic programs are tailored to individual needs and interests. Interdisciplinary approaches to entomological programs are fostered. Prospective students are encouraged to check the Entomology web site (<http://www.ndsu.edu/entomology/>) for the latest descriptions of the graduate program.

## Admissions Requirements

The Department of Entomology graduate program is open to all qualified graduates of universities and colleges of recognized standing. To be admitted with full status to the program, the applicant must have adequate preparation in entomology and provide a letter stating reasons for pursuing an advanced degree in entomology and expressing the applicant's research interests.

Applications should be submitted directly to the Graduate School.

## Financial Assistance

All specified application materials must be submitted to the Graduate School, and the student must be admitted in full or conditional standing to be considered for financial assistance. Graduate research assistantships are awarded on the basis of scholarship, potential for advanced study and research, and availability. Graduate research assistantships provide a monthly stipend and a waiver of graduate tuition.

The program requires a minimum of 24 months of full-time study, during which an overall GPA of 3.0 or better must be maintained. For M.S. candidates, a minimum of 30 semester credits beyond the B.S. and an oral defense of a research-based thesis and academic subject matter is

required. The Ph.D. requires a minimum of 90 semester credits beyond the B.S., (or 60 beyond the MS degree), preliminary written and oral examinations directed toward academic subject matter, and a final oral defense of a research-based dissertation.

### **Mark A. Boetel, Ph.D.**

South Dakota State University, 1996

Research Interests: Integrated Pest Management of Sugarbeet and Corn Insects, Microbial Control

### **Stephen P. Foster, Ph.D.**

University of Waikato, 1983

Research Interests: Insect Chemical Ecology, Pheromone Biochemistry, Reproductive Behavior

### **Jason P. Harmon, Ph.D.**

University of Minnesota, 2003

Research Interests: Environmental Change and Ecological Interactions, Biological Control, Insect Ecology

### **Marion O. Harris, Ph.D.**

Michigan State University, 1986

Research Interests: Insect Behavior, Insect-Plant Interactions, Resistance of Plants to Insects

### **Deirdre Prischmann-Voldseth, Ph.D.**

Washington State University, 2005

Research interests: Agricultural integrated pest management and arthropod ecology

### **David A. Rider, Ph.D.**

Louisiana State University, 1988

Research Interests: Systematics of the Pentatomoidea, Molecular Genetics, Ecology of the northern tall grass prairie arthropods