

## The Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture

The Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture (GPSA) develops student competence and expertise in the design, implementation, and evaluation of sustainable agricultural systems. The program's curriculum satisfies the formal requirements for the MS and PhD degrees, as established by the ISU Graduate College, and fosters transdisciplinary and systems-level thinking. The program has defined six cross-disciplinary thematic areas:

- landscape and watershed management,
- international development and food security,
- crop and livestock production and protection,
- policy, governance, and economics,
- engagement and communications, and
- philosophy, ethics, and history.

### Requirements for Students Pursuing a Degree in the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture

1. Students pursuing the MS or PhD degree in GPSA must meet all the requirements of this program for the respective degree (<http://www.sust.ag.iastate.edu/gpsa/default.html>).
2. Students seeking the PhD degree may pursue several options for fulfilling the requirements of the preliminary examinations:
  - a. Students *majoring only in Sustainable Agriculture*, who declare Sociology as their administrative department, will fulfill the written and oral requirements for the preliminary examinations as requested by their Program of Study (POS) Committee and within the guidelines stipulated by the ISU Graduate College.
  - b. Students *co-majoring in Sustainable Agriculture and Sociology* will complete two written examinations, one of which will conform with the guidelines for examinations set forth by the Department of Sociology. Students who successfully complete the written examinations will take the oral examination within the guidelines stipulated by the ISU Graduate College.
    - The POS committee, in consultation with the student, can choose to have the student take the Area 1 examination within one of the designated concentration areas within Sociology, and take some other form of written examination in Sustainable Agriculture as designated by the POS committee.
    - The POS committee, in consultation with the student, can choose to have the student take the Area 2 examination within one of the designated concentration areas within Sociology, and take some other form of written examination in Sustainable Agriculture as designated by the POS committee.