



Ohio State HCS News

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE IN VIRTUAL PERSPECTIVE - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Pre-PGM Students Have High Hopes



OSU Students are currently being enrolled as Pre-PGM majors, and accreditation by the PGA of America is being sought.

management.



OSU Professional Golf Management students will benefit from access to local facilities such as the Ohio State Golf Club.

a sophomore on the Columbus campus.



The PGM curriculum includes learning individual and group teaching skills.

A brand new major at The Ohio State University will have students aspiring for careers in the golf industry. While the university awaits review for accreditation by the Professional Golfer's Association of America, Pre-Professional Golf Management (Pre-PGM) students are ready to enroll in courses to prepare them for a career in golf management.

"We have 45 students enrolled in the Pre-PGM major at the Columbus and regional campuses and hope to have 100 candidates for the fall," explains **Ray Miller**, Director of the program. "These Buckeyes are anxious to begin gaining the knowledge and skills required to become a resort manager, club pro, equipment representative or instructor in the golf industry."

The Pre-PGM major allows students to take GECs and electives. If the program is accredited by the PGA of America, students will become PGM majors and take courses in finances, personnel management, marketing, food and beverage management, merchandising, plant science, inventory control, lesson planning, individual and group teaching, and social and professional interactions, as well as honing their golf skills. Four current Ohio State students have entered the Pre-PGM program hoping to combine their love of golf with a rewarding career in

"With a major in PGM I hope to earn, straight out of college, a high ranking position as a General Manager, Head Golf Professional, or Director of Golf at a private club or high end public golf course," explains freshman **Ryan Conklin**. An active student who is helping to start the PGM student club, Conklin loves golf and has big plans for the future. "There are plenty of things in the golf world that can be done with a PGM major from Ohio State and I'm going to do whatever I can to advance the golf industry in years to come."

Ben Schillig envisions his future as a golf instructor and educator. "I would like to run the golf side of a nationally known resort or private club," explains Schillig. "I would also like to continue improving my teaching methods and personal theories and hope to one day make it onto the list of the top one hundred teachers."

Lifelong golfer **Aaron Bell** will be using the extensive internship program to prepare for a future in resort management. "I aspire to become a general manager of a golf club or resort. I am looking forward to a future internship at Pine Valley, along with three other internships, and gaining enough experience, expertise and rigorous training that I may someday manage a reknowned, world class resort," explains Bell,

For sophomore **Michael Rubin** the possibility of an education in professional golf management is a family matter. "I have worked on my family's golf course, Pleasant View Golf Club in Louisville, Ohio for all of my life. I hope to some day run my family's golf course and make it even more successful than my grandfather and uncle have made it," says Rubin. "In the future I would also like to be able to teach young golfers the skills of golf."

Delivered by the Horticulture & Crop Science Department, the multifaceted coursework for the major will involve the cooperation of several Colleges at OSU, including the [School of Physical Activity and Educational Services](#) within the College of Education, the [Fisher College of Business](#), the [College of Human Ecology](#) and the [College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences](#).

Ohio State hopes to become one of several institutions in the United States to offer a PGA accredited Professional Golf Management program, the vast majority of which are in southern and western states. OSU could have the distinction of offering the only PGM program in Ohio, and only the second in the Midwest. Prospective students are encouraged to visit the PGM website at pgm.osu.edu or call **Mary Rose Molinaro** at 1-866-367-5268 for further information.

Watch a narrated slideshow of this story with additional photos here: [Pre-PGM Students Have High Hopes Slideshow](#). Quicktime software is required to view the slideshow.

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