



Graduate Assistantship (M.S./Ph.D.) Available in Agricultural/Biological Engineering

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at Mississippi State University is seeking applications for a M.S./Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship (GA). The GA will cover stipends, tuition waiver and insurance, and the anticipated start date is Fall 2021 or Spring 2022. The successful candidate will work under the supervision of Dr. Yuzhen Lu (<https://www.yuzhenlu.com/>), on original research broadly within the field of **non-destructive sensing, automation/robotics and advanced data analytics for agriculture-food systems**. Potential research topics include but are not limited to optical imaging, inspection and sorting of agricultural and food products, computer vision, machine learning and robotics for precision agriculture (e.g., weed control) and plant phenotyping, and artificial intelligence and internet of things in plant/animal production. The successful candidate needs to be creative, self-motivated and has a strong desire to learn new skills and collaborate in a multidisciplinary environment, and he or she will be expected to communicate research results through peer-reviewed journal or conference publications and give presentations at national or international meetings.

QUALIFICATIONS SOUGHT

- Students must earn a B.S. or M.S. degree in *Agricultural or Biosystems Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechatronics, Automation, Computer Science/Engineering, Optics, Applied Mathematics*, or other related fields, with a 3.0 or higher GPA;
- Students proficient in **computer programming** (e.g., Python, Matlab, C++/C, Qt), **computer vision or image analysis, machine learning** (e.g., Keras, TensorFlow), **robotics**, with demonstrated research abilities (e.g., peer-reviewed journal publications);
- Students should have demonstrated excellence in scientific writing and communication skills;
- Students with non-English credentials must obtain a TOEFL score of 79 iBT or IELTS score of 6.5 or higher (GRE may be waived).

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Please contact Dr. Yuzhen Lu if you are interested in this position. A full application for an official offer to be made should include **a cover letter describing the applicant's research interest, a CV, transcripts, test score(s), journal publications (if any), and a list of three references including names, email, address and telephone number**. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Video conference interviews will be requested for potential candidates. Successful applicants will need to apply to the Graduate School of Mississippi State University.

The deadline for 2021 Fall is August 1 (domestic) and for 2022 Spring is October 1 (international) or December 1 (domestic). Please visit the website <https://www.grad.msstate.edu/students/admissions> for application details.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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