



Seeking Two Graduate Research Assistant Positions (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) in Insect Toxicology at Louisiana State University

The **Hernandez Insect Toxicology Lab** at **LSU's AgCenter** is seeking two motivated graduate students (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) to join a dynamic research program exploring fundamental and applied aspects of insect toxicology. Our laboratory investigates how insects respond to chemical stressors and how physiological signaling pathways shape their biology. Students will receive interdisciplinary training spanning molecular, physiological, and ecological approaches to arthropod biology.

We are recruiting students for **two broad research areas**:

Project 1: Insecticide Resistance

This project examines how insects develop and maintain resistance to chemical control tools. Students will focus on understanding resistance patterns, evaluating their impacts on insect biology, and exploring how resistance influences management outcomes across agricultural and vector systems.

Project 2: Molecular Targets for Pest Management

This project focuses on molecular and physiological processes that may serve as future targets for selective pest management tools. Students will investigate foundational mechanisms in arthropod biology to support the development of next-generation, species-specific strategies.

Students in both areas will engage in experimental design, data analysis, scientific writing, and presentation of findings at conferences. The lab emphasizes mentorship, collaboration, and professional development.

Location: Life Sciences Building, AgCenter, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Preferred start date: Summer/Fall 2026. International applicants are encouraged to apply with a submission of valid English Proficiency test scores.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in entomology, molecular biology, biochemistry, toxicology, or a related field.
- Research experience (laboratory, computational, or field-based).
- Proficiency in general laboratory practices.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- Critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Experience in insect physiology, molecular biology, or toxicology is preferred but not required.

We Offer:

- Supportive, team-oriented research environment.
- Opportunities to publish, present, and network professionally.
- Training in modern insect physiology and toxicology methods.
- Competitive stipend, benefits, and tuition remission.

To Apply:

Submit a single PDF to **hernandeztoxlab@gmail.com** using the subject line:

"GRA Application – [Project Area] – [Your Name]"

Include:

- 1-page cover letter describing your research interests and experience.
- Curriculum vitae (CV).
- Contact information for three references.

For more information/opportunities, contact **Dr. Jonathan Hernandez (hernandeztoxlab@gmail.com)**.