

Graduate Research Assistantship (Ph.D. Level)
Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department
University of Florida

Position Description

Applications are solicited for a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) position (Ph.D. Level) in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at University of Florida under the supervision of Dr. Daniel Hofstetter. The candidate should be interested in the application of information technology, sensors, and control systems to plant, animal, and facility systems. Potential research focus includes, but is not limited to: monitoring and data collection for precision animal agriculture using sensor arrays and computer vision with artificial intelligence (AI) to detect and characterize animal behavior for automated control over HVAC systems to improve animal comfort, productivity, and resource efficiency towards sustainable food production. The successful candidate should be self-motivated, creative, and have a desire to collaborate in a multidisciplinary environment. The candidate will be expected to publish in peer-reviewed journals and conference publications. Funding is conditional upon satisfactory performance in coursework and research duties. The GRA will cover stipends, tuition, and health insurance (a standard UF waiver). A review of applications will begin immediately until the position is filled, with a desired starting date at the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

Minimum Qualifications

B.S. and M.S. degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering or a related engineering discipline with a GPA of 3.0 or higher; Excellent English writing and communication skills; Non-English credentials must obtain a TOEFL score of 80 iBT or IELTS score of 6.5 or higher (GRE may be waived).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Knowledge and experience with AI, computer vision, microprocessors, sensors, and control systems.
- Experience and willingness to work in various field conditions.
- Programming skills (Arduino IDE, Python, R, etc.).
- Record of previous scientific communications (journal articles or/and conference publications).

How to Apply

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Daniel Hofstetter (d.hofstetter@ufl.edu) directly with a copy of your CV and research statement. Qualified candidates will be contacted separately for additional details (such as references). More information about applying for a graduate degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering can be found at <https://abe.ufl.edu/graduate/admissions/>. *Please do not apply formally or pay any fees without making the inquiry first.*