Department of Agricultural Economics

Major Advisor: Dr. Randy Little

Office: 325-2750

Agriculture and related businesses create more employment than does any other industry. The agribusiness industry accounts for nearly one-fifth of the U.S. gross national product and employs close to one-fourth of the U.S. labor force. Fully understanding how economic forces affect today's agriculture industry is critical for those seeking careers in agriculture-related businesses.

A growing field within economics is environmental economics. A key challenge to the U.S. economy in the 21st century is finding a balance between the demand for natural resources and the need to preserve our environment. Individuals who can analyze these complex problems will be needed for the new "green jobs" that require sustainable solutions to resource and environmental issues.

Two majors, Environmental Economics and Agribusiness, are offered to provide an understanding of economic forces and business management principles as well as technical knowledge of technical agriculture and environmental science. Students completing either major will be prepared to pursue additional training at the graduate level.

Students who plan to attend a community college before transferring to Mississippi State are strongly encouraged to contact the Department's major advisor regarding their proposed community college course schedule and transfer requirements.

Students in both majors are required to earn a "C" or better in all required (non-elective) agricultural economics (AEC), economics (EC), English (EN), and mathematics (MA) courses.

BS in Environmental Economics and Management (EEM)

The Environmental Economics and Management (EEM) major is designed to prepare students for the efficient and productive management of natural and environmental resources. Students receive excellent functional training and learn skills in the areas of environmental science, policy and economics. Potential career fields include, but are not limited to, environmental law; natural resource and environmental policy analysis; environmental consulting; and resource management. In addition, students desiring postgraduate training will have a solid academic foundation for pursuing graduate or professional degrees.

Degree Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Mathematics		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
MA 1713	Calculus I	3
MA 3123	Introduction to Statistical Inference	3
Science		
BIO 1134	Biology I	4
BIO 1144	Biology II	4
Humanities		
Select from General Education courses		6
Fine Arts		
Select from General Education courses		3
Social/Behavioral Sciences		
AEC 2713	Introduction to Food and Resource Economics	3
or EC 2123	Principles of Microeconomics	
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
Major Core ¹		
AEC 2611	Seminar I	1
AEC 3113	Introduction to Quantitative Economics	3
AEC 3233	Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy	3
AEC 3513	Economics of Food and Fiber Production	3

A F O 4400

AEC 4133	Analysis of Food Markets and Prices	3
AEC 4223	Applied Quantitative Analysis in Agricultural Economics	3
AEC 4233	Environmental Economics	3
AEC 4243	Natural Resource Economics	3
AEC 4413	Public Problems of Agriculture	3
BIO 3104	Ecology	4
BL 2413	The Legal Environment of Business	3
BL 4263	Environmental Law	3
EC 3113	Intermediate Macroeconomics	3
EC 3123	Intermediate Microeconomics	3
EC 4423	Public Finance	3
PS 1113	American Government	3
PS 2703	Introduction to Public Policy	3
PS 4743	Environmental Policy	3
WFA 3133	Applied Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecology	3
Free Electives		27-28
Oral Communication Requirement		
CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
Writing Requirement		
AELC 3203	Professional Writing in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences	3
Total Hours		124

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BS in Agribusiness (AGB)

The Agribusiness (AGB) major provides training in business including accounting, management, marketing, finance and economics, along with training in the agricultural sciences. The AGB major offers students flexibility in preparing for a wide variety of careers in agriculture and agribusiness. The major provides all students excellent foundational training in applied economics and business management while offering students the opportunity to specialize in specific areas. Potential career fields include, but are not limited to, agricultural and environmental law; agricultural policy analysis; economic consulting; agricultural lending; agricultural production management; commodities and equities marketing; and food chain supply management, including procession, sales, and distribution. Also, students desiring post-graduate training will have a solid academic foundation for pursuing graduate degrees.

Degree Requirements

English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	
Mathematics ¹		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
MA 1613	Calculus for Business and Life Sciences I (OR an equivalent or higher level calculus)	3
BQA 2113	Business Statistical Methods I	3
Science		
Select from General Education courses ²		7
Humanities		
PHI 1103	Introduction to Philosophy (OR Foreign Language course)	3
Select from General Education courses		3
Fine Arts		
Select from General Education courses		3
Social/Behavioral Sciences		
AEC 2713	Introduction to Food and Resource Economics	3

Courses are listed in alphanumeric order. Students should contact an advisor, refer to the appropriate departmental curriculum sheet or refer to the course description section of this bulletin to determine the prerequisites for each course.

See major advisor for a list of courses approved as Restricted Electives.

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AEC 4123 Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing AEC 4343 Advanced Farm Management FIN 3123 Financial Management PSS 1313 Plant Science Restricted Electives (15 hours) ³	AEC 3133	Introductory Agribusiness Management		
AEC 4343 Advanced Farm Management FIN 3123 Financial Management PSS 1313 Plant Science Restricted Electives (15 hours) ³	AEC 4123			
FIN 3123 Financial Management PSS 1313 Plant Science Restricted Electives (15 hours) ³	AEC 4343			
PSS 1313 Plant Science Restricted Electives (15 hours) ³	FIN 3123	-		
	PSS 1313			
	Restricted Electives (15 hours) ³			

Total Hours 124

- Courses are listed in alphanumeric order. Students should contact an advisor, refer to the appropriate departmental curriculum sheet or refer to the course description section of this bulletin to determine the prerequisites for each course.
- 2 CH 1043/CH 1051 recommended
- See major advisor for complete list of courses approved as Restricted Electives for each concentration.

Environmental Economics and Management Minor

The Department of Agricultural Economics offers a minor in Environmental Economics and Management to students outside the department. Course selection for the minor is designed to equip students with fundamental economic and management principles pertinent to environmental and resource policy issues to broaden the scope of career opportunities for students completing the minor.

A minor in Environmental Economics and Management is attained by completing at least 18 hours of environmental and resource economics courses. To satisfy the minor, students must maintain a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken to satisfy the minor. Students may choose among the following:

Required:

AEC 2713	Introduction to Food and Resource Economics	3
or EC 2123	Principles of Microeconomics	
AEC 3233	Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy	3
AEC 4233	Environmental Economics	3
AEC 4243	Natural Resource Economics	3
Choose at least three of the follow	owing:	9
AEC 3113	Introduction to Quantitative Economics	
AEC 3513	Economics of Food and Fiber Production	
AEC 4123	Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing	
AEC 4413	Public Problems of Agriculture	
Total Hours		21

Students are responsible for satisfying all prerequisites before registering for courses. A grade of C or better must be earned in each course to be counted toward the minor. Only students outside the Department of Agricultural Economics are eligible for the minor.

Agribusiness Minor

The Department of Agricultural Economics offers a minor in Agribusiness to students outside the Department. Course selection for the minor in Agribusiness is designed to equip students with fundamental economic and management principles to broaden the scope of career opportunities for students completing the minor.

A minor in Agribusiness is attained by completing at least 18 hours of Agribusiness courses. To qualify for a minor, students must maintain a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken to satisfy the requirements for the minor. Students may choose among the following:

AEC 2713	Introduction to Food and Resource Economics	3
or EC 2123	Principles of Microeconomics	
AEC 3133	Introductory Agribusiness Management	3
Choose at least four of the following:		12
AEC 3213	International Trade in Agriculture	
AEC 3413	Introduction to Food Marketing	
AEC 4113	Agribusiness Firm Management	
AEC 4123	Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing	
AEC 4133	Analysis of Food Markets and Prices	
AEC 4343	Advanced Farm Management	
AEC 4413	Public Problems of Agriculture	
Other approved AEC Elective		

Total Hours 18

Students are responsible for satisfying all prerequisites before registering for courses. A grade of C or better must be earned in each course to be counted toward the minor. Only students outside the Department of Agricultural Economics are eligible for the minor in Agribusiness.