

Department of Agricultural Economics

Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Josh Maples

Office: 325-2752

josh.maples@msstate.edu

Agriculture and related businesses create more employment than 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, Agribusiness (AGB) and Environmental Economics and Sustainability (EES), are offered to provide an understanding of economic forces and business management principles as well as technical knowledge of 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.

In addition to the University and College minimum grade requirements, students must have at least a 2.00 GPA in all major core course work attempted.

BS in Environmental Economics and Sustainability (EES)

The Environmental Economics and Sustainability (EES) major is designed to prepare students for the efficient and productive sustainable 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 1104 | Expanded English Composition I | |
| EN 1113 | English Composition II | 3 |
| or EN 1173 | Accelerated Composition II | |

Fine Arts

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Select from General Education courses | | 6 |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|

Humanities

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 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 |

Mathematics

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---|
| MA 1713 | Calculus I | 3 |
| MA 3123 | Introduction to Statistical Inference | 3 |

Science

| | | |
|----------|------------|---|
| BIO 1134 | Biology I | 4 |
| BIO 1144 | Biology II | 4 |

Major Core ¹

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| AEC 2223 | Introduction to Sustainability Economics | 3 |
| AEC 2611 | Seminar I | 1 |
| AEC 2631 | Environmental Economics & Sustainability Seminar | 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 |
| 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 |
| or WFA 3133 | Applied Ecology | |
| 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 |
| Free Electives | | 26-27 |
| 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 |

¹ 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 See major advisor for a list of courses approved as Restricted Electives.

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 with 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 processing, 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 1104 | Expanded English Composition I | |
| EN 1113 | English Composition II | 3 |
| or EN 1173 | Accelerated Composition II | |

Fine Arts

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Any Gen Ed course | | 3 |
|-------------------|--|---|

Humanities

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Any Gen Ed course | | 6 |
|-------------------|--|---|

Social/Behavioral Sciences

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| AEC 2713 | Introduction to Food and Resource Economics | 3 |
| or EC 2123 | Principles of Microeconomics | |
| EC 2113 | Principles of Macroeconomics | 3 |

Quantitative Reasoning

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| MA 1613 | Calculus for Business and Life Sciences I | 3 |
| or MA 1713 | Calculus I | |

Science

Any Gen Ed course 6-8

Major Core

| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| ACC 2013 | Principles of Financial Accounting | 3 |
| ACC 2023 | Principles of Managerial Accounting | 3 |
| AEC 1223 | Computer Applications for Agriculturists and Life Scientists | 3 |
| or AELC 4203 | Applications of Computer Tech to Agricultural Education, Leadership, and Communications | |
| or BIS 1012 | Introduction to Business Information Systems | |
| AEC 2611 | Seminar I | 1 |
| AEC 3113 | Introduction to Quantitative Economics | 3 |
| AEC 3133 | Introductory Agribusiness Management | 3 |
| AEC 3233 | Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy | 3 |
| AEC 4133 | Analysis of Food Markets and Prices | 3 |
| AEC 4213 | Ag Finance I | 3 |
| AEC 4223 | Applied Quantitative Analysis in Agricultural Economics | 3 |
| AEC 4413 | Public Problems of Agriculture | 3 |
| AEC 4623 | Global Marketing of Agricultural Product | 3 |
| or AEC 3213 | International Trade in Agriculture | |
| BQA 2113 | Business Statistical Methods I | 3 |
| or MA 2113 | Introduction to Statistics | |
| or MA 3123 | Introduction to Statistical Inference | |
| or ST 2113 | Introduction to Statistics | |
| or ST 3123 | Introduction to Statistical Inference | |
| CO 1003 | Fundamentals of Public Speaking | 3 |
| EC 3113 | Intermediate Macroeconomics | 3 |
| EC 3123 | Intermediate Microeconomics | 3 |

Choose one of the following concentrations:

Management Concentration (MGT) 44-49

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|---|--|--|
| AEC 3413 | Introduction to Food Marketing | |
| AEC 4113 | Agribusiness Firm Management | |
| AEC 4123 | Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing | |
| AEC 4343 | Advanced Farm Management | |
| AELC 3203 | Professional Writing in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences | |
| or EN 3313 | Writing for the Workplace | |
| BL 2413 | The Legal Environment of Business | |
| FIN 3123 | Financial Management | |
| Restricted Electives (9 hours) ¹ | | |
| Free Electives (14-19 hours) | | |

Policy and Law Concentration (POLL) 44-49

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| AEC 4233 | Environmental Economics | |
| AEC 4243 | Natural Resource Economics | |
| EN 4223 | Principles of Legal Writing | |
| PS 1113 | American Government | |
| PS 1182 | Introduction to Law I | |
| PS 1192 | Introduction to Law II | |
| PS 2703 | Introduction to Public Policy | |
| Restricted Electives (12 hours) ² | | |
| Free Electives (13-18 hours) | | |

Production Concentration (PROD) 44-49

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|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| ADS 1113 | Animal Science | |
| or PSS 1313 | Plant Science | |
| or PO 3313 | Commercial Poultry Production | |

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|--|---|------------|
| AEC 3513 | Economics of Food and Fiber Production | |
| AEC 4123 | Financial and Commodity Futures Marketing | |
| AEC 4343 | Advanced Farm Management | |
| AEC 4363 | Economics of Precision Agriculture | |
| AELC 3203 or EN 3313 | Professional Writing in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences Writing for the Workplace | |
| BL 2413 | The Legal Environment of Business | |
| Restricted Electives (12 hours) ³ | | |
| Free Electives (11-16 hours) | | |
| Total Hours | | 124 |

¹ Restricted electives for Management: Choose from any 2000-4000 level AEC courses or 3000-4000 level College of Business courses. Other courses may be used with major advisor approval.

² Restricted Electives for Policy and Law: Choose from any 2000-4000 level AEC courses, 2000-4000 level BL courses, 3000-4000 level EC courses, or 3000-4000 PS courses. Other courses may be used with major advisor approval.

³ Restricted Electives for Production: Choose from any 2000-4000 level AEC courses or 3000-4000 level College of Ag and Life Sciences courses. Other courses may be used with major advisor approval.

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 or EC 2123 | Introduction to Food and Resource Economics Principles of Microeconomics | 3 |
| 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 following: | | 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 or EC 2123 | Introduction to Food and Resource Economics Principles of Microeconomics | 3 |
| 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.