

# AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS - 5-YEAR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AND MASTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATION

The combined program between the Department of Agricultural Economics and the Bush School of Government and Public Service allows undergraduate Agricultural Economics students to enter the Master of Public Service and Administration Program at the beginning of their senior year (typically year four) at Texas A&M University. This enables students to receive both their Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics (BS AGEC) and a Master of Public Service and Administration (MPSA) graduate degree, with a track emphasis in public policy analysis (PPA), in five years.

To be considered for the 5-year combined degree program, Agricultural Economics students must have a minimum 3.25 GPA and have completed 103 of the 120 hours of course work required to receive a bachelor's degree. These courses must include all of the specific prerequisites for a BS in Agricultural Economics, as well as the courses required by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and by Texas A&M University for an undergraduate degree.

Students in the 3+2 combined program will submit the same materials as other MPSA applicants; the one exception to this is the submission of a 2-page application found on the Bush School website rather than the application at the Texas A&M UniCAS application portal, hence no application fee. Students whose records are judged to be competitive by the mid-January deadline will be invited to attend the GBS Interview Conference Weekend in late February/early March. The admissions criteria for the five-year program will be the same as for other MPSA students.

Students who choose not to finish the MPSA degree after being admitted to the five-year program may exit the program at any time. Completed MPSA courses will be applied to their bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics, and students will select the Agricultural Economics option area that is most appropriate for their interest. Failure to complete the MPSA program will in no way impede their ability to attain a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics when the requirements for that degree are completed.

Advising for the five-year program will involve a coordinated effort by academic advisors in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Advising Center 2 and the Director of the MPSA program in the Bush School. Advising by academic advisors in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Advising Center 2 will help ensure that interested students have satisfied the prerequisite course requirements for their bachelor's degree by the beginning of their senior year. The MPSA director and GBS director of recruiting will also be available for Agricultural Economics students who wish to set up appointments to talk individually about the MPSA program's curriculum and career opportunities available to its graduates.

Students in the five-year program will be required to complete the same curriculum as other students admitted to the Bush School's MPSA program.

## Program Requirements

First Year		Semester Credit Hours
Fall		
AGEC 105	Introduction to Agricultural Economics <sup>1</sup>	3
ENGL 103 or ENGL 104	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition or Composition and Rhetoric	3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	3
American History ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> ) <sup>2</sup>		3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Spring		
AGEC 117	Critical Thinking and Decision Making in Agricultural Economics <sup>3</sup>	1
MATH 142	Business Calculus	3
American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> ) <sup>2</sup>		3
Communication ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication</a> )		3
Creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts</a> ) <sup>4</sup>		3
Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
Second Year		
Fall		
ACCT 209	Survey of Accounting Principles	3
AGEC 217	Fundamentals of Agricultural Economics Analysis	3
ECON 202	Principles of Economics	3
POLS 206	American National Government <sup>2</sup>	3
Language, philosophy and culture ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> ) <sup>4</sup>		3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Spring		
ACCT 210	Survey of Managerial and Cost Accounting Principles	3
ECON 203	Principles of Economics	3
POLS 207	State and Local Government <sup>2</sup>	3
STAT 303	Statistical Methods	3

Life and physical sciences elective (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences>) 3

**Semester Credit Hours 15**

**Summer**

AGEC 314 Marketing Agricultural and Food Products 3

Directed non-agricultural economics elective <sup>4</sup> 3

Select one of the following:

ECMT 461 Economic Data Analysis

ECON 433 Energy Markets and Policy

FSTC 444 Fundamentals of Food Law

GEOG 330 Resources and the Environment  
or  
GEOG 430 or Environmental Justice

GEOS 430 Global Science and Policy Making

MKTG 409 Principles of Marketing

POLS 340 Public Administration

POLS 364 Global Political Thought

POLS 412 International Political Economy

POLS 415 Contemporary Issues in American Foreign Policy

POLS 439 Foreign Policy Decision Making

POLS 440 Public Policies and Policymaking

POLS 447 National Security Policy  
or  
POLS 475 or Government and the Economy

RWFM 436 Natural Resources Policy

URPN 360 Issues in Environmental Quality

WGST 430/  
MGMT 430 Employment Discrimination Law

**Semester Credit Hours 6**

**Third Year**

**Fall**

AGEC 330 Financial Management in Agriculture 3

AGEC 340 Agribusiness Management 3

AGEC 429 Agricultural Policy <sup>3</sup> 3

AGEC 452 International Trade and Agriculture 3  
or AGECE 453 or International Agribusiness Marketing

ECON 323 Microeconomic Theory 3

Directed agricultural economics elective <sup>5</sup> 3

**Semester Credit Hours 18**

**Spring**

AGEC 317 Economic Analysis for Agribusiness Management 3

AGEC 344 Food and Agricultural Law 3

AGEC 350 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics 3

AGEC 430 Macroeconomics of Agriculture 3  
or ECON 311 or Money and Banking

AGEC 481 Ethics in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics 1

Directed agricultural economics elective <sup>5</sup> 3

**Semester Credit Hours 16**

**Summer**

Directed non-agricultural economics elective 3

Select one from the following:

ECMT 461 Economic Data Analysis

ECON 433 Energy Markets and Policy

FSTC 444 Fundamentals of Food Law

GEOG 330 Resources and the Environment  
or  
GEOG 430 or Environmental Justice

GEOS 430 Global Science and Policy Making

MKTG 409 Principles of Marketing

POLS 340 Public Administration

POLS 364 Global Political Thought

POLS 412 International Political Economy

POLS 415 Contemporary Issues in American Foreign Policy

POLS 439 Foreign Policy Decision Making

POLS 440 Public Policies and Policymaking

POLS 447 National Security Policy  
or  
POLS 475 or Government and the Economy

RWFM 436 Natural Resources Policy

URPN 360 Issues in Environmental Quality

WGST 430/  
MGMT 430 Employment Discrimination Law

**Semester Credit Hours 3**

**Fourth Year**

**Fall**

BUSH 631 Quantitative Methods in Public Management I <sup>6</sup> 3

PSAA 601 Foundations of Public Service <sup>6</sup> 3

PSAA 621 Economic Analysis <sup>6</sup> 3  
or ECON 607 or Foundations of Microeconomic Theory

PSAA 643 Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector <sup>6</sup> 3

**Semester Credit Hours 12**

**Spring**

BUSH 632 Quantitative Methods in Public Management II 3  
or BUSH 635 or Quantitative Methods in Public Management II: Policy Analysis Emphasis

PSAA 611 Public Policy Formation 3

PSAA 622 Public Finance <sup>6</sup> 3

AGEC elective 600-level 3

Select one of the following: <sup>6</sup>

AGEC 604/  
PSAA 663 Natural Resource Economics

AGEC 606 Water Resource Economics

AGEC 607 Research Methodology

AGEC 614 Global Food and Agribusiness Policy

AGEC 652 International Agribusiness Trade Analysis

**Semester Credit Hours 12**

**Summer**

Professional Internship

**Semester Credit Hours** **0**

**Fifth Year**

**Fall**

PSAA 675 Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar 3

PSAA 615 Policy Analysis 3

Approved Elective 6

**Semester Credit Hours** **12**

**Spring**

PSAA 676 Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar II 3

Approved Elective 9

**Semester Credit Hours** **12**

**Total Semester Credit Hours** **152**

**Code Title Semester Credit Hours**

**MPSA Degree Requirements 48**

BUSH 631 Quantitative Methods in Public Management I <sup>6</sup>

BUSH 632 Quantitative Methods in Public Management II

or BUSH 635 Quantitative Methods in Public Management II: Policy Analysis Emphasis

PSAA 601 Foundations of Public Service <sup>6</sup>

PSAA 611 Public Policy Formation

PSAA 615 Policy Analysis

PSAA 621 Economic Analysis <sup>6</sup>

PSAA 622 Public Finance <sup>6</sup>

PSAA 643 Foundations of the Nonprofit Sector <sup>6</sup>

PSAA 675 Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar

PSAA 676 Public Service and Administration Capstone Seminar II

Electives

<sup>6</sup> Course double-counted.

The program includes a total of 168 hours with 16 hours being applied toward both the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics and the Master of Public Service Administration. (13 hours of electives and 3 hours of 600-level AGECE coursework).

See the MPSA program in the Graduate and Professional Catalog for the MPSA requirements.

<sup>1</sup> This course meets the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement.

<sup>2</sup> Completion of four semesters of upper-level ROTC may be substituted for 3 hours of American History and 3 hours of Government/Political Science. Students under ROTC contract, see Requirement 7 of the Requirements for Baccalaureate Degree. (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/#requirements-for-baccalaureate-degree>)

<sup>3</sup> All undergraduate students must take at least two courses in their major designated as writing intensive (W). This course is an approved W course.

<sup>4</sup> The Graduation requirements include a requirement for 3 hours of international and cultural diversity courses and 3 hours of cultural discourse courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. See academic advisor.

<sup>5</sup> To be selected in consultation with an advisor.