

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS - BS, POLICY AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OPTION

The Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics, with an option in Policy and Economic Analysis is designed to assist in the development of economic theory and quantitative analysis skills that students can apply to analyze and communicate about agricultural policy and economic issues in Texas, the nation, and the world. The option equips students with analytical skills to understand the causes, nature, and effects of government participation in agriculture; and interrelationship of the American agriculture and agribusiness sector with the political and economic system, public administration, and interest group representation. A student's educational experience is further enriched with supportive high impact opportunities such as participation in the Agriculture and Natural Resource Program (ANRP) Congressional Internship; Texas State Government Internships, Commodity groups and Lobby internship; Study Abroad and Independent research. With the aid of faculty and staff advisors, students in the Policy and Economic Analysis option design their plan of study reflecting their particular future goals by incorporating higher-level electives outside the department. Students interested in graduate education may focus on developing a strong background in the following areas: quantitative analysis, economic theory, and applied economics. Those interested in entering law school may focus on courses in law, political science, and technical writing. Furthermore, those students interested in careers in government and policy may focus on courses in policy, political science, and management.

Graduates are trained for a wide variety of careers in local, state, and federal governments, and also with commodity groups and lobby firms. The program prepares students to continue on to graduate school, or pursue the 5-year combined program (BS AGEC and MPS PSAA (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-economics/bs-mpsaa/>)) with the Bush School of Government and Public Service. A good number of students have pursued this option and continued on to law school.

The BS in Agricultural Economics with a Policy and Economic Analysis option is also offered at the Texas A&M Higher Education Center in McAllen, Texas.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
AGEC 105	Introduction to Agricultural Economics	3
AGLS 101	Modern Agricultural Systems and Renewable Natural Resources	1
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 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) ¹	3

Technical agriculture ^{2,3}		3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring		
AGEC 117	Critical Thinking and Decision Making in Agricultural Economics ⁴	1
MATH 142	Business Calculus	3
	American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) ¹	3
	Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts) ³	3
	Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) ³	3
	Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Second Year		
Fall		
ACCT 209	Survey of Accounting Principles	3
AGEC 217	Fundamentals of Agricultural Economics Analysis	3
ECON 202	Principles of Economics	3
	Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science) ¹	3
	Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
ACCT 210	Survey of Managerial and Cost Accounting Principles	3
ECON 203	Principles of Economics	3
	Communication elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication)	3
	Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science) ¹	3
	Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Third Year		
Fall		
AGEC 314	Marketing Agricultural and Food Products	3
AGEC 340	Agribusiness Management	3
ECON 323	Microeconomic Theory	3
STAT 303	Statistical Methods	3
	Directed non-agricultural economics elective ^{3,5}	3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

AGEC 317	Economic Analysis for Agribusiness Management	3
AGEC 330	Financial Management in Agriculture	3
AGEC 429	Agricultural Policy ⁴	3
AGEC 481	Ethics in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics	1
Directed agricultural economics elective ⁶		3
General elective ^{3,7}		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Fourth Year**Fall**

AGEC 344 or AGECE 452	Food and Agricultural Law or International Trade and Agriculture	3
AGEC 447	Food and Agricultural Price Analysis	3
Directed agricultural economics elective ⁶		3
Directed non-agricultural economics elective ^{3,5}		3
General elective ^{3,7}		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

AGEC 350	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	3
AGEC 430 or ECON 311	Macroeconomics of Agriculture or Money and Banking	3
Directed agricultural economics elective ⁶		3
General elective ^{3,7}		3
Semester Credit Hours		12
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

¹ Students under ROTC contract, see Requirement 7 of the Requirements for a Baccalaureate Degree. (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/#requirements-for-baccalaureate-degree>)

² Any course offered by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, except 285s, 484s, 485s and agricultural economics courses.

³ 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.

⁴ All undergraduate students must take at least two (2) specific courses in their major designated as writing intensive (W). This course is an approved W course.

⁵ Six hours to be selected in one or more departments outside of the Department of Agricultural Economics. A minimum of 3 of these hours must be at the 300- or 400-level. To be selected in consultation with an advisor.

⁶ To be selected in consultation with an advisor.

⁷ Any Texas A&M or transfer course (except ASCC 001 - ASCC 003 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ascc/>); KINE 198 and KINE 199) not used to meet other requirements.