The Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications (ALEC) includes a student-centered faculty and staff offering undergraduate degrees leading to professional careers. Using a blend of asynchronous and synchronous courses, our programs offer a unique combination of practical, hands-on experiences and critical people skills required for success in today’s fast-paced careers. Upon graduation, our students are uniquely equipped for leadership, education, communications, and training roles in the broad field of agricultural sciences and human performance in both domestic and international settings.

We offer four Bachelor of Science degrees: Agricultural Communications and Journalism, Agricultural Leadership and Development, Agricultural Science, and University Studies-Leadership Studies; and four minors: Agricultural Communications and Journalism, Extension Education, International Agricultural Development, and Leadership.

**Degree Programs**

**Agricultural Communications and Journalism (AGCJ)**

This program prepares the student to work in news, magazine, broadcast, public relations, advertising, multimedia, digital cable, or satellite communications. Students in this program will complete courses in writing, editing, and basic digital design. Professional skills courses include publications production, public relations, photography, broadcasting, and electronic communications.

**Agricultural Leadership and Development (ALED)**

This program prepares the student to work with people involved in agriculture and life sciences and other related fields. Students in this program will complete courses in personal and organizational leadership, ethics, and leading change. Specialized courses include courses such as team leadership, leading volunteers, cultural pluralism, and agricultural extension related courses.

**University Studies-Leadership Studies (ALED-USAL)**

This program prepares the student for careers in profit and non-profit organizations, law, politics, public service, military careers, etc. Students have the ability to customize their higher educational experience to suit their future career goals. Specific fields are determined by the students’ interest, which makes each University Studies-Leadership degree as unique as each of our students.

**Agricultural Science (AGSC)**

This program prepares the student for a degree and as well as teacher certification in Secondary Agricultural Science. Students in this program will study educational technologies, instructional design and program planning in agricultural science. The program is aimed at creating high quality high school agricultural science teachers. However, other careers can often benefit from this training in agriculture and education.

For more information about each of our programs, visit the specific majors tab (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/#majorstext) or visit our department web page. (https://alec.tamu.edu/academics/undergraduate/)

**Degree Minors**

We offer four minors, in specific areas, that provide our students with foundational knowledge and concepts required for success in future careers such as communication specialists, Extension educators, and students seeking positions as leaders in domestic or international settings.

- Agricultural Communication and Journalism (AGCJ)
- Extension Education (EXED)
- International Development in Agriculture (IDAG)
- Leadership Studies (LDAG)

NOTE: The LDAG minor can be completed 100% in an asynchronous distance education environment.

For more information on each minor, select the link below or visit our department web page (https://alec.tamu.edu/academics/undergraduate/).

**Faculty**

- Archer, Holli R, Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 2013

- Boyd, Barry L, Associate Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 1991

- Briers, Gary E, Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Iowa State University, 1978

- Dooley, Kim E, Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 1995

- Dunn, Allison L, Assistant Lecturer  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 2018

- Dunsford, Deborah W, Senior Lecturer  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 1993

- Elbert, Chanda D, Associate Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, The Pennsylvania State University, 2000

- Elliot, John F, Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Ohio State University, 1988

- Felton Odom, Summer R, Associate Professor  
  Ag Leadership, Educ & Comm  
  PhD, Texas A&M University, 2011
Majors

- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Communications and Journalism (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/journalism-bs/)
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and Development (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/leadership-development-bs/)
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/agricultural-science-teaching-bs/)
- Bachelor of Science in University Studies, Leadership Studies Concentration (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/leadership-studies-university-studies-bs/)

Minors

- Agricultural Communications and Journalism Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/journalism-minor/)
- Extension Education Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/extension-education-minor/)
- International Agricultural Development Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/international-agricultural-development-minor/)
- Leadership Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/agricultural-leadership-education-communications/leadership-minor/)