Agricultural Business Concentration

Career Opportunities

To help American farmers respond to the increasing demand for agricultural products, at home and abroad, a major industry known as agribusiness has developed. Agribusiness is designed for students who in most cases may not be farming but wish to pursue a career in the agricultural industry. Agribusiness was developed to help the student better understand and make sound technical decisions in response to an ever-changing demand for agricultural products.

The agricultural business program leads to a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. The program prepares students for careers with industry or government. The curriculum is also structured to prepare students for admission to graduate school in either agriculture economics or business administration.

As agriculture is becoming more and more technical and business more sophisticated, it is essential that students receive training in both agriculture and business. In the agriculture business program, technical agriculture and agricultural economics are taught in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, and most business techniques are taught in the College of Business and Public Affairs.

Employment Possibilities

The production of food and fiber, processing them, and transporting the final products to the world's people is the largest enterprise on earth. Everyone everywhere depends on agriculture and thus in some way on agri-business. Colleges of agriculture throughout the country recognize the necessity for trained individuals in the complex fields of agricultural business. It is estimated that nearly 50,000 jobs related to agriculture become available each year and many of them are related to agricultural business.

Some of the many career opportunities available for agricultural business graduates include those in agricultural sales, farm equipment, government services, financial services, grain and feed industries, transportation, foreign trade, agricultural communications and the Agricultural Extension Service. These are just some of the examples of careers in agricultural business, a field which touches practically all areas of agriculture.

Facilities

Modern agricultural laboratories, classrooms and a computer laboratory are located in Brehm Hall and the Ned R. McWherter Agricultural Complex. The student is taught to use the computer, and numerous computer facilities are available for the student's convenience. In some cases, field trips are made to nearby industries and farms to learn their operating procedures.

Sample Program of Study

This list includes all courses required; however, the sequence may be flexible.

Freshman Year

Fall

Agricultural Economics 110: Introduction to Agricultural Business 3
Animal Science 110: Introduction to Animal Science. 3
English 111: English Composition 3
Math 140: College Algebra and Elementary Functions....3
Biological & Physical Systems Elective** 4

Total Hours.....16

Spring

Agricultural Engineering Technology 110: Introduction to Agricultural Engineering 3
English 112: English Composition.....3
Math 160: Calculus for Business and Life Sciences 3
Plant Science 110: Introduction to Plant and Soil Science 3
Biological & Physical Systems Elective** 4

Total Hours.....16

Sophomore Year

Fall

Accounting 201: Financial Accounting for Decision Making 3
Agriculture 295: International Food & Fiber Systems 3
Economics 201: Principles of Microeconomics 3
Math 210: Elementary Statistics & Probability 3
Fine Arts Elective*.....3

Total Hours.....15

Spring

Accounting 202: Managerial Accounting Information for Decision Making 3
Communication 230: Public Speaking 3
Economics 202: Principles of Microeconomics 3
Soil Science 210: Introduction to Soil Science 4
Humanities Elective* 3

Total Hours.....16

Junior Year

Fall

Agriculture 230 or 420: Travel Studies in Agriculture and Natural Resources or Supervised Field Experience.....3
Agricultural Economics 345 or 364: Agribusiness and Scientific Sales or Agricultural Marketing.....3
Agricultural Economics 375: Environmental and Agricultural Law 3
Business Elective*.....3
General Elective* 4

Total Hours.....16

Spring

Agriculture 390: Career Planning in Agriculture 2
Agricultural Economics 325: Agricultural & Natural Resource Policy 3
Agricultural Economics 335: International Agricultural Trade 3
Agricultural Economics 445: Natural Resource Economics 3
Humanities Elective* 3

Total Hours.....14

Senior Year

Fall

Agriculture 441: Interpretation of Agricultural Research ..3
Agricultural Economics 271 or 471: Farm Business Management or Agribusiness Management.....3
AGRI/NRM Elective* 3
Business Elective* 6

Total Hours.....15

Spring

Agricultural Economics 385 or 465: Agribusiness Market Planning or Agricultural Finance 3
Agricultural Economics 485: Math Economics for Agriculture 3
AGRI/NRM Elective* 3
Humanities Elective* 3

Total Hours.....12

*See catalog for options.
** Chemistry 111 or 121 required for entrance into Soil Science 210.

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