

Agribusiness and Applied Economics

Program and Application Information

Department Location:	500 Barry Hall
Department Phone:	(701) 231-7441
Department Email:	ndsu.agribusiness@ndsu.edu
Department Web Site:	www.ag.ndsu.edu/agecon/
Application Deadline:	March 1 to be considered for an assistantship
Degrees Offered:	M.S.
Test Requirement:	GRE (for assistantship consideration)
English Proficiency Requirements:	TOEFL iBT 79 IELTS 6.5

Program Description

The Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics offers two Master of Science degrees: (1) Agribusiness and Applied Economics, and (2) International Agribusiness. Graduates of both programs are prepared to analyze important agricultural development, finance, marketing, policy, production, resource, international trade, and transportation and logistical issues facing society.

The Agribusiness and Applied Economics Master of Science degree includes areas of specialization in applied economics, agribusiness, and transportation and logistics.

The Applied Economics area emphasizes course work in economic theory, research methods, and quantitative techniques. The option is designed to prepare students for careers in agricultural economics research in private and public sectors and for Ph.D. programs at other institutions.

The Agribusiness specialization is a broad-based program which combines training in agribusiness management, economic analysis, and agricultural sciences. Training may include biotechnology, processing, and food and environmental safety. Students are prepared for a variety of successful careers in agribusiness by fulfilling the requirements for expertise in quantitative methods and developing a rigorous background in economic theory and research.

The Departments of Agribusiness and Applied Economics and Civil Engineering, in conjunction with the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, offer an interdisciplinary graduate program in multimodal transportation. The program includes rural and non-metropolitan planning, highway and railroad engineering, freight transportation operations and economics, and agribusiness logistics and distribution. Both thesis and comprehensive study options are available.

Students of all options have complete access to well-equipped research facilities and to faculty supervision time. (A favorable faculty to student ratio is maintained.) The department has an excellent placement record with national and international agricultural and business firms, as well as government agencies.

Admission Requirements

Students who do not meet all requirements for admission or have deficiencies in prerequisite course work, but show potential for successful graduate study, may be admitted under a conditional status. Evidence must be provided showing that the applicant's potential is not adequately reflected by his/her record. After meeting the specified standards of performance set by the department, the student, in consultation with the major adviser, may request a change to full graduate standing.

It is desirable that students begin their program in the fall semester, although students may also begin their program of study in January. The application for admission should be received by the Graduate School by March 1 if the student wishes to be considered for financial assistance. International students are advised to submit applications no later than March 31 to ensure VISA documents will be completed for a fall matriculation.

Financial Assistance

Application for financial assistance should be made to the department at the same time as application to the graduate school. Applicants to graduate school who are accepted in less than full standing will not be eligible for an assistantship until their status changes to full standing. Granting assistantships depends on academic performance, departmental needs, and availability of assistantships. Application forms may be obtained from the department.

Students pursuing a Master of Science in Agribusiness and Applied Economics (thesis option or comprehensive study option) must complete all core courses. Students select elective courses (with approval of the adviser and supervisory committee) to fulfill the remaining Graduate School credit requirements. The core requirements assure breadth and competence in key areas of knowledge and professional activity. It is required that students have competence in calculus, multiple regression analysis, and intermediate microeconomics.

M.S. in Agribusiness and Applied Economics

Required

AGEC 701	Research Philosophy	1
ECON 710	Advanced Econometrics	3
AGEC 739	Analytical Methods for Applied Economics	3
AGEC 741	Advanced Microeconomics	3
AGEC 797	Master's Paper	1-10
or AGECE 798	Master's Thesis	

Thesis Option

- Minimum of 16 credits of approved graduate-level course work
- 6 to 10 credits of AGECE 798 (Thesis)
- Minimum of 30 credits of course work and thesis credits

Comprehensive Study Option

- Minimum of 7 credits of quantitative courses (including ECON 610, ECON 710, AGECE 739, AGECE 711 or other approved quantitative courses)
- Minimum of 21 credits of approved graduate-level course work
- 2 to 4 credits of AGECE 797 (Comprehensive Study)
- Minimum of 30 credits of course work and comprehensive study credits

Robert Hearne, Ph.D.

University of Minnesota, 1995

Research Interests: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

Robert S. Herren, Ph.D.

Duke University, 1975

Research Interests: Economic History, Labor, Money and Banking

Jeremy Jackson, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis, 2008

Research Interests: Microeconomics, Political Economy, Public Finance

Ryan Larsen, Ph.D.

Texas A&M University, 2009

Research Interests: Agricultural Finance, Risk Management

Siew Hoon Lim, Ph.D.

University of Georgia, 2005

Research Interests: Production Economics, Transportation, Industrial Organization

Gregory McKee, Ph.D.

University of California, Davis, 2006

Research Interests: Industrial Organization, Agribusiness, Cooperatives

Dragan Miljkovic, Ph.D.

University of Illinois, 1996

Research Interests: Agricultural Prices, International Trade, Agricultural and Food Marketing and Policy

Frayne Olson, Ph.D.

University of Missouri, 2007

Research Interests: Crop Marketing Strategies, Crop Supply Chain Management, Agricultural Contracting, Agricultural Risk Management

Timothy Petry, M.S.

North Dakota State University, 1973

Research interests: Livestock marketing

David Ripplinger, Ph.D.

North Dakota State University, 2011

Research Interests: Production Economics and Marketing

David Roberts, Ph.D.

Oklahoma State University, 2009

Research Interests: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics, Econometrics, Production Agriculture

David M. Saxowsky, J.D.

The Ohio State University, 1979

Research Interests: Agricultural Law

Saleem Shaik, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska, 1998

Research Interests: Agriculture Policy and Risk Management, Agriculture Production Economics

Cheryl J. Wachenheim, Ph.D.

Michigan State University, 1994

Research Interests: Agribusiness

Tom Wahl, Ph.D.

Iowa State University, 1989

Research Interests: International Marketing and Trade, Agricultural Trade Policy, Marketing and Price Analysis

William W. Wilson, Ph.D.

University of Manitoba, 1980

Research Interests: Commodity Marketing, Agribusiness, Industrial Organization

Lei Zhang, Ph.D.

University of Texas at Dallas, 2011

Research Interests: Applied Econometrics, Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics, Regional and Urban Economics