

# International Agribusiness

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## Department Information

- **Department Chair:**  
William Nganje, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Coordinator:**  
David C. Roberts, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:**  
500 Barry Hall
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-7441
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ag.ndsu.edu/agecon/](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/agecon/) (<http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/agecon/>)
- **Application Deadline:**  
March 1 for fall semester, October 1 for spring semester
- **Credential Offered:**  
M.S.
- **Test Requirement:**  
GRE or GMAT
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL ibt 79; IELTS 6.5; Duolingo 105

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## Program Description

The International Agribusiness M.S. program offered by the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics at North Dakota State University provides both the academic training and the international experience required to excel in an international agribusiness career. The program of study includes course work in applied economics, quantitative methods, and international agribusiness strategy, management, finance, and marketing.

Students are required to have an international experience that may be satisfied by meeting one of three options::

1. The student may participate in an international internship. Both paid and unpaid opportunities exist with international agribusiness companies, with government agencies, or with nonprofit organizations. The semester-long or summer internship can be arranged by the student or in cooperation with NDSU's Office of International Student and Study Abroad Services. Internship programs will be defined by the student and his or her major adviser, and approved by the Graduate Program Committee (GPC) and the student's supervisory committee.
2. Students may participate in graduate courses in business or agribusiness at an international university during a semester-long or summer study abroad program. Study abroad programs will be defined by the student and his or her major adviser, and approved by the GPC and the student's supervisory committee.
3. Students may select at least six additional credits of coursework offered at NDSU related to international business or agribusiness. Courses must be approved by the student's supervisory committee as part of the student's program of study prior to enrollment in the courses.

Students complete the program by writing and defending their comprehensive study papers under the supervision of their graduate committee.

In addition to the Graduate School admission requirements, applicants must have earned a grade of B or higher in intermediate microeconomics and statistics including linear regression, and a grade of C or better in calculus.

Applicants must submit their complete application by March 1 for fall enrollment and October 1 for spring enrollment to guarantee admission and funding consideration. Admission will only be considered for candidates who submit a complete application.

It is desirable that students begin their program in the fall semester, although students may begin their program in the spring.

## Financial Assistance

The Department offers assistantships on a competitive basis. Granting assistantships depends on academic performance, departmental needs, and availability of assistantships. Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs) provide monthly stipends. Students on assistantship perform research or teaching duties in the department in return for their stipend. Most assistantships are half-time (20 hours per week) or one-quarter-time (10 hours per week). Assistantships are typically limited to 16 months.

In addition to the stipend, graduate assistants receive a graduate tuition waiver. Tuition waivers cover base tuition for NDSU graduate credits only. Students are responsible for differential tuition, student fees, and tuition for non-graduate level credits taken or Cooperative Education credits.

Assistantships do not begin until the first semester of full graduate standing when courses that apply for the Master of Science degree are taken.

Students pursuing a Master of Science in International Agribusiness must complete all core courses. Students select elective courses (with approval of their 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. Students participate in an international internship, a study abroad program, or select six additional credits of course work at NDSU related to international agribusiness. The following courses, or their equivalent, constitute the core of the Master of Science program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Courses</b>		
AGEC 701	Research Philosophy	1
AGEC 711	Applied Risk Analysis I	3
AGEC 712	Applied Risk Analysis II	3
AGEC 741	Advanced Microeconomics	3
AGEC 744	Agribusiness I: Agricultural Product Marketing and Agribusiness Strategy	3
AGEC 797	Master's Paper	1-10
or AGECE 798	Master's Thesis	
Select a minimum of 6 credits of the following:		6
ECON 610	Econometrics	
ECON 710	Advanced Econometrics	
AGEC 739	Analytical Methods for Applied Economics	
Or other approved quantitative coursework		
<b>Approved Electives</b>		<b>1 - 9</b>
Total Credits		30 (minimum)

A minimum of 30 credits is necessary to complete the M.S. in International Agribusiness. Credits beyond those required courses listed above may be met through a combination of internship credits, courses taken during an international study program, or NDSU international courses approved by the student's supervisory committee.

**David Bullock, Ph.D.**

Iowa State University, 1989

Research Interests: Futures and Options Markets, Over-The-Counter Derivatives, Trading, Risk Management, Agrifinance, Monte Carlo Simulation, and Big Data Applications in Agriculture

**James Caton, Ph.D.**

George Mason University, 2016

Research Interests: Entrepreneurship Agent-based Computational Economics, Market Process Theory, Monetary Economics

**Erik Hanson, Ph.D.**

University of Minnesota, 2016

Research Interests: Agricultural Finance, Farm Management, Marketing and Production Economics

**Ron Haugen, M.S.**

North Dakota State University, 1989

Research Interests: Farm Management

**Robert Hearne, Ph.D.**

University of Minnesota, 1995

Research Interests: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

**Jeremy Jackson, Ph.D.**

Washington University in St. Louis, 2008

Research Interests: Microeconomics, Political Economy, Public Finance

**Thomas Krumel, Ph.D.**

University of Connecticut, 2020

Research Interests: Rural Development, Labor Demand, and Labor Market Skills Mismatch

**Kerianne Lawson, Ph.D.**

West Virginia University, 2021

Research Interests: Economic Development, Economic Freedom, Law and Economics, Energy Economics

**Siew Hoon Lim, Ph.D.**

University of Georgia, 2005

Research Interests: Production Economics, Transportation, Industrial Organization

**Raymond March, Ph.D.**

Texas Tech University, 2017

Research Interests: Public and Private Provision and Governance of Health Care in the United States

**Dragan Miljkovic, Ph.D.**

University of Illinois, 1996

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

**William Nganje, Ph.D.**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1999

Research Interests: Agricultural Finance, Food Safety Economics

**Frayne Olson, Ph.D.**

University of Missouri, 2007

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

**Bryon Parman, Ph.D.**

Kansas State University, 2013

Research Interests: Whole Farm and Agribusiness Financial Structure, Risk Management, Land Values and Rents, and Farm Financial Trends

**Timothy Petry, M.S.**

North Dakota State University, 1973

Research interests: Livestock Marketing

**Xudong Rao, Ph.D.**

University of Minnesota, 2015

Research Interests: Farm and Agribusiness Management, Risk Analysis, Efficiency and Productivity, Technology Adoption, Food and Agricultural Policy, International Agricultural Development

**Veeshan Rayamajhee, Ph.D.**

University of New Mexico, 2019

Research Interests: Individual and Collective Responses to Covariate Shocks

**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

**Anupa Sharma, Ph.D.**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2016

Research Interests: Economics, Agriculture Business and Management

**Cheryl J. Wachenheim, Ph.D.**

Michigan State University, 1994

Research Interests: Agribusiness

**William W. Wilson, Ph.D.**

University of Manitoba, 1980

Research Interests: Commodity Marketing, Agribusiness, Industrial Organization