Agricultural and Applied Economics

Harvey James, Chair
Agricultural and Applied Economics
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
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The Agricultural and Applied Economics Program offers a BS degree with a major in Agribusiness Management and MS and PhD degrees with a major in Agricultural and Applied Economics. A minor in Agricultural Economics is also available. Agricultural and Applied Economics is home to several programs and research centers where students can seek on-campus work experience.

- Agricultural Electronic Bulletin Board, a web-based clearinghouse for information related to farming and production agriculture
- Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems, a spatial economics and information research and education center
- Commercial Agriculture Program, a multi-disciplinary approach to researching issues and incorporating innovation into production agriculture
- Contracting and Organizations Research Institute, dedicated to enabling and encouraging interdisciplinary empirical research on contracting and organizational structure
- Food Equation Institute, a research center with a focus on biotechnology and other agricultural and technologies relating to food production, distribution and consumption
- Economics and Management of Agrobiotechnology Center, a research institute with a focus on applications of biotechnology on agriculture and food production and distribution
- Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute, a Congressionally-enacted center whose mission is to provide objective analysis of food, agricultural, nutritional and environmental issues
- McQuinn Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, promotes research, teaching, and outreach on the nature, causes, and consequences of entrepreneurship.
- Missouri Institute of Cooperatives, coordinates information and leadership training for cooperatives serving Missouri

Undergraduate

While MU does not offer an undergraduate degree specifically in agricultural and applied economics, the University does offer a bachelor’s degree in the closely related area of Agribusiness Management (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduategraduate/collegeofagriculturefoodandnaturalresources/agribusinessmanagement/#undergraduatetext), as well as other related areas both within the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and in the other Schools and Colleges that make up the University. The catalog provides a complete list of these degree options (http://catalog.missouri.edu/degresanddegreeprograms).

Graduate

- MS in Agricultural and Applied Economics (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduategraduate/collegeofagriculturefoodandnaturalresources/agappiedeconomics/ms-ag-applied-economics)
- PhD in Agricultural and Applied Economics (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduategraduate/collegeofagriculturefoodandnaturalresources/agappiedeconomics/phd-ag-applied-economics)

Agricultural and Applied Economics
214 Mumford Hall; Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-3747
http://dass.missouri.edu/agecon/

Director of Graduate Studies: Harvey James (hjames@missouri.edu)

About the Graduate Programs

The graduate program in Agricultural and Applied Economics is recognized for its innovative approach to graduate training in agricultural economics. A distinguishing feature of the program is the integration of organizational, institutional and welfare economics in both applied and theoretical research. This approach gives the program a competitive advantage.

A PhD or MS degree in agricultural and applied economics prepares students for a rewarding career in academia, agricultural business, government or international agriculture. Students can study agribusiness management, contracting and strategy; collective action and cooperative theory; econometrics and price analysis; entrepreneurship; environmental and natural resource economics; food, biofuel and agricultural policy and regulation; international development; regional economics and rural development policy; science policy and innovation; sustainable agriculture and applied ethics. The MS program may be a step toward the PhD but may also be used as a terminal program for those interested in careers in agribusiness, extension or government. Programs are flexible. All PhD and most MS students become involved in research, but those
whose career interests lie in other directions find the department willing to accommodate them.

Admission Criteria

Fall deadline: February 15
Spring deadline: September 15
Minimum TOEFL score: 80 Internet-based; 550 Paper-based
GRE required

Required Application Materials

To the Office of Graduate Studies:
• All required Graduate Admissions documents

To the Agricultural Economics Program:
• Departmental Application
• 3 letters of recommendation
• Statement of purpose
• Transcripts
• GRE score report

Internal Funding

A 3.25 GPA (A=4.0) is generally a minimum requirement for financial assistance such as fellowships and assistantships for research and teaching. Reasons for supporting a student with a GPA below 3.25 must be documented in detail.

AG_EC 7110: In-Service Course in Agricultural Economics
(cross-leveled with AG_EC 4110). A. Profit Maximizing Principles B. Farm Planning C. Farm Records and Analysis D. Business Management E. Using Computers in Farm Management Decision Making. Basic principles of farm management. Applications of principles and subject matter in successful classroom presentation primarily for high school teachers. Course is offered in sections A-E as listed, for 2 hours each.
Prerequisites:

Credit Hour: 2-10
Prerequisites: instructor's consent. Recommended AG_EC 3260