

AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP

Graduate Programs

Students may pursue graduate studies in agricultural leadership through a Master of Agriculture in Agricultural Education and Leadership, the Master of Science degree in Agricultural Education and Leadership, or the department's Doctor of Philosophy degree programs.

The Master of Agriculture degree is an advanced studies program for practitioners seeking to develop their knowledge related to education, leadership, and their applications to the agricultural industry. Graduates pursue careers in teaching, school administration, Extension, government, corporate agriculture, and human resources and training. The Master of Agriculture program requires 32 approved semester hours of coursework including a 17-hour area of emphasis.

The Master of Science degree in Agricultural Education and Leadership offers students two options for completion of the degree: thesis option or formal report option. The thesis option requires 30 approved credit hours of coursework, which includes a six-credit hour formal thesis following the graduate college format. The formal report option requires 32 approved semester credit hours of coursework, including a two-credit hour formal report.

The Doctor of Philosophy program in Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership is designed to prepare graduates for careers in professional education, supervision, administration, curriculum development and other areas of professional leadership in Agriculture, Agricultural Extension, Career and Technology, and Agricultural Communications. Within the minimum 60-credit hour requirement, 15 credit hours must be completed in the core area. In addition, 15 credit hours must be completed in an area of specialization such as Agricultural Extension, Technical Agriculture, Educational Administration, or other similar areas. The additional hours include 15 hours of research design and statistics and 15 hours for the dissertation.

Admission Requirements

Students seeking admission to the master's degree programs must have earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural leadership or a closely related field. A student with background deficiencies must compensate for such deficiencies before completing the Master of Science degree. Evidence of academic ability (2.80 GPA or above) in undergraduate coursework is required. Three letters of reference and a statement of purpose are also required. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores are required for students seeking admission to the Master of Science degree program.

Admission to the doctoral degree program is based upon evidence the applicant meets the general requirements of the Graduate College, has demonstrated superior achievement, and can successfully complete a doctoral program as evidenced by three letters of recommendation, GRE scores, a minimum of 2.80 undergraduate grade-point average and 3.00 graduate grade-point average, and a philosophy statement and goals. Alternative criteria may be considered by the graduate committee for those who submit ample supportive evidence of other exemplary qualifications.