International Agriculture

The Master of Agriculture degree is designed for students interested in graduate professional training. The degree is offered with specializations in: Agribusiness and Agricultural Leadership.

Purpose

The purpose of this degree is to provide a program which will give additional specialization in technical fields, as well as increased breadth of training. Students who are interested in working toward the PhD degree will generally follow the regular Master of Science degree program.

Character of Program

This program provides a greater breadth of study than the Master of Science program. Emphasis is on practical application of the technical aspects of the discipline as well as discipline interrelationships. In some areas of specialization, the focus is on an applied research concept and a broader program of study than is normally available with the specialized research degree.

Admission Requirements

A baccalaureate degree in Agriculture or a related field is required for admission. The candidate must meet requirements for acceptance into the Graduate College and be recommended by the departmental graduate committee responsible for the program.

Degree Requirements

The requirements for this degree are the same as those listed in the Catalog, Graduate College (http://catalog.okstate.edu/graduate-college/#text) section, under "The Master's Degree."

In addition, each candidate approved for study under this program will be assigned an advisor and advisory committee with whom he or she will develop a plan of study in accordance with guidelines and requirements established in the department responsible for the program.

Shida R. Henneberry, PhD—Professor and Director
Dwayne Cartmell, PhD—Professor and Assistant Director

Master of Agriculture in International Agriculture (MAIA)

The Master of Agriculture in International Agriculture (MAIA) is a multidisciplinary degree program that provides students the diverse background necessary to design, implement and manage agricultural programs in developed and developing areas. The program prepares candidates for positions in the public and private sectors related to international agricultural development and marketing. Graduates work in international agribusinesses, non-profit organizations, development agencies, government and diplomatic service, education, agricultural extension, agricultural trade associations and commodity groups and other positions in global agriculture. Others pursue a personal desire to make a difference in the world by doing agricultural development work in a developing country, or working in areas recovering from a natural disaster. The MAIA is for students who prefer to blend theory and practice to improve the lives of people, develop professional skills and network through an international agricultural experience, develop a focus area to support professional goals, develop broader understanding of world cultures and issues, and engage in international travel.

Three alternatives exist for satisfying requirements for the MAIA degree:

1. 32 credit hours, including two credit hours for a formal report,
2. 36 credit hours and a creative component, and
3. 36 credit hours, including six hours for a professional internship.

A minimum of 21 credit hours must be earned at the 5000-level or above. The creative component, research for formal report, and professional internship are expected to be in the area of international agriculture. Each student must take 14 semester credit hours of approved core courses, a minimum of 12 semester credit hours of focus area courses, and at least three hours of electives. Each student is required to complete an international experience of four weeks or longer.

Master of Science in International Agriculture (MSIA)

The Master of Science in International Agriculture is designed to prepare candidates for positions in the public and private sectors related to agricultural sciences and natural resources, or for continuation into a Ph.D. program. The MSIA accommodates those students who prefer to take theoretical courses preparing them for research. This program will provide students the theoretical, science and research backgrounds necessary to design, implement and manage agricultural programs in developed and developing countries. It allows participants to blend theory and practice to improve the lives of people. Advanced study leading to the Master of Science degree in the field of International Agriculture prepares students for such professional careers as business analyst, international trade and development specialist, college-level educator, agricultural extension specialist, and professional work with non-profit organizations, government sectors, and agricultural commodity groups. The program is multidisciplinary, allowing students the freedom to focus on the area of study they choose.

Three alternatives exist for satisfying requirements for the MSIA degree:

1. 30 credit hours, consisting of 24 hours of coursework and six hours for a thesis
2. 32 credit hours, consisting of 30 hours of coursework and two hours of formal report
3. 36 credit hours of coursework, including six hours for a creative component

Degree candidates are expected to conduct research related to a topic on international agriculture. The requirements include one course in statistics, or quantitative/qualitative analysis and one course in research methodology.