

# The Master of Science with Concentration in Agribusiness

## FALL

3-AEB 6106 Microeconomic Principles and Analysis  
3-AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm  
3-AEB 6385 Management Strategies for Agribusiness Firms

## SPRING

3-AEB 6183 Agribusiness Risk Management  
3-AEB 6553 Elements of Econometrics  
3-AEB 6817 Survey Research Methods for Agribusiness

## SUMMER C

3-AEB 6942 Advanced Applications in Agribusiness Experience

## FALL

3-STA 6166 Statistical Methods in Research I  
6-Electives

Total minimum credit hours required: 30  
Course schedule subject to change at department's discretion.

## Final Oral Exam

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Students must pass a final oral examination and submit a paper, both of which are based on the internship experience. The pass/fail for the final oral examination is based on the presentation while the letter grade in the AEB 6942 course is based on the paper. The date of the presentation is set at the beginning of the summer semester and all students are required to participate in person and remain in attendance.

### STEPS TO PREPARE FOR FINAL TERM AND GRADUATION

1. Register for minimum 3 hours in fall/spring, 2 hours in summer of actual coursework (not research!)
2. Apply for the degree via ISIS
3. Make arrangements for cap and gown.
4. Graduate Office will perform graduation check and email student with results
5. Log onto GIMS to verify degree title, minor and committee info are correct.
6. Review Graduate School deadlines
7. On the day of the final oral examination/presentation, obtain signature forms (Final Oral Exam Form) from Jessica Herman.
8. Return any keys or equipment to Kathy Green in 1170 McCarty Hall.
9. Pay any outstanding fees
10. Complete exit survey.

### THE PRESENTATION

1. Created in power point, submitted via email, two days in advance of presentation date.
2. 15-20 minutes followed by short Q&A.
3. Must include key points from your paper (background, problems, and findings).
4. Graded pass/fail by student's supervisory committee chair.

### THE FINAL PAPER (SUGGESTED FORMAT)

1. Should be in greater details relative to the oral presentation.
2. Background/situation (including name of organization and duties).
3. Methods used to solve/deal with the problem.
4. Problem statement.
5. Findings, recommendations.
6. Letter graded by student's supervisory committee chair.

# Internship

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The internship is an educational program in which students work with employers to improve the skills and knowledge needed in their prospective vocation. The objectives of the internship include:

1. Provide an opportunity for learning experience relevant to the student's degree program.
2. Permit students' independent exploration of their fields of interest.
3. Assist students in establishing career goals related to their interests and professional aspirations.
4. Prepare students for employment through field training and professional experience.
5. Make students aware of additional training/experience necessary to reach their career goals.

While many internships are compensated, some are not. According to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), "internships in the "for-profit" private sector will most often be viewed as employment, unless the test described below relating to trainees is met. Interns in the "for-profit" private sector who qualify as employees rather than trainees typically must be paid at least the minimum wage and overtime compensation for hours worked over forty in a workweek."

Below are the criteria to be applied when making this determination regarding employees vs. trainees:

The internship, even though it includes actual operation of the facilities of the employer, is similar to training which would be given in an educational environment.

1. The internship experience is for the benefit of the intern;
2. The intern does not displace regular employees, but works under close supervision of existing staff;
3. The employer that provides the training derives no immediate advantage from the activities of the intern; and on occasion its operations may actually be impeded;
4. The intern is not necessarily entitled to a job at the conclusion of the internship; and
5. The employer and the intern understand that the intern is not entitled to wages for the time spent in the internship.

If all of the factors listed are met, an employment relationship does not exist under the FLSA, and the Act's minimum wage and overtime provisions do not apply to the intern.

A faculty member also serving as the student's supervisory committee chair must approve the internship in advance. Students should download the "Guide to the Graduate Internship" and read it carefully before embarking on the internship search.

An internship experience is a valuable part of the educational program in preparation for a professional career. In order to evaluate progress and the outcome of the internship, students must submit a short paper and oral presentation of what was gained from the experience.

## Supervisory Committee

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The general duties of the supervisory committee includes informing the student of all regulations governing the degree sought, checking the qualifications of the student, and planning and approving a program of study. Students must choose a supervisory committee by the end of the first semester. The MSAB requires one member who also serves as Chair. The Chair of the committee must be a graduate faculty member within FRED. Students, for their own reasons, may choose to have additional members. This is optional.

No changes in a supervisory committee may be made during a student's final semester without a letter from the committee

chair to the Graduate Student Records Office, justifying the change. Any change must be completed prior to the final examination and before the midpoint deadline of the term. Open and frequent communication between the student and the chair of the supervisory committee is a very important part of the graduate experience. Although it is the duty of the supervisory committee to inform the student of all regulations governing the degree sought, this does not absolve the student from the responsibility of being informed concerning these regulations.

## Minor

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Students may choose a minor (6 hours) and if so, must include on their committee a faculty member from the minor department. Minimum 3.0 GPA required to graduate with the minor.

## Transfer of credit

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Students who have taken graduate level courses as an undergraduate may transfer in a maximum of twelve hours of graduate work, which must be done in the first semester, if they meet the following requirements:

1. Approval of the FRED Graduate Program.
2. B or better grade in the course(s).
3. Courses were not used towards the student's undergraduate degree (with the exception of students officially enrolled in and approved for the Combined Degree Program).

## Undergraduate coursework

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Graduate students may take a maximum of 6 hours of undergraduate coursework or two undergraduate courses so long as the courses are 3000-4000 level, letter-graded and do not begin with the AEB prefix.