

Agricultural Economics

Contact Information

Department of Agricultural Economics
200 Mumford Hall
573-882-3747

<http://dass.missouri.edu/agecon/grad/>

About Agricultural Economics Graduate Programs

A leader in the application of new institutional economics to agriculture, development, and policy analysis, the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri is recognized for its innovative approach to graduate training in agricultural economics.

A PhD or MS degree in agricultural 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.

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.

Agricultural Economics Faculty

Georgeanne Artz

assistant professor, PhD, Iowa State University. Public policy, regional economics.

continued on next page

D. Scott Brown

research assistant professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Policy analysis.

Fabio Chaddad

assistant professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Agribusiness management.

Chris Boessen

teaching assistant professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Agribusiness management.

Michael L. Cook

professor, PhD, University of Wisconsin. Agribusiness managements, cooperatives, marketing and structure of markets.

Jan Dauve

teaching associate professor, PhD, Colorado State University. Economic education and natural resource economics.

Brady J. Deaton

chancellor, PhD, University of Wisconsin. Economic development.

Harvey James

associate professor, PhD, Washington University. Agribusiness management, applied ethics.

Thomas G. Johnson

professor, PhD, Oregon State University. Regional economics.

Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes

professor, PhD, University of Florida. Economics of technology and innovation.

Michael S. Kaylen

associate professor, PhD, Purdue University. Economic development and natural resources.

Peter Klein

associate professor, PhD, University of California-Berkley. Agribusiness management, industrial organization, financial economics.

continued on next page



Raymond Massey

extension professor, PhD, Oklahoma State University. Crop economics.

Stephen F. Matthews

professor, PhD, JD, University of Missouri. Environmental, agricultural, agribusiness and biotechnology law.

Laura McCann

associate professor, PhD, University of Minnesota. Environmental economics, transaction costs of agri-environmental policies, international development.

Seth Meyer

research assistant professor, PhD. Policy analysis.

Willi Meyers

professor, PhD, University of Minnesota. Policy analysis and international trade.

Michael J. Monson

associate professor, PhD, University of Florida. Farm management, production and resource economics.

Kevin C. Moore

associate professor, PhD, Iowa State University. Farm management, production and finance.

Joe Parcell

associate professor, PhD, Kansas State University. Agriculture marketing.

Vern L. Pierce

extension associate professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Beef economics.

Ronald L. Plain

professor, PhD, Oklahoma State University. Livestock marketing.

Tony Prato

professor, PhD, University of California-Berkeley. Resource and environmental economics.

continued on next page



Judy Stallmann

professor, PhD, Michigan State University. Community economics and state and local public finance.

Michael Sykuta

associate professor, PhD, Washington University. Agribusiness management.

Wyatt Thompson

assistant professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Policy analysis.

Corinne Valdivia

associate professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Economic development and agricultural research policy.

Randall Westgren

professor, PhD, Purdue University. Economics of entrepreneurship, strategic management in the agri-food sector, competitiveness

Patrick Westhoff

research associate professor, PhD, Iowa State University. Policy analysis.

Handy Williamson

vice provost for international programs and faculty development, professor, PhD, University of Missouri. Economic Development.

Abner W. Womack

professor, PhD, University of Minnesota. Policy analysis and information systems.

Yin Xia

assistant professor, PhD, Oregon State University. Biotechnology, productivity and technical change, and science and technology policy.

Master's Degree in Agricultural Economics

Admission Contact Information

Jody Pestle, pestlej@missouri.edu
 200 Mumford Hall; Columbia, MO 65211
 573-882-3747

continued on next page



Admission Criteria

Fall deadline: February 15
 Spring deadline: September 15
 Minimum TOEFL score: 550/80 (paper/internet)

Required Application Materials

[To the Graduate School](#) (210 Jesse Hall; Columbia, MO 65211):
 All required Graduate School documents

[To the Agricultural Economics Program:](#)

- Departmental Application (PDF)
- 3 letters of recommendation (PDF)
- Statement of purpose
- GRE score report

Financial Aid from the Program

Some programs require an extra form or statement from those who wish to be considered for internal assistantships, fellowships or other funding packages. Check the program Web site or ask the program contact for details.

Prerequisites

Before admission to the MS program, a student should have completed at least nine hours of agricultural economics or economics, a course in calculus and one in statistics.

Graduation Requirements

For the MS degree, students must complete a minimum of 30 hours selected from courses accepted for graduate credit. The program must include graduate-level courses in intermediate microeconomic theory, intermediate macroeconomic theory, and multiple regression analysis. Students opting for the MS thesis must also complete at least six credit hours of research as part of the minimum 30 hours. An alternative MS non-thesis program requires that some additional course work be substituted for thesis research.

For More Information

For further information on admissions or financial assistance, write to Harvey James, director of graduate studies in agricultural economics, 200 Mumford Hall, Columbia, MO 65211, or hjames@missouri.edu.

continued on next page



Doctoral Degree in Agricultural Economics

Admission Contact Information

Jody Pestle, pestlej@missouri.edu
 200 Mumford Hall; Columbia, MO 65211
 573-882-3747

Admission Criteria

Fall deadline: February 15
 Spring deadline: September 15
 Minimum TOEFL score: 550/80 (paper/internet)

Required Application Materials

[To the Graduate School](#) (210 Jesse Hall; Columbia, MO 65211):
 All required Graduate School documents

[To the Agricultural Economics Program:](#)

- Departmental Application (PDF)
- 3 letters of recommendation (PDF)
- Statement of purpose
- GRE score report

Financial Aid from the Program

Some programs require an extra form or statement from those who wish to be considered for internal assistantships, fellowships or other funding packages. Check the program Web site or ask the program contact for details.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites for the PhD program include courses in Intermediate microeconomics; Intermediate macroeconomics; Quantitative or mathematical economics; Statistics, Econometrics or regression and correlation analysis; and calculus. Departmental acceptance of the student as a PhD candidate is based upon satisfactory performance on a qualifying examination process that is part of the first year of course work. A master's degree in economics, agricultural economics, or a related field, is preferred but not required for admittance into the Ph.D. program. However, applicants to the PhD program without a master's degree will be admitted initially into the master's program with the expectation that they complete the MS degree including MS thesis before continuing with their doctoral studies.

continued on next page



Graduation Requirements

The size, quality and diversity of the faculty provide a broad choice of advisers and research topics. Students may specialize in agribusiness management; resources and development; or markets, trade and policy analysis. The student and the doctoral advisory committee have considerable latitude in developing a plan of study. There is no foreign language requirement. The general course requirements for the PhD consist of courses in advanced microeconomic theory, new institutional economics, welfare economics, econometrics and research methodology, followed by a well-balanced selection of elective and research courses in agricultural economics and other disciplines at the 8000/9000 level. The course of study should prepare the student for the written qualifying exam taken after the first year of courses, the comprehensive exam assessing the student's competency in his or her chosen fields of study, independent research and the dissertation. A research paper prepared during the second year of study is also required. A dissertation embodying the results of original research must be written on a subject approved by the program committee. An oral examination over the dissertation completes the degree requirements.

For More Information

For further information on admissions or financial assistance, write to Harvey James, director of graduate studies in agricultural economics, 200 Mumford Hall, Columbia, MO 65211, or hjames@missouri.edu.

Courses

[See Agricultural Economics \(AG EC\) in the MyZou online system.](#)

END OF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION