

Agricultural and Extension Education

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Degrees Offered

- Master of Science with a major in Agricultural and Extension Education
- Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Agricultural and Extension Education

There are two graduate options available in Agricultural and Extension Education. Individuals desiring advanced study in teaching agriculture in public schools, communication and leadership, or extension education may earn a master of science in agricultural and extension education. For individuals interested in the opportunity to study and conduct research with faculty in agricultural and extension education, a Ph.D. in resource management and sustainable development with an emphasis in agricultural and extension education is available.

The Agricultural and Extension Education faculty offer master's programs for persons desiring advanced study in teaching agriculture in public schools, communications and leadership, or extension education. Candidates for the master of science degree may be admitted on a regular or provisional basis. A student who does not have a B.S. in agriculture with a major in agricultural and extension education may be required to complete undergraduate courses in agriculture and professional education if he or she plans to obtain certification to teach. Students in the curriculum take graduate courses in both technical and professional education. Programs are planned to ensure that candidates develop competence in the following areas:

- Communications and leadership
- Design, operation, and philosophy of agricultural and extension education programs
- Research and evaluation processes (In addition, students pursuing programs that emphasize agricultural and extension education will be expected to develop an understanding of teaching/learning processes.)

A candidate for the M.S. degree in Agricultural and Extension Education must meet all University, College, School, and Program requirements as outlined in the WVU Graduate Catalog.

Program Requirements

All M.S. degree candidates are required to follow a planned program of study. The student develops the plan of study during their first year in the program in conjunction with his/her graduate committee. The plan must be approved by the candidate's graduate committee, Director of the School for Design and Community Development and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Davis College.

All students will conduct a research study and submit the results in the form of a thesis to the WVU ETD Repository. Students with an Extension Education area of emphasis must complete AGEE 650 (Program Development in Community Education) and AGEE 651 (Program Evaluation in Comm Ed.).

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in all courses applied toward degree requirements.

Course Requirements as determined by the Plan of Study *	24
AGEE 642 Agriculture Education Research Methods and Design	3
AGEE 644 Data Analysis/Interpretation	3
Total Hours	30

* Students must complete a minimum of 30 total hours, of which at least 24 hours must be coursework other than research, thesis, project, internship, etc. credits.

A candidate for the Ph.D. degree in Agriculture and Extension Education must meet all University, College, Division, and Program requirements as outlined in the WVU Graduate catalog.

Program Requirements

All Ph.D. degree candidates are required to follow a planned program of study. The student develops the plan of study during their first year in the program in conjunction with the graduate committee. The plan must be approved by the candidate's graduate committee, Director of the School of Design and Community Development, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Davis College.

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in all courses applied toward degree requirements.

Course Requirements as determined by the plan of study. The plan of study must include:	
AGEE 642 Agriculture Education Research Methods and Design	3
AGEE 644 Data Analysis/Interpretation	3

AGEE 650	Program Development in Community Education	3
AGEE 651	Program Evaluation in Comm Ed	3
Candidacy Exam		
Research		12
Dissertation		
Dissertation Defense		

Agriculture and Extension Education Area of Emphasis Requirements

A minimum of 6 and no more than 12 hours of coursework within an approved major but distinct from required major coursework will be completed as determined by the plan of study. The plan of study must include a minimum of 12 hours of research.

Beyond the core, AGEE majors take four courses covering research design, data analysis, program development, and program evaluation. Additional courses in teaching and learning theory, educational psychology, supervision, administration and leadership, and statistics are recommended. Students will have two fields of specialization consisting of a minimum of twelve to fifteen semester hours of coursework each, not counting research.

Beyond the core, HCD majors take four courses covering research design, data analysis, program development, and program evaluation. Additional courses related to qualitative research, policy, administration, and the philosophical, theoretical, and empirical foundations related to human community growth and sustainability are recommended. Students will have two fields or specialization consisting of a minimum of twelve to fifteen semester hours of coursework each.

Major Learning Outcomes

AGRICULTURAL AND EXTENSION EDUCATION

Upon completion of the Master of Science degree, all students will:

- Complete a minimum of 24 hours of coursework in an area of emphasis selected by the student and his/her adviser.
- Complete a minimum of 6 hours of coursework in research methods and data analysis.
- Conduct an “agricultural education” research study (maximum of 6 hours credit) on a topic of interest to the student.
- Present the findings from their research study in a professional manner including the completion of a thesis approved by West Virginia University’s Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) system.

Students may be admitted to the Agricultural and Extension Education Master of Science program to complete hours/courses needed to maintain their teaching certification.