Agricultural and Extension Education

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Degrees Offered

- Master of Science
- Doctor of Philosophy

Nature of the Program

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGEE 642</td>
<td>Agriculture Education Research Methods and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGEE 644</td>
<td>Data Analysis/Interpretation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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:

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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.

COURSES

AGEE 591. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation in advanced topics that are not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

AGEE 592. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

AGEE 593. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

AGEE 594. Seminar. 1-6 Hours.
Special seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.

AGEE 595. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.
Faculty-supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

AGEE 631. Planning Agricultural Programs and Courses. 3 Hours.
PR: AGEE 430 or Consent. Formulating programs and courses for schools and communities.

AGEE 642. Agriculture Education Research Methods and Design. 3 Hours.
Explores definition of the problem, identification of related literature, selection of an appropriate research design, interpretation of results from data analysis procedures, and the reporting of research findings with emphasis on agricultural education.

AGEE 644. Data Analysis/Interpretation. 3 Hours.
Explores the selection of appropriate statistical methods, use of statistical software packages to analyze data, interpretation of results from data analysis procedures, and the report of research findings with emphasis on agricultural education.

AGEE 650. Program Development in Community Education. 3 Hours.
Planning, implementation and evaluation of programs in non-formal rural and community educational settings.
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 651</td>
<td>Program Evaluation in Comm Ed. 3 Hours.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Evaluation principals, models, designs and procedures used in developing and analyzing agricultural and extension education programs. Evaluations role in needs assessments, implementation and marketing to stakeholders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 690</td>
<td>Teaching Practicum. 1-3 Hours.</td>
<td></td>
<td>PR: Consent. Supervised practice in college teaching of agricultural and environmental education. Note: This course is intended to insure that graduate assistants are adequately prepared and supervised when they are given college teaching responsibility. It also provides a mechanism for students not on assistantships to gain teaching experience. (Grading will be S/U.).</td>
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<td>Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.</td>
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<td>A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.</td>
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<td>AGE 694</td>
<td>Seminar. 1-6 Hours.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Special seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.</td>
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<td>AGE 695</td>
<td>Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.</td>
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<td>Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 696</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar. 1 Hour.</td>
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<td>PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.</td>
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<td>AGE 697</td>
<td>Research. 1-15 Hours.</td>
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<td>PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 698</td>
<td>Thesis or Dissertation. 1-6 Hours.</td>
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<td>PR: Consent. This is an optional course for programs that wish to provide formal supervision during the writing of student reports (698), or dissertations (798). Grading is normal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 699</td>
<td>Graduate Colloquium. 1-6 Hours.</td>
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<td>PR: Consent. For graduate students not seeking coursework credit but who wish to meet residency requirements, use of the University’s facilities, and participate in its academic and cultural programs. Note: Graduate students who are not actively involved in coursework or research are entitled, through enrollment in their department’s 699/799 Graduate Colloquium to consult with graduate faculty, participate in both formal and informal academic activities sponsored by their program, and retain all of the rights and privileges of duly enrolled students. Grading is S/U; colloquium credit may not be counted against credit requirements for masters programs. Registration for one credit of 699/799 graduate colloquium satisfies the University requirement of registration in the semester in which graduation occurs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 900</td>
<td>Professional Development. 1-6 Hours.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Professional development courses provide skill renewal or enhancement in a professional field or content area (e.g. education, community health, geology). The continuing education courses are graded on a pass/fail grading scale and do not apply as graduate credit toward a degree program.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGE 930</td>
<td>Professional Development. 1-6 Hours.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Professional development courses provide skill renewal or enhancement in a professional field or content area (e.g. education, community health, geology). These tuition waived continuing education courses are graded on a pass/fail grading scale and do not apply as graduate credit toward a degree program.</td>
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