Revision Of Undergraduate And Graduate Programs

Format For Review By University Curriculum Committee (UCC) and Graduate Council.

1. Proposing College / School: Agriculture
   Department: Ag. Economics & Rur. Sociology

2. Title of Affected Program: Applied Economics

3. CIP Code of Affected Program: 45.0602
   (If applicable)

4. Proposed Implementation Date: Spring 2010

5. Justification:
   (Include a concise, yet adequate rationale for the revision of the program, citing accreditation, assessments (faculty, graduate, and/or external) where applicable.)

   Re-orient the PhD core to improve the student's ability to compete in the job market, contribute to the department's research program, and advance the scholarly literature. This will be done by streamlining course offerings and the prelim exam, refocusing the econometrics sequence to emphasize large-scale data sets, and by introducing a research paper requirement.

6. Current Degree Requirements (Including All Formal Options):
   (Provide the current curriculum model for the program, as well as for each formal option.)

   See attached form.

7. Proposed Degree Requirements (Including All Formal Options):
   (Provide the proposed curriculum model for the program, as well as for each formal option.)

   See attached form.

8. New Courses Required:
   (Indicate which courses -- if any -- are part of the curriculum that are not currently offered.)

   AGE 7690, AGE 8690, AGE 8310, AGE 8090

9. Relationship of Proposed Program to Other Auburn University Programs:
   (If the proposed program revision affects any other unit and/or covers material offered by another college/school, attach correspondence with relevant unit.)

   Will the program revision affect other program(s) and/or units at Auburn University?  ● Yes  ● No

   Will the program revision replace any existing program(s), or specializations / options / concentrations within existing program(s) at Auburn University?  ● Yes  ● No
10. New or Additional Resources / Resource Shifting Required:
   (If "yes" for any item, please provide explanation in the space provided below.)
   
   Will additional faculty lines be required?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   Will new or additional space (e.g.: laboratory or classroom) be required?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   Will additional library resources be required?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   Will additional GTA support be required?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   
   Explanation of or provision for new or additional resources / explanation of program's support or replacement of other programs:
   N/A

11. Distance Education:
   (If Distance Education will be incorporated in the delivery of the proposed program, provide details of implementation, scope, etc.)
   
   N/A
Graduate degrees in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (DAERS) include the master of science and master of agriculture in agricultural economics or rural sociology, as well as the applied economics PhD. Admission to any masters program requires a related bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution with 15 semester hours in related courses including economics, sociology, statistics, or related subjects accepted by the Graduate Committee. The MS in agricultural economics requires a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit with up to 6 hours of thesis research. There is a non-thesis option with 36 hours of courses. The program of study, including course work and thesis, will be planned in a field of interest including agricultural marketing, production economics, markets and prices, resource economics, environmental economics, agricultural finance, agricultural policy, international economics, or farm management. Graduate study in rural sociology in either the MS or MA degree is available through the interdepartmental graduate program involving rural sociologists from DAERS as well as sociologists and anthropologists from the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work and the Department of Sociology at AUM. More information can be found in the Interdepartmental Programs. The master of agriculture in either agricultural economics or rural sociology requires 32 graduate credit hours, 18 in the major, as approved by the advisory committee. A final oral examination is given by the advisory committee. The MBA in agribusiness or natural resources and environmental management is offered in coordination with the College of Business. Requirements include 36 graduate credit hours with 24 hours in business and 12 hours in agricultural economics or a closely related area approved by the director of the MBA program and the major professor in DAERS. The Applied Economics PhD involves faculty in the Department of Economics and the School of Forestry. Students must complete 42 credit hours beyond a master’s degree or 60 hours beyond a bachelor’s degree, plus at least 10 hours of dissertation research. Students must also pass written preliminary examinations in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics. There is an oral examination on the field and proposed dissertation research, and a final oral defense of the dissertation.