Request to Add/Change a Graduate Program/Option

Title: MS in Agricultural Economics

Curriculum Code: 01.0103 (ACHE clp) College: Agriculture/Graduate

Dept: Agricultural Economics & Rural Sociology Date: July 10, 2009

Proposed Graduate Program/Option:
Change program to: 30 semester hours of graduate credit with up to 6 hours of thesis research. Required courses are: Research Methods (AGEC 7700), Mathematical Economics (ECON 7130), Econometrics 1 (AGEC 7590), and Advanced Microeconomics 1 (ECON 6020). Course substitution for Econ 6020 is allowed with approval of the Graduate Program Officer. There is a non-thesis option with 36 hours of courses.

Justification:
The proposed change specifies four classes that provide the basis for disciplinary understanding at the MS level. Removes requirement that at least 20 hours be in the department to increase flexibility for course offerings.

Additional resources or resource shifting required. If none, please explain.
None. Courses are currently offered and taken by all or almost all MS students.

Approvals

Graduate Requests

Department

Head

Date

College/School Curriculum Committee

Chair

Date

College or School

Dean

Date

Graduate Council

Chair

Date

University Curriculum Committee

Chair

Date
and a strong academic background in the fundamentals of business and accounting.

Requirements for the MAC include 30 semester hours of course work including a capstone course (ACCT 7980/7986) and a four and one-half day on-campus residency. The curriculum offers students the flexibility to tailor the program to meet their specific career objectives. Students take only four core courses and choose three accounting electives and three business electives. The MAC degree can be earned as a traditional, on-campus study for the video-based outreach program or its equivalent from an institution of recognized standing, plus satisfactory GRE scores. Degrees in mathematics, physics and certain other engineering disciplines may also be appropriate for entrance into the graduate program. Applicants must be approved by the department's committee on graduate study.

For the master of science, the student must complete an approved program of at least 30 credit hours in aerospace engineering or closely related supporting subjects at the 6000 level or above. The master of science degree requirements include the completion of a thesis under the supervision of a major professor and an advisory committee.

Aerospace Engineering - MAE., MS, PhD
Graduate study in aerospace engineering leads to the degrees of master of science, master of aerospace engineering and the doctor of philosophy. The graduate program prepares students for careers in the aerospace industry, in government laboratories and in academia. Studies for the PhD also are designed to produce research scholars.

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering or its equivalent from an institution of recognized standing, plus satisfactory GRE scores. Degrees in mathematics, physics and certain other engineering disciplines may also be appropriate for entrance into the graduate program. Applications must be approved by the department's committee on graduate study.

For the master of science, the student must complete an approved program of at least 30 credit hours in aerospace engineering or closely related supporting subjects at the 6000 level or above. The master of science degree requirements include the completion of a thesis under the supervision of a major professor and an advisory committee.

For the master of science in economics, the student must complete an approved program of at least 30 hours of course work at the 6000 level or above. A suitable project in aerospace engineering, culminating in a final written report approved by the student's advisory committee, may be substituted for three credit hours of course work. An oral presentation is also required for the MAE degree.

For both the MS and MAE degrees, at least half of the required credit hours must be completed in aerospace engineering courses.

For the doctor of philosophy degree, the student must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree. A plan of study will be arranged on an individual basis and students may elect to specialize in the general areas of aerodynamics, computational fluid dynamics, control theory, flight dynamics, orbital mechanics, propulsion, structures or structural dynamics. A written qualifying examination and a general doctoral examination, with both written and oral parts, are required of each student.

There is no language requirement for the master's or PhD degrees.

Agricultural Economics & Rural Sociology - MS, MAg
Graduate degrees in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (DAERS) include the master of science and master of agricultural economics or rural sociology, as well as the applied economics PhD.

The Master of Agricultural Economics (MAE) degree requires successful completion of a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit with a 3.0 GPA. The master's degree program is designed for students who wish to pursue careers in agricultural policy, international economics, or farm management.

Admission to the MS degree program requires that student have the bachelor's degree in agricultural economics or rural sociology, along with a strong academic background in the fundamentals of business and accounting.

Requirements for the MAE include 30 semester hours of course work including a capstone course (AGED 7980/7986) and a four and one-half day on-campus residency. The curriculum offers students the flexibility to tailor the program to meet their specific career objectives. Students take only four core courses and choose three agricultural economics electives and three business electives. The MAE degree can be earned as a traditional, on-campus study or through the video-based outreach program.

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 32 graduate credit hours, 18 in the major, as approved by the advisory committee. A final oral examination is given by the advisory committee.

Admission to the MS degree program requires that student have the bachelor's degree in agricultural economics or rural sociology, along with a strong academic background in the fundamentals of 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 one or more 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.

Agronomy and Soils - MS, MAg, PhD
Graduate training in this department enables outstanding students to achieve a high level of scholarly attainment in the soil, crop and environmental sciences. Within these broad areas, research training and experience may be gained in the specialized fields of soil fertility and plant nutrition; soil chemistry; soil genesis, morphology and classification; soil mineralogy; soil physics; soil microbiology; plant breeding and genetics; weed science; forage, fiber, bioenergy and grain crop production; crop ecology; environmental quality; and turf management.

There is no specific schedule of courses for graduate students in this department. Candidates for advanced degrees should have adequate preparation in general science and in their area of specialization. The Graduate Studies Committee evaluates each applicant's record and determines prerequisite deficiencies. Qualified students lacking prerequisite subjects can be admitted, but will be required to complete course work to satisfy deficiencies. After clearing pre-requisites, the course of study is determined by the student and advisory committee. Students are encouraged to take courses offered by other departments, especially those offered in chemistry, entomology, plant pathology, plant physiology, physics, botany, statistics, zoology, and horticulture.

There is no foreign language requirement.

Three degrees are offered: 1) master of science (MS), earned only under the thesis option; 2) master of agriculture (MAg) earned under the non-thesis option; and 3) doctor of philosophy (PhD), which requires a dissertation. The department also participates in the interdisciplinary minor in environmental studies.

Graduate students in a program requiring a thesis or a dissertation will register for at least one hour of AGRN 7990 or AGRN 8990 per semester. Research Associates and similar classifications who also are graduate students are exempt from this requirement but must complete 10 hours of 7990 in the master's program or 20 hours of 8990 in Ph.D. program.

Animal Sciences - MS, MAg, PhD
Graduate study in animal sciences is directed toward the master's and doctoral degrees. The master of agriculture (MAg) is offered as a non-thesis degree and prepares students for careers in secondary education, Cooperative Extension and agribusiness. Graduate programs leading to the MS and PhD degrees provide advanced education and technical training in preparation for careers in public and private sectors related to animal science and technology, food science and technology, animal biotechnology, agribusiness, and university research and education. Areas of specialization include animal nutrition, biochemistry and molecular biology, microbiology, behavior, growth biology, meat science and muscle biology, quantitative genetics and reproductive biology. Interdepartmental minor programs in animal sciences and molecular biosciences, ecology and environmental sciences are also available.

The MAg degree requires successful completion of a minimum of 30 credit hours, 21 of which must be in the agricultural or related sciences. Additional courses may be required for individual students.

Admission to the MS degree program requires that student have the bachelor's degree or evidence satisfactory progress toward attainment of the bachelor's degree in animal sciences or a related area. Applicants lacking suitable preparatory course work in the basic sciences will be