Public Service and Administration in Agriculture

College of Agriculture—Public Service and Administration in Agriculture

The curriculum in public service and administration in agriculture is designed for students who desire an interdisciplinary education to pursue a career with agriculturally related governmental and nonprofit agencies, or with businesses and industries that are concerned with public services in agriculture, natural resources or rural communities. Students will explore the planning and implementing of rural and agriculturally related programs in organizations, communities (town, city, or county), multicounty areas, states, regions, and at the federal level.

The curriculum has a broad base of general education subjects including credits in communications, mathematics, physical and biological sciences, social sciences, and humanities. The technical subjects represent a combination of sociology, economics, public administration and agriculture, with emphases on social and economic change, history of public services, complex organizations, interagency relationships, community leadership, community action, adoption and diffusion, group dynamics, and political and legal behavior as they relate to agriculture and rural areas. For the Interdisciplinary Studies major in Criminology and Criminal Justice, see Liberal Arts and Sciences, Curriculum.

Graduate Study

The department offers work for the degrees master of science and doctor of philosophy with majors in sociology and rural sociology and minor work for students majoring in other departments. For M.S. and Ph.D. departmental requirements, see Program of Graduate Study for Degrees in Sociology and Rural Sociology, available from the department office. The department offers concentrations in a number of areas, e.g., community studies and development; sociology of families, inequality, food systems, agriculture and environment; methodology; social change and development; criminology; the economy, organizations and work; and social psychology. The Department of Sociology does not offer a nonthesis master’s program.

Graduates have a broad understanding of sociology, address complex societal problems, and communicate effectively with scientific colleagues and the general public in both formal and informal settings. They understand sociological theory, conduct research, and are prepared to educate college students and contribute to public policy. Although the department stipulates no language requirement for either the degree master of science or the degree doctor of philosophy, specifying competence in one or more languages may be desirable in some instances.

The department also participates in the interdepartmental program in interdepartmental majors in sustainable agriculture, transportation and water resources, and interdepartmental minors in gerontology (see Index).

Curriculum in Public Service and Administration in Agriculture

Administered by the Department of Sociology

Total Degree Requirement: 128 cr.

Only 65 cr. from a two-year institution may apply which may include up to 16 technical cr.; 9 P-NP cr. of free electives; 2.00 minimum GPA.

International Perspective: 3 cr.

U.S. Diversity: 3 cr.

Communications Proficiency (C or better):

6 credits of English Composition

Three credits of Speech Fundamentals

Communication/Library:

ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication

ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition

SP CM 212 Fundamentals of Public Speaking

JL MC 305 Publicity Methods

LIB 160 Library Instruction

Humanities and Social Sciences: 6 cr.

3 credits from approved humanities list

3 credits from approved social science list

Ethics: 3 cr.

3 cr. from approved list.

Life Sciences: 6 cr.

BIOL 101 Introductory Biology

or BIOL 211 Principles of Biology I

Three credits from approved life sciences list

Total Credits

6

Mathematical and Physical Sciences: 12 cr.

MATH 150 Discrete Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences

STAT 101 Principles of Statistics

Five credit hours from:

MTEOR 206 Introduction to Weather and Climate

AGRON 206 Introduction to Weather and Climate

or ASTRO, CHEM, GEOL, PHYS.

Total Credits

13

Sociology 15 cr.

SOC 110 Orientation to Public Service and Administration in Agriculture

SOC 130 Rural Institutions and Organizations

SOC 325 Transition in Agriculture

or SOC 382 Environmental Sociology

SOC 415 Dynamics of Social Change

SOC 420 Complex Organizations

or SOC 380 Sociology of Work

SOC 464 Community Action and Leadership

Total Credits

15

Economics and Agricultural Education and Studies: 16 cr.

ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics

ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomics

ECON 235 Introduction to Agricultural Markets

or ECON 380 Environmental and Resource Economics

ECON 344 Public Finance

AGEDS 451 Agricultural Law

Total Credits

16

Political Sciences: 15 cr.

POL S 215 Introduction to American Government

POL S 310 State and Local Government

POL S 371 Introduction to Public Administration

POL S 475 Management in the Public Sector

C R P 455 Community Economic Development

Total Credits

15

Additional Pol S, Econ, or Soc at 300 level or above.

Agricultural Sciences: 9 cs.

Complete 9 cr. from MTEOR 206 Introduction to Weather and Climate or Agron, An S, AST, Ent, FS HN, Hort, or NREM.

Area of Concentration: 15 cr.

Complete 15 cr. from approved specialization area.