

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	6
Three credits of Speech Fundamentals	3

Communication/Library:

ENGL 150	Critical Thinking and Communication	3
ENGL 250	Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition	3
SP CM 212	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

JL MC 305	Publicity Methods	3
LIB 160	Library Instruction	0.5

Humanities and Social Sciences: 6 cr.

3 credits from approved humanities list	3
3 credits from approved social science list	3

Ethics: 3 cr.

3 cr. from approved list.

Life Sciences: 6 cr.

BIOL 101	Introductory Biology	3
or BIOL 211	Principles of Biology I	
Three credits from approved life sciences list		3

Total Credits 6

Mathematical and Physical Sciences: 12 cr.

MATH 150	Discrete Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	3
STAT 101	Principles of Statistics	4

Five credit hours from:

MTEOR 206	Introduction to Weather and Climate	3
AGRON 206	Introduction to Weather and Climate	3
or ASTRO, CHEM, GEOL, PHYS.		

Total Credits 13

Sociology 15 cr.

SOC 110	Orientation to Public Service and Administration in Agriculture	R
SOC 130	Rural Institutions and Organizations	3
SOC 325	Transition in Agriculture	3
or SOC 382	Environmental Sociology	
SOC 415	Dynamics of Social Change	3
SOC 420	Complex Organizations	3
or SOC 380	Sociology of Work	
SOC 464	Community Action and Leadership	3

Total Credits 15

Economics and Agricultural Education and Studies: 16 cr.

ECON 101	Principles of Microeconomics	3
ECON 102	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
ECON 235	Introduction to Agricultural Markets	3
or ECON 380	Environmental and Resource Economics	
ECON 344	Public Finance	3
AGEDS 451	Agricultural Law	4

Total Credits 16

Political Sciences: 15 cr.

POL S 215	Introduction to American Government	3
POL S 310	State and Local Government	3
POL S 371	Introduction to Public Administration	3
POL S 475	Management in the Public Sector	3
C R P 455	Community Economic Development	3

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.