



## Degree Information

The Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M offers three graduate degree options: MS-Thesis, MS-Non-Thesis, and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

### **Doctor of Philosophy**

The PhD program requires 64 credit hours beyond the MS level, and offers rigorous training in economics and quantitative methods, with a strong emphasis in applications to various areas of applied economics. Field areas within the PhD are: Markets and Information Economics and Resource and Environmental Economics.

### **Masters of Science**

#### ***Thesis Option***

A minimum of 32 hours of graduate credit is required for the MS-thesis option degree. Included in the 32 hours are 8 hours of research for a thesis based upon original research work, a research methodology course, and a wide selection of field courses to comprise a specialty area. Any student interested in pursuing a PhD degree in the future should choose the thesis option.

#### ***Non-Thesis Option***

A minimum of 36 credit hours is required for the MS-non-thesis option degree. Many electives are available under this option, including the AGEC 684 Internship. A professional study paper that focuses on an issue of special interest and relevance to the student's specialty area is encouraged and can be used as an elective class.

### **Admission**

Admission is based on GPR, official GRE scores, acceptable TOEFL scores for international applicants, letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, and several



**AGRICULTURE  
& LIFE SCIENCES**  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

# Graduate Studies in

# Agricultural Economics

## MS PhD

**Department of  
Agricultural Economics**

other factors gleaned from the application package. Applications are reviewed as they are received, and early application is recommended for those seeking funding.

## Placement and Jobs

Our PhD students are often placed in academic positions, as well as in government, and industry settings. Our MS graduates have been placed in government, industry and private sector positions. They specialize in many areas including commodity marketing, banking and credit, real estate, agricultural policy and, wholesaling and retailing.

Some recent employers are:

- Academic
  - MIT
  - North Dakota State University
  - Oklahoma State University
  - Purdue University
  - University of Florida
- Industry
  - Archer-Daniels-Midland
  - Caterpillar
  - CoBank
  - Farm Credit Banks
  - John Deere
  - Koch
  - Wrangler
- Government
  - USDA/ERS, ARS, FAS
  - World Bank
  - Federal Reserve Banks
  - Public Utilities Commission

## Distinguished Faculty

The Department's 63 faculty members are nationally and internationally recognized for their work, including Nobel Prize winner, Bruce A. McCarl. They conduct research in areas including markets and information economics, natural resource and environmental economics, consumer behavior and demand analysis, agricultural policy, production economics, agricultural finance, and international trade.

## Centers and Groups

The department has a number of centers, programs, and offices which organize and focus particular activities and provide effective linkages to programs, collaborators, and clientele. Currently our department is home to:

- Agribusiness, Food, & Consumer Economics Research Center (AFCERC)
- Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC)
- Center for North American Studies (CNAS)
  
- Natural Resources and Environmental Economics Workgroup
  
- Center on Conflict and Development
- International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA)

## Financial Support

Numerous types of financial assistance are available to graduate students through the Department of Agricultural Economics as well as Texas A&M University and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Assistantships and scholarships are offered by the Department each semester. Several Fellowships are available for new grad students entering in the fall semester.

It is best for students seeking funding for fall entry to have a complete application package submitted before the end of January so that they are considered for all types of financial assistance.

### Contact Information

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