This handbook contains information about graduate programs in Agricultural and Applied Economics. It supplements but does not substitute for the current Texas Tech University Undergraduate/Graduate Catalog. All Agricultural and Applied Economics graduate students should familiarize themselves with the information contained in both documents.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................... 3
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS ....................................................................................... 3
STEPS IN APPLYING FOR ADMISSION ....................................................................... 4
MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM .............................................................. 6
MASTER OF AGRIBUSINESS PROGRAM ...................................................................... 10
PARTICIPATION IN THE MBA PROGRAM ................................................................. 13
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAM ....................................................... 14
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ........................................................................................... 19
DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES ......................................................................................... 20
OTHER PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS ..................................................................... 24
APPENDIX A: Graduate Courses in Ag. and Applied Economics ....................... 25

2
1.0. INTRODUCTION
Our department offers graduate programs leading to a (1) Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics, (2) dual Master of Science and Doctor of Jurisprudence (in cooperation with the Texas Tech University Law School), (3) Master of Agribusiness, and (4) Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural and Applied Economics. The Master of Science and the Master of Agribusiness degree programs are also integrated into Accelerated Bachelor’s-to-Master’s programs. The accelerated programs allow students to pursue both the undergraduate and graduate degree at the same time. Students in accelerated programs can earn six hours of graduate credit that will count toward both their undergraduate and graduate degrees. The department also participates in an M.B.A. program offered by the Rawls College of Business with concentration in Agricultural Business Management.

Graduate programs in Agricultural and Applied Economics seek to satisfy the following objectives: (1) to provide an in-depth education in economic theory and methods of analysis, and (2) to provide experience in applying the theory and analytical methods to contemporary problems. Therefore, the study of economic theory, economic and agricultural institutions, and quantitative and other research methods is emphasized in our graduate programs. We place heavy emphasis on use of theory and quantitative techniques in addressing applied problems. Graduates of our program have a strong record of performance in business, academics, and government.

2.0. ADMISSIONS

The three general criteria that are used to evaluate your application for admission and to award competitive scholarships and assistantships in our department are: (1) past academic performance, (2) test scores, and (3) individual profile as reflected in work experience, recommendation letters, and a Statement of Purpose which explains your background and motivation for pursuing graduate education in Agricultural and Applied Economics.
3.0. APPLICATION PROCESS

There are two steps in applying for admission for graduate study in our department. One is completion of the Graduate School application and the other is completion of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department application. The standardized test requirements for our degree programs are shown below. These test scores must be provided as a part of the Graduate School application. Note that these standardized test scores are not required if you have completed an undergraduate degree in our department or if you are a current student who is applying to one or our accelerated Bachelor’s-to-Master’s programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Test Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science (thesis or non-thesis)</td>
<td>GRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Agribusiness</td>
<td>GRE or GMAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Master of Science and Doctor of Jurisprudence</td>
<td>LSAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy</td>
<td>GRE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1. Graduate School Application

The Graduate School application process is described in the current Texas Tech University Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog and on the Graduate School Web-site at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/.

3.2. Departmental Application

The departmental application for all of our degree programs is done through the department, not the Graduate School. The components of the departmental application are: (1) Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics Graduate Application Personal Data Form, (2) a written Statement of Purpose for graduate study (no more than two pages); and (3) three letters of reference. (It is useful if you also provide a small photograph.)
Letters of reference should be transmitted directly to the department from the person writing the letter. Those letters may be mailed or sent as an E-mail attachment. All departmental application materials should be mailed to:

AAEC Graduate Coordinator, Agricultural & Applied Economics Department, P.O. Box 42132, Lubbock, TX 79409 or sent as E-mail attachments (pdf format) to AAEC.grad.admin@ttu.edu.

3.3. Admission

Once your Graduate School and Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics applications are complete, a panel of department faculty members will review the application and make an admission and, if applicable, a funding recommendation. Final admission decisions are made by the Graduate Advisor. Funding decisions are made by the Graduate Advisor or by individual faculty members, depending upon the source of funds.
4.0. MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS

We offer a Master of Science (M.S.) degree with thesis and non-thesis options. Both options are also available under the Accelerated Bachelor’s-to-Master’s degree programs. In addition, we cooperate with the Texas Tech University Law School to offer a joint Master of Science/Doctor of Jurisprudence (M.S./J.D.) degree.

The M.S. degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics provides training in economic theory and methods of analysis, with an emphasis on addressing applied economic problems. Students who select the thesis option are expected to demonstrate competency as economic analysts by completing a thesis, which is a work of original research. The non-thesis option requires more coursework than the thesis option. Considerable flexibility is incorporated into the non-thesis option so that the student can focus elective courses in an area of concentration of their choosing.

The Accelerated B.S./M.S. program allows qualified students who are pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics in our department to work concurrently on their B.S. and M.S. Students in this program are able to take up to six hours of graduate coursework (two of four eligible courses) which can count for credit in both their undergraduate and graduate degrees.

The joint M.S.-J.D. degree provides students who want to practice law in an agricultural and/or natural resource setting with graduate training in economics. Those who select this option must be admitted to both the Law School and the departmental M.S. program.

4.1. Prerequisites

A student entering the M.S. degree program must have completed an accepted bachelor's degree program or be an Agricultural and Applied Economics undergraduate who has been admitted into the Accelerated B.S./M.S. program. Undergraduate requirements that
normally will have been completed, earning a grade of B or better, before beginning M.S. graduate coursework include the following courses or their equivalent.

- Basic Calculus (MATH 1331)
- Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (AAEC 3315)
- Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory (ECO 3311)
- Regression Analysis (AAEC 4302)
- In addition, computer literacy is expected of all applicants.

A student who has not satisfactorily completed the above requirements may be required to do so prior to or during the first semester of the graduate program. This prerequisite coursework will not count toward the M.S. degree requirements.

4.2. Credit Hour Requirements

The Master of Science program in Agricultural and Applied Economics consists of a minimum of 30 hours of graduate credit for the M.S. thesis option, and 36 hours of graduate credit for the M.S. non-thesis option. Requirements for Master’s degrees through the Accelerated B.S./M.S. programs (thesis or non-thesis) are exactly the same as for students who enter the graduate program after completing an undergraduate degree. The only difference is integration of the undergraduate and graduate curriculum in a way that can be considerably more time and cost efficient than when the degrees are pursued sequentially rather than contemporaneously.

4.3. Substitution for Core Courses

Except for unusual situations, substitutions for core courses are not permitted. Requests for substitutions for core courses must be initiated by the student and submitted, with written justification, to the department Graduate Advisor. Final decisions on substitutions for core courses taught outside our department are made by the department Graduate Advisor. Decisions on core courses taught
inside the department are made by the current instructor of the core course being replaced.


Information on the Thesis Proposal and Proposal Defense is provided in Section 9.0 of this Handbook.

4.5. Professional Paper Requirement for Non-thesis Students

M.S. non-thesis students are required to complete a professional paper demonstrating an understanding of economic concepts and analytical methods covered in their coursework. The development of this paper will be supervised by the student’s advisory committee chair or another member of the student’s advisory committee.

4.6. Final Examination

The Final Examination will be conducted by the student’s advisory committee. This examination is an oral defense of the student’s thesis or professional paper. The exam will begin with a public presentation of the student’s research (thesis or professional paper). After the public presentation, and a question and answer period, the guests will be asked to leave the room and the student’s committee will ask further questions, provide comments on the thesis or professional paper, and determine whether the student has successfully completed the examination.

Public announcement of exams will be done through the department Graduate Advisor. Exams must be announced at least one week prior to the exam date.

4.7. Degree Program Course Requirements

Tables 1 and 2 show the course requirements for the Master of Science and for the joint Master of Science/JD programs. Courses listed specifically by number are core courses.
### Table 1: M.S. Degree Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Thesis Option</th>
<th>Non-thesis Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5303</td>
<td>Advanced Production Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5310</td>
<td>Advanced Market Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5321</td>
<td>Research Methodology in Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5311 or</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Theory or</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5316</td>
<td>International Trade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5312</td>
<td>Microeconomic Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6000</td>
<td>Master’s Thesis</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>------</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Numbered courses are core courses.

### Table 2: Joint M.S.-J.D. Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5303</td>
<td>Advanced Production Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5310</td>
<td>Advanced Market Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5312</td>
<td>Agribusiness Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5318</td>
<td>Finance &amp; the Agribusiness Sector</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC and/or ECO Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law School Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Must be approved by the Law School.

2 Numbered courses are core courses.
5.0. MASTER OF AGRIBUSINESS DEGREE PROGRAM

The MAB degree program is designed to meet the growing need for agribusiness professionals with advanced conceptual and quantitative training. The degree program provides a unique blend of analytical and business capabilities from both the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Rawls College of Business. This program is designed to be completed in four semesters of full time study. A capstone of this program is a professional internship designed to apply program concepts in a professional setting.

The Accelerated B.S./MAB program allows qualified students who are pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics in our department to work concurrently on their B.S. and MAB. Students in this program are able to take up to six hours of graduate coursework (two of four eligible courses) receiving credit toward both their undergraduate and graduate degrees.

5.1. Prerequisites

Students entering the MAB degree program must have completed an accepted bachelor's degree program or must be students who are pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics in our department and have been admitted into the Accelerated B.S./MAB program. Undergraduate requirements that normally will have been completed, earning a grade of B or better, before beginning MAB graduate coursework include the following courses or their equivalent.

- Basic Calculus (MATH 1331)
- Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (AAEC 3315)
- Regression Analysis (AAEC 4302)
- Accounting (ACCT 2300 and 2301)
- In addition, computer literacy is expected of all applicants.
A student who has not satisfactorily completed the above requirements may be required to do so prior to or during the first semester of the graduate program. This prerequisite coursework will not count toward the MAB degree requirements.

5.2. Credit Hour Requirements

The MAB program consists of a minimum of 36 hours of graduate credit. A candidate for the Master of Agribusiness degree must complete 6 hours of electives from a list of approved courses (see the separate MAB program material for the list). Exceptions to the list will need to be approved by the student’s advisory committee and the MAB Coordinator.

5.3. Substitution for Core Courses

Except for unusual situations, substitutions for core courses are not permitted. Requests for substitutions for core courses must be initiated by the student and submitted, with written justification, to the MAB Coordinator. Final decisions on substitutions for core courses taught outside our department are made by the MAB Coordinator. Decisions on core courses taught in the department are made by the current instructor of the core course being replaced.

5.4. Internship Overview

One of the key aspects of the MAB is the requirement of an internship with a high quality organization. The internship includes key aspects of career development to achieve long term professional success. To be eligible for an internship, a student must be a MAB student enrolled in good standing and have completed at least fifteen hours in their MAB program. Each candidate’s application will be reviewed by the MAB Committee.

5.5. Final Examination
The student's advisory committee will conduct an oral examination after all other requirements for the degree have been completed. MAB students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of agribusiness, marketing, management, and analytical methods covered in their degree program. Further, students should be able to articulate the effectiveness of their internship experience and current career goals.

5.6. Degree Program Course Requirements

Table 3 shows the course requirements for the Master of Agribusiness degree. Courses listed specifically by number are core courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number1</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5310</td>
<td>Advanced Market Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5312</td>
<td>Agribusiness Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5318</td>
<td>Finance and the Agribusiness Sector</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5310</td>
<td>Price and Income Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGT 5371</td>
<td>Managing Organizational Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MKT 5360</td>
<td>Marketing Concepts and Strategies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5320</td>
<td>Agribusiness Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5000</td>
<td>Professional Internship</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Numbered courses are core courses.
6.0. PARTICIPATION IN THE MBA PROGRAM

The department cooperates with the Rawls College of Business in their offering of a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) with a concentration in Agricultural Business Management. The degree is awarded by the Rawls College of Business.

Students in this program are advised by the Rawls College of Business in their MBA core and by the Department Graduate Advisor in their Agricultural and Applied Economics Concentration. Concentration in Agricultural Business Management can be satisfied by taking 12 hours from the following AAEC courses: AAEC 5302 or AAEC 6302, AAEC 5310, AAEC 5301 (3 hours maximum), AAEC 5317, and AAEC 5318.

The MBA requires that certain prerequisites be met and that leveling courses be taken if undergraduate course work was not completed in selected areas. Students with no economics or business courses may have to take up to 24 credit hours of leveling work. Prerequisites and program requirements for the MBA-Agricultural Business Management program are available from:

Graduate Programs Office
Rawls College of Business
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, Texas 79409-2101
(806) 742-3184 OR
FAX: (806) 742-3958
1-800-882-6220
7.0. DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAM

The doctoral program in Agricultural and Applied Economics is designed to develop a broad based competence in economic theory and in techniques of quantitative analysis. Dissertation research of students in our department usually addresses applied problems using contemporary economic theory and analytical methods. Students completing our program have demonstrated a high degree of success in academics, business, and government.

Two options are offered for the Doctor of Philosophy in the Agricultural and Applied Economics program. The first option does not require a minor. The second option includes a minor in Family Financial Planning—a joint Ph.D. program between the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the College of Human Sciences. Completion of the Doctoral program in Agricultural and Applied Economics with a minor in Family Financial Planning qualifies graduates to take an exam administered by the Certified Financial Planning Board of Standards to become Certified Financial Planners.

7.1. Prerequisites

Most students will have completed the requirements for an M.S. degree or its equivalent before admission to the doctoral program. If the Master’s degree does not meet the prerequisite requirements for entering our Master of Science program (see Section 5.1) then those requirements must be met in order to enter the Ph.D. program.

7.2. Credit Hour Requirements

The doctoral program requires a minimum of 60 credit hours of course work beyond the baccalaureate degree and at least 12 credit hours of dissertation research (AAEC 8000).
7.3. Transfer of Credit

Transfer of graduate credit from other academic institutions may be allowed. The request for transfer must be initiated by the student and supported by the student’s committee chair. Transfer decisions are made by the department Graduate Advisor and must be approved by the Graduate School. Information required in support of transfer requests includes academic transcripts and course catalogue descriptions of each course proposed for transfer. Course syllabi may also be requested to support transfer decisions.

7.4. Substitution for Core Courses

Substitutions for core courses are allowed only under unusual circumstances. Requests for substitutions for core courses must be initiated by the student and his or her committee chair, to the department Graduate Advisor. Final decisions on substitutions for core courses taught outside our department are made by the department Graduate Advisor. Decisions on core courses taught in the department are made by the current instructor of the core course being replaced.

7.5. Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination

The purpose of the Ph.D. comprehensive examination is to test the student's ability to integrate knowledge from various subject matter areas and apply appropriate concepts and tools to issues and problems relevant to the discipline. The comprehensive exam is administered by a departmental committee twice each year (usually in May and August) and is normally taken at the end of the first full year of coursework. The exam has two parts which are taken separately. Part 1 of the exam focuses econometric methods and Part 2 covers microeconomic theory. Students have two opportunities to pass both parts of the exam. If both parts of the exam are passed on the first attempt then the student has successfully completed this degree requirement. If one or both parts of the exam are failed on the first attempt (usually in May), the student must retake the failed part(s) at the next offering (in the following
August). A second failure of *either part* of the comprehensive exam will result in dismissal from the student's Ph.D. program.

### 7.6. Qualifying Examination and Admission to Candidacy

Graduate school rules require that all doctoral students successfully complete a Qualifying Exam for admission to candidacy for the doctor’s degree. In the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, the Dissertation Proposal Defense serves as the Qualifying Exam. Students are allowed two attempts to satisfactorily complete this examination. Failure to satisfactorily complete the examination on a second attempt will result in dismissal from the Ph.D. program. Further information on the Dissertation Proposal and Proposal Defense is provided in Section 9.0 of this Handbook.

### 7.7. Final Examination

All doctoral candidates are required to pass a public final oral examination which is usually over the general field of the dissertation. Candidates should consult the Graduate School for details regarding scheduling of the final examination. After the final examination, the major professor will send a written notification of the results to the Graduate School.

### 7.9. Degree Program Course Requirements

Tables 4 and 5 show the course requirements for the Ph.D. program options. Courses listed specifically by number are core courses. *NOTE THAT THE OPTION II COURSE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN REVISED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING AND ARE PENDING APPROVAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS FACULTY.*
Table 4: Ph.D. Program Option 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5303</td>
<td>Advanced Production Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5316</td>
<td>International Agricultural Trade</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5321</td>
<td>Research Methodology in Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6302</td>
<td>Food, Ag., and Nat. Resource Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6305</td>
<td>Economic Optimization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6308</td>
<td>Advanced Natural Resource Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6310</td>
<td>Demand and Price Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6311</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6301</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5311</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Theory and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5312</td>
<td>Microeconomic Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Required AAEC and ECO Electives</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Committee Approved Field Courses</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 8000</td>
<td>Doctor’s Dissertation</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>72</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Numbered courses are core courses.
## Table 4: Ph.D. Program Option 2

**Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics – Minor in Family Financial Planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5303</td>
<td>Advanced Production Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5307</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5316</td>
<td>International Agricultural Trade</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 5321</td>
<td>Research Methodology in Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6302</td>
<td>Food, Ag., and Nat. Resource Policy Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6305</td>
<td>Economic Optimization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6308</td>
<td>Advanced Natural Resource Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6310</td>
<td>Demand and Price Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6311</td>
<td>Applied Econometrics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 6301</td>
<td>Microeconomic Theory II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5311</td>
<td>Macroeconomic Theory and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECO 5312</td>
<td>Microeconomic Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAEC 8000</td>
<td>Doctor’s Dissertation</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5371</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Personal Financial Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5372</td>
<td>Asset Management II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5373</td>
<td>Personal Financial Planning Cpstn.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5394</td>
<td>Retirement Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5397</td>
<td>Risk Management and Insurance Planning</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5398</td>
<td>Estate Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5362</td>
<td>Asset Management I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP 5377</td>
<td>Client Communication and Counseling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 5311</td>
<td>Individual Study in Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credit Hours** | **85**

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1. Course Number refers to the specific course number within the respective department.
8.0 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A limited number of graduate assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis each year. Only students in the M.S. thesis option and the Ph.D. program are eligible for these assistantships. Teaching assistantships require the student to serve as instructor for undergraduate courses or laboratories under faculty supervision. Research assistantships require the student to assist on one or more research projects under faculty supervision.

Half-time graduate assistantships require that the student work 20 hours per week. Assistantships are considered half-time employment and the student is responsible for the hours of work and for the work output. A graduate assistant does not accrue annual leave. Each M.S.-thesis option student who is on a half-time graduate assistantship is required to register for 12 credit hours each regular semester and 6 credit hours for each summer session (with 2 summer sessions per summer). Ph.D. students who are on half-time graduate assistantships are required to register for 12 hours in each regular semester and 3 hours in each summer session. A graduate assistant is expected to remain free from other employment.

The assistantship stipends follow University guidelines and are subject to change each year. Students must maintain a B average or better and perform assigned duties in a satisfactory manner to retain a graduate assistantship. Performance is reviewed each semester.

A limited number of scholarships are available on the basis of need and academic achievement. Contact the department Graduate Advisor for more information.
9.0. DEPARTMENT POLICIES

The following are department policies of particular importance to graduate students.

Advisory Committee

An advisory committee chair should be selected during the student's first semester in the graduate program. The student and committee chair will jointly select other members of the advisory committee. Advisory committees for M.S. and MAB students must have a minimum of three faculty members, at least two of whom must be graduate faculty members in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. Advisory committees for Ph.D. students must have at least four faculty members, one of whom must be from outside the department.

Degree Plan

M.S. and MAB students should file a degree plan by the end of the first semester of graduate study. Ph.D. students should file a degree plan before beginning the second year of coursework. The student and committee chair should work out a tentative plan, which will be discussed and approved by the full advisory committee. Degree plans must be approved and signed by the department Graduate Advisor.

Research Topic

Students working on M.S.-thesis and Ph.D. degrees should begin discussions on possible research topics with their committee chair and other committee members during the first semester in their program.

Thesis and Dissertation Proposals

Each M.S.-thesis or Ph.D. candidate will develop a formal written thesis or dissertation proposal. The proposal should include a title,
a statement of the problem and rationale for the proposed research, a statement of objectives, hypotheses to be tested, a review of the literature, and a detailed description of the design, data analysis, and procedures of the study. Proposals must also include a conceptual framework that applies relevant economic theory to an analysis of the research problem.

After your committee chair approves your draft proposal, you need to distribute copies to the other members of your advisory committee. You should allow at least two weeks for the committee to read and evaluate the proposal prior to your proposal defense.

Proposal Defense

Under the direction of your committee chair, you should prepare an oral presentation of your thesis or dissertation research proposal. This presentation is expected to be formal and scholarly. Your presentation should include a clear rationale for the proposed research, a concise statement of objectives, hypotheses, and a detailed description of the design and methods of the proposed study.

You should be prepared to defend your proposal during a question-and-answer period following the oral presentation. When the questioning has concluded, the committee will determine whether you have satisfactorily completed the defense/exam. They will also decide what modifications, if any, should be made to the proposal before proceeding with the research. All committee recommendations at the proposal stage should be appropriately reflected in the final thesis or dissertation submitted in preparation for the Final Examination.

Preparation of Thesis or Dissertation

In preparing even the earliest draft of the thesis or dissertation, you should follow style conventions currently accepted by the department and Graduate School.
Final Requirements for Graduation

Students who are within nine months of completing their graduate degree programs are advised to consult the Graduate School Web site, and personnel in the Graduate School for information on graduation requirements and deadlines. Students are responsible for meeting all of these requirements and deadlines.

Offices and Computers

Graduate student office space is assigned by the department Graduate Advisor. All funded students are provided office space. Other M.S. and Ph.D. students are assigned office space if available. Office space should be used or it may be reassigned.

The department has computer facilities which are available to all graduate students. Students with office spaces are often furnished with a computer. Students should use these computers for academic purposes only. Any relocation of departmental computers will be done by the department’s computer support staff at the request of the Graduate Advisor.

Copying and Office Supplies

Office supplies are available to faculty and staff. They are available to graduate students only by special request from their graduate advisors and for use only on department business, not for the student's course or personal use.

The department copy machines are restricted to staff and faculty use. Graduate students gain access to the copy machines only when approved by the student's committee chair or work supervisor. The copy machines are intended to support research and teaching activities and are not intended for copying course work material or books.
Vacations

Part-time research and teaching appointments do not carry provisions for vacation or sick leave. Absences from campus must be approved by your committee chair or work supervisor. If a requested absence conflicts with departmental needs it may be denied.
10.0. IMPORTANT ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

Graduate Student Association

The department has an active and productive Graduate Student Association. This GSA organizes a departmental seminar series, sponsors Friday coffees, and has a number of social events throughout the year. The GSA also maintains a Web-page on the department Web-site. This Web-page contains information about upcoming events, the lecture series, conferences, and profiles and vitas of participating graduate students. All graduate students are strongly encouraged to actively participate in this organization.

Professional Societies

Graduate students are encouraged to join and participate in the activities of professional societies. Most societies have reduced dues for students. You should attend professional meetings whenever possible. Students serving on committees or delivering papers may receive at least partial travel expense reimbursement from department and/or graduate school sources. Such reimbursement is subject to availability of funds. Thus, early application is important.

Seminars

Student attendance is encouraged at departmental seminars.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is critically important in all aspects of graduate study. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and the consequences can be severe. All graduate students should be aware of standards of proper academic conduct as spelled out in the current Texas Tech University Student Handbook & Code of Conduct. These standards apply to the classroom, the conduct of research, and all other aspects of student life.
APPENDIX A

GRADUATE COURSES IN
AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS*

AAEC 5000 Professional Internship
AAEC 5301 Special Study in Agricultural and Applied Economics
AAEC 5302 Food and Agriculture Sector Public Policy
AAEC 5303 Advanced Production Economics
AAEC 5307 Applied Econometrics I
AAEC 5308 Natural Resource Economics
AAEC 5309 International Economic Development in Food and Fiber Sectors
AAEC 5310 Advanced Market Analysis
AAEC 5312 Agribusiness Analysis
AAEC 5313 Microcomputer Applications in Agribusiness and Research
AAEC 5314 Environmental Economics and Policy Analysis
AAEC 5315 Property Appraisal
AAEC 5316 International Agricultural Trade
AAEC 5317 Financial and Commodity Futures and Options
AAEC 5318 Finance and the Agribusiness Sector
AAEC 5320 Agribusiness Law
AAEC 5321 Research Methodology in Economics
AAEC 5393 Economics and Policies of the Global Cotton/Textile Complex
AAEC 6000 Master's Thesis
AAEC 6301 Advanced Special Problems in Agricultural and Applied Economics
AAEC 6302 Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Policy Analysis
AAEC 6305 Economic Optimization
AAEC 6308 Advanced Natural Resource Economics
AAEC 6310 Demand and Price Analysis
AAEC 6311 Applied Econometrics II
AAEC 7000 Research
AAEC 7200 Teaching Practicum
AAEC 8000 Doctor's Dissertation
Web site

For more information about the department please visit the department of Agricultural and Applied Economics homepage at http://www.aaec.ttu.edu.

Or email us at AAEC.grad.admin@ttu.edu