Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Agricultural Education

The Doctor of Education in Agricultural Education requires a minimum of 64 semester hours of graduate coursework beyond the Master’s degree along with the development of a dissertation. The program of study developed by the student builds on previous undergraduate and graduate courses along with their life experiences (including three years of related work experiences). It is designed to develop independent and critical thinking. Emphasis is placed on selecting courses and experiences that lead to a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of agricultural education and/or agricultural communications, a supporting field, and methods of research and statistics.

At or near the end of course work, the student will take a qualifying written examination. No more than one week after the written examination, the student will take an oral qualifying examination. Both of these examinations will be administered by the student’s advisory. After completion of the dissertation, the student will present and defend a dissertation.

CURRICULUM (Minimum of 64 hours beyond Masters)

Agricultural Education (25 hours)

Core Courses (16 hours)¹
- ACOM 5307 – Methods of Technological Change
- AGED 5305 – Program Development in Agricultural and Extension Education
- AGED 5306 – History and Philosophy of Agricultural Education and Communications
- AGED 5310 – College Teaching in Agriculture
- AGED 7100 – Graduate Seminar (4 hours required; 1 hour each)

Additional Courses (Choose 9 hours)

- ACOM 5302 Knowledge Management in Agricultural and Natural Resources
- ACOM 5303 Advanced Imaging and Design in Agricultural Communications
- ACOM 5304 Risk and Crisis Communications in Agriculture and Natural Resources
- ACOM 5306 Foundations of Agricultural Communications
- ACOM 5307 Methods of Technological Change
- ACOM 5308 Utilizing Online Media in Agricultural Communications
- AGED 5001 Contemporary Issues in Agricultural & Extension Education (V1-6)
- AGED 5301 – Special Problems (previous topics have included)
  - Distance Education in Agricultural & Extension Education
  - Youth Development
  - Development and Management of Volunteer Programs
- AGED 5305 Program Development in Agricultural and Extension Education
- AGED 5308 – Foundations of Adult Education
- AGED 5311 Human Dimension of International Agricultural Development
- AGED 5340 – Educational Law

¹ Unless otherwise noted, the second digit in the course number indicates the number of credits for the course.


Additional Courses Continued

- AGLS 5304 Theoretical Foundations of Leadership
- AGLS 5305 Developing Leadership in Rural Communities
- AGLS 5306 Contemporary Issues in Agricultural Leadership
- AGLS 5307 Evaluating Leadership in Agricultural Organizations
- AGLS 5308 International Experiences in Agricultural Leadership
- AGED 7000 – Research (V1-12)
- AGED 7200 – Professional Internship (May be repeated for credit)

Research and Evaluation (9 hours)

AGED 5302* – Research Methods and Analysis in Agricultural Education and Communications
AGED 5309* – Evaluation of Programs in Vocational, Technical, & Extension Education

Plus three (3) additional graduate course hours in Research and Evaluation

* If taken during a Master’s degree, the student may replace this course with additional research and/or evaluation courses.

Statistics (6 hours)

Students should have had an introductory-level statistics course for their Master’s degree. If not, leveling will be required (e.g., AGED 5312 Assessing Program Effectiveness in Agriculture and Extension Education).

Recommended: EPSY 5381 – Intermediate Educational Statistics
EPSY 6301 – Advanced Data Analysis
EPSY 5382 – Qualitative Research in Education
EPSY 6304 – Qualitative Research Methods
EPSY 6305 – Qualitative Data Analysis in Education

Supporting Field (12 hours)

Graduate-level courses in area of interest, emphasis, or support

Dissertation Research (12 hours)

AGED 8000 – Doctor’s Dissertation (V1-12)