Major Descriptions by Department

Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, & Leadership

Agricultural Communication
Creative individuals who are interested in communication areas such as graphic design, marketing, radio, and television will enjoy this communication major with a focus on agriculture. It teaches students how to communicate scientific information to farm and non-farm audiences.

AgriScience Education
Students prepare to become high school agriculture teachers, food science educators, or sales representatives with curriculum focusing on an array of agricultural topics.

Community Leadership
There are two specializations: Community and Extension Education or Leadership. These students study how to effectively lead organizations and groups.

Department of Agricultural, Environmental, & Development Economics

Agribusiness & Applied Economics
The Agribusiness and Applied Economics major integrates business and economic principles needed to manage, market, and finance agribusiness firms in domestic and international markets. This is a great option for students interested in business.

Department of Animal Sciences

Animal Sciences
Students can seek two different degree options in Animal Sciences. The B.S. in Agriculture allows students to study physiology, reproduction, anatomy, genetics, nutrition, behavior, and animal management. There are three specializations through this degree: Animal Biosciences (an excellent pre-veterinary track), Animal Industries, and Veterinary Technology. The B.S. in Nutrition is focused on a strong science foundation in nutrition. This is a cooperative degree with the Department of Human Nutrition, and it allows students to focus their studies in either animal or human nutrition. This is an excellent degree for those seeking a professional or graduate school program.

Entomology
Studying insect science in preparation for careers in basic and applied sciences. Insects and their relatives are some of the most important life forms on the planet because they negatively and positively impact plants, animals, and human society. Students in agriculture, environmental sciences, and life sciences benefit from knowledge of insect biology, ecology, and management.

Department of Food Science & Technology

Culinary Science
Students who choose this major will learn the planning and preparation needed for cuisine, and create food dishes for the consumer market.

Food Business Management
Students who choose this major maintain the largest and most efficient food production system in history. Students will learn the skills to manage food science and business practices.

Food Science & Technology
Product development, sensory tasting and the science behind food is covered in this program. If you can’t leave the Food Network alone, this major might be a great fit!

Meat Science
In this major students will develop a better understanding of meat and muscle as a food product, focus on anatomy, muscle biology, meat processing and food safety. This is a great option for students who wish to work in food industries or any type of formal agricultural instruction and education settings.

Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering

Agricultural Systems Management
Students study plant, animal, and energy production and processing systems. They also learn effective management skills to increase the efficiencies and sustainability of these systems. Career paths include: production agriculture, service and technical sales, and production/processing supervision.

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Construction Systems Management
This program is designed to give students a comprehensive education in the technical, analytical, and business aspects of construction. Students learn how to plan and manage the construction of residential and commercial buildings, and other infrastructure.

Food, Agricultural & Biological Engineering
This program of study is offered jointly with the College of Engineering. Students identify and solve engineering problems related to production and processing of food, fiber and renewable energy, the sustainability of these systems, and preservation of the natural resources base. Graduates are employed as engineers with manufacturers, processors, government agencies and consulting firms, or enroll in graduate and professional schools.

Department of Horticulture & Crop Science
Professional Golf Management
This is an interdisciplinary program of study that incorporates many fields including business administration, hospitality management, coaching of golf, and turfgrass science. Careers for this student can include: Director of Golf or Head Golf Professional.

Sustainable Plant Systems
This major was previously three separate majors: Crop Science, Landscape Horticulture and Turfgrass Science. There are now four specializations: Agronomy, Horticulture, Landscape Design and Management, and Turfgrass Science.

Department of Plant Pathology
Plant Pathology
This major encompasses the biology of plant disease in areas ranging from molecular genetics to applied aspects of plant disease management. It is an excellent choice for students interested in graduate study for careers in research, education and/or industry.

Plant Health Management
This is a joint major between the Departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology. It provides knowledge and skills in the management of pests, diseases, weeds etc for careers in agriculture and environmental science. Jobs include crop/landscape/forest management and consulting, research technicians, and employment with government agencies.

School of Environment & Natural Resources
Environment, Economy, Development & Sustainability
This is a multi-disciplinary degree program that focuses on the human dimensions of sustainability. Sustainability is a rapidly growing area that requires knowledge of human and natural systems as well as the skills to manage change, think holistically, and assess sustainable development in a variety of settings. This is a joint major between the School of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics.

Environmental Policy & Decision Making
The ability to meet the challenges of environmental concerns requires an understanding of human actions at the individual, community, and societal level. Students can choose to focus their studies on Climate Change, International Issues, or Water Conservation. This major was previously Environmental Policy & Management.

Environmental Science
Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary study of the interactions between the living and non-living components of the environment. Specializations allow students to focus on water, ecosystem restoration, soil resources, environmental molecular science, or environmental science education.

Forestry, Fisheries, & Wildlife
Students will use basic biology to solve problems in the conservation and restoration of landscapes, ecosystems, habitats, and plant and animal species that are affected by man’s use of resources. Seven specializations allow students to focus on forestry, fisheries, wildlife or combinations of the areas.

Natural Resources Management
Students will gain knowledge and skills in a selected area to manage human interactions with the natural world in parks and protected areas, natural resource organizations, or agriculture and food systems. This major was previously Parks, Recreation and Tourism.