College of Agriculture

Agribusiness

Overview
The agribusiness sector is defined by competition, unique regulatory agencies and innovative technology solutions for commercial agriculture and its management. Navigating this global industry and the uncertainty inherent in agricultural production is a vitally important component to business success.

With your bachelor’s degree in agribusiness from the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University, you will be versed in both agricultural economics and business, ensuring you are a prepared professional who can outline plans that successfully lead agribusiness firms to manage risk and realize positive returns.

Professional options

Careers
Agribusiness students graduate from K-State with the skills and experiences employers desire. Along with above-average starting salaries, our graduates have a wide variety of career fields from which to choose. Some examples:

- Accounting
- Business consulting
- Commodity brokerage/trading
- Entrepreneurship
- Finance and insurance
- Government service
- Human resources
- Management
- Marketing/sales

Job experience
Our students gain the experience and skills employers want through their academic endeavors, extracurricular activities and internship opportunities.

The K-State Career Center annually surveys recent graduates to determine employment rates. Recently, the College of Agriculture, which houses the Department of Agricultural Economics, reported that 97 percent of responding graduates had either found employment or were enrolled in graduate/professional school to further their education.

Academics

Degree options
The agribusiness degree program is your starting point on a path to a number of different careers, which is why we’ve designed our major to be flexible while giving you the best grasp on emerging issues facing professionals in food, business and agriculture.

Agribusiness
Agribusiness is a wide-reaching industry that touches many sectors. The agribusiness option takes a broad approach toward teaching the fundamental skills students need to succeed in a wide variety of business settings. Coursework focuses on agricultural economics, agribusiness and business.

International
Globalization can be felt everywhere across business and society, and students who understand the background and interconnected global economy can pursue a career without boundaries. Students who choose this option complete agribusiness coursework, learn another language and participate in an international experience.

Food industry
The institutions that govern food and agriculture are very unique, and as this industry grows and the technologies used for food processing and commercial agriculture evolve, professionals are needed who can successfully facilitate production and management from farm to table.

Minors
The department also offers minors in agribusiness and agricultural economics. Visit ageconomics.k-state.edu for more information.

Faculty

In the Department of Agricultural Economics, 100 percent of our faculty have earned their doctorate in agricultural economics or a related field. This ensures that our programs are being developed and facilitated by the best and brightest.

Advising

Our faculty are committed to providing a top-notch advising experience, which is why all teaching faculty are undergraduate advisors who guide student academics and assist with career planning.

Transferring
If you plan to transfer into our program, we recommend that you download our 2+2 Program brochure, which serves as a guide for transferring from a community college into our program at K-State. You can find this on our website at ageconomics.k-state.edu or by contacting the department.

Activities

Clubs
Extracurricular activities not only support a well-rounded university experience, but they also are an excellent way to strengthen professional and interpersonal skills that will prove vital throughout your career. One way to get involved is through student clubs and organizations.

K-State offers more than 475 clubs and organizations, including:

- The Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness Club, which develops professional and networking skills through national competitions, trips and biweekly meetings.
- The National Agri-Marketing Association, which works with professionals around the Midwest to develop student marketing skills. K-State is the only school to win back-to-back first-place titles in national competitions.

Points of pride

Kansas State University’s Student Governing Association has greatly benefited from the contributions of agricultural economics students, with 15 of our students serving as president and two serving as vice president during the past 30 years.

k-state.edu/admissions/academics
Study abroad
There's no doubt agribusiness and agricultural economics are global. Therefore, we encourage our students to experience different cultures, languages and industry by studying abroad.

Our faculty have spanned the globe, taking groups of students to places like South America, Australia, New Zealand, China, South Africa, Central America, Ireland and Europe. Study abroad can last anywhere from one week to one year.

Admissions
Requirements
Students can declare their major in agribusiness immediately upon being admitted to the university. There are no additional steps. For university admission requirements, visit k-state.edu/admissions.

Application
Ready to take the next step toward pursuing your degree? Apply for admission to K-State at k-state.edu/admissions/apply.

Financial assistance
Scholarships
The agricultural economics department provides more than $220,000 in scholarships each year. Complete the K-State scholarship application to be considered for department scholarships.

Suggested coursework
Agribusiness degree requirements
The agribusiness degree is a 127 credit hours program. Choose among number of courses as you work with your advisor to select your electives and overall course of study.

Please visit courses.k-state.edu for a complete listing of courses offered within the agricultural economics department, and explore the various course categories required for graduation, listed below.

General foundation courses (46 credit hours)
General foundation courses cover the areas of communication, quantitative basics, natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities, contributing toward a well-rounded educational experience.

Agricultural economics foundation courses (21 credit hours)
The agricultural economics foundation courses explore economic theory, decision-making and finance, while sharpening your analytical skills and preparing you to apply these principles in your advanced course work. An introductory orientation class for all incoming freshmen is required to ensure our students connect with each other and our faculty immediately upon starting their classes at K-State.

Agricultural economics field courses (6-21 credit hours)
The field coursework allows you to directly apply economic theory into action while exploring the many unique areas of the industry.

Courses include:
- Agricultural Policy/Law
- Agricultural Trade and International Development
- Commodity Trading
- Farm/Ranch Management
- Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
- Price Analysis
- Risk Management

Agriculture/business courses (6-15 credit hours)
As you work with your advisor, you will be able to select coursework throughout the College of Agriculture and the College of Business Administration to complement your interests in the industry.

The College of Agriculture features coursework in agronomy, agriculture technology management, animal sciences, grain science, horticulture, food science and more, while the College of Business Administration offers courses to further your training in finance, management, accounting and marketing.

Degree option courses (15-30 credit hours)
As outlined above, you have your choice of an agribusiness option, international option or food industry option, each with its own unique set of courses. Please visit ageconomics.k-state.edu for more information.

For more information about agribusiness program, contact:
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