

Master of Science in Agriculture

Offering career preparation for professional agriculturalists to obtain an education at the graduate level or to prepare for terminal degree work at the doctoral level.

Career Outlook

The Hutson School of Agriculture offers a Master of Science degree, which allows students to pursue advanced course work in their chosen area of concentration.

Students completing the MS degree at Murray State University find ready acceptance in the job market in a wide variety of agricultural business industries. They are also in great demand by universities offering programs at the doctoral level.

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available to full-time graduate students in agriculture. The application deadline for fall assistantships is June 15th.

Program Highlights

The Master of Science degree in agriculture offers the opportunity for professional agriculturalists to obtain an education at the graduate level and provides students with the opportunity for graduate study in the various disciplines of agriculture.

Students who wish to be considered for admission to graduate study leading toward the master of science degree must have completed the equivalent of an undergraduate major or minor in agriculture or acceptable course work approved by the graduate coordinator, in addition to meeting all of the general requirements for graduate studies.

Facilities

Hutson School of Agriculture facilities include classrooms, laboratories and offices housed in the south wing of Oakley Applied Science Building, A. Carman Animal Health Technology Center, E.B. Howton Agricultural Engineering Building, Equine Instructional Facility, Breathitt Veterinary Center, greenhouses and four farm complexes located near campus.

The horse, beef, sheep and swine facilities are a part of the farm-laboratory complex. The Wm. Bill Cherry Agricultural Exposition Center is utilized for equine and rodeo classes, contests, field days, judging contests, clinics and numerous agricultural activities.

Program Options

Hutson School of Agriculture offers the following two options:

- Option 1 (thesis) - The curriculum consists of a minimum of twenty-five hours of academic work, plus six hours of thesis credit.
- Option 2 (non-thesis) - The curriculum consists of a minimum of thirty-one hours of course work.
- Option 3 (online) - There are five online tracks available. To view the online tracks, please visit the Hutson School of Agriculture website.

All Master of Science students within the Hutson School of Agriculture are required to take a core group of classes that are noted within their track. Deviation from these courses will be permitted only upon the recommendation of the student's graduate advisor and with the approval of the Hutson School of Agriculture Dean.

The remainder of a student's course work will be determined by the student under the supervision and with the approval of the student's graduate advisor. Students following the agriculture curriculum will complete a planned program involving a minimum of twenty-three hours of agriculture.

A final comprehensive examination is required and must be passed by all candidates for the master's degree. The exam consists of both a written and an oral component. It is administered by a committee of three to five faculty members, including the student's graduate advisor. A student normally takes the comprehensive examination during the semester of graduation. To be eligible to take the comprehensive exam, students must have a 3.0 overall GPA in their graduate work.

For More Information Contact

Recruitment Coordinator
Murray State University
Hutson School of Agriculture
(270) 809-3329 msu.ag@murraystate.edu

Visit Our Website
www.murraystate.edu/agr

Master of Science Degree Courses of Study

Thesis Track

Total Courses Requirement **31 hours**
AGR 686 Training & Presentation Development Strategies
for Agricultural Audiences
AGR 713 Graduate Computer Applications
AGR 720 Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis
AGR 722 Graduate Capstone Seminar
AGR 735 Research Methodology
AGR 798 Thesis
AGR 799 Thesis
Twelve hours of Specialty Courses - 600 or 700 level, must be approved by faculty advisor.

Non-Thesis Track (Professional Option)

Total Courses Requirement **31 hours**
AGR 686 Training & Presentation Development Strategies
for Agricultural Audiences
AGR 700 Research in Agriculture
AGR 713 Graduate Computer Applications
AGR 720 Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis
AGR 722 Graduate Capstone Seminar
AGR 735 Research Methodology
Fifteen hours of Specialty Courses - 600 or 700 level, must be approved by faculty advisor.

In addition to the traditional tracks listed above, there are five online tracks available. To view the online tracks, please visit www.murraystate.edu/agr.

Courses Offered to Graduate Students

General Agriculture

AGR 636 Seminar in International Agriculture Systems
AGR 638 Seminar in Production Agricultural Systems
AGR 651 Selected Studies in Agriculture
AGR 671 Advanced Precision Agriculture
AGR 686 Training & Presentation Development Strategies
for Ag Audiences
AGR 700 Research in Agriculture
AGR 713 Graduate Computer Applications
AGR 720 Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis
AGR 722 Graduate Capstone Seminar
AGR 735 Research Methodology
AGR 744 Graduate Cooperative Education
AGR 798 Thesis
AGR 799 Thesis

Agricultural Systems Technology

AGR 670 Ag Systems Technology Lab Management
AGR 672 Advanced Metal Work
AGR 673 Agricultural Processing Systems
AGR 674 Agricultural Irrigation and Water Systems
AGR 675 Combine and Grain Handling Systems
AGR 678 Research and Development of Ag Tractors & Equipment
AGR 776 Agricultural Electrification Systems
AGR 777 Tractor Power Principles

Courses Offered to Graduate Students Continued.....

Horticulture

AGR 642 Plant Breeding
AGR 663 Advanced Arboriculture
AGR 664 Advanced Public Garden Management
AGR 666 Advanced Greenhouse Practicum
AGR 667 Advanced Landscape Design
AGR 669 Advanced Plants for Interior Design

Animal Technology

AGR 602 Advanced Nutrition
AGR 603 Genetics and Animal Breeding
AGR 604 Diseases of Livestock
AGR 606 Reproductive Physiology
AGR 610 Animal Anatomy and Physiology
AGR 611 Animal Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory
AGR 612 Beef Cattle Management Systems
AGR 623 Artificial Insemination Tech for Cattle
AGR 640 Veterinary Surgery and Anesthesia
AGR 650 Applied Pharmacology
AGR 660 Advanced Veterinary Surgery and Anesthesia
AGR 680 Veterinary Products
AGR 682 Veterinary Practice and Operations
AGR 683 Veterinary Law and Ethics
AGR 690 Internship in Animal Technology
AGR 701 Forage Management Systems
AGR 705 Advanced Ration Formulation

Equine Science

AGR 614 Equestrian Instructional Methods
AGR 615 Equine Exercise Physiology
AGR 619 Equine Nutrition and Feeding

Agronomy

AGR 641 Crop Physiology
AGR 646 Integrated Pest Management
AGR 647 Crop Management
AGR 649 Weeds and Their Control
AGR 655 Advanced Soil Fertility
AGR 661 Sustainable Agriculture
AGR 662 Principles of Agroecology
AGR 745 Biotechnology and Agriculture
AGR 748 Weed Science

Agribusiness Economics

AGR 628 Agriculture, Food and Rural Law
AGR 629 International Trade and Agriculture
AGR 630 Advanced Agricultural Prices
AGR 631 Agricultural Finance
AGR 632 Farm and Land Appraisal
AGR 633 Production Economics for Agriculture
AGR 634 Types and Systems of Farming and Agribusiness
AGR 637 Seminar in Agricultural Business Systems
AGR 652 Agricultural Policy
AGR 739 Agribusiness Management

Agricultural Education

AED 601 Methods in Teaching Agricultural Education
AED 680 Research in Agricultural Education
AED 681 Supervising Student Teachers in Ag Education
AED 682 Instructional Design for Agricultural Education
AED 683 Instructional Material in Ag Education
AED 684 Beginning Teacher Workshop
AED 685 Teaching Adults in Agriculture
AED 686 Administration and Supervision in Ag Ed
AED 687 Teaching Agricultural Mechanics
AED 688 Modern Problems in Agricultural Education
AED 693 Practicum in Ag Ed, Extension, & Public Svc
AED 735 Qualitative Inquiry in Agricultural Education
AED 791 Instructing for Out-of-School Groups