International Agribusiness, BA

Department: Applied Economics Department
College: College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Overview

About This Degree

USU is the only university in the state that offers a degree in international agribusiness, and it is an important field because ag-related industry, from farming and livestock to food production and human nutrition, encompasses a significant portion of careers worldwide. Additionally, the field of agriculture has historically differed from other business sectors in that government intervention in the form of taxes, trade barriers, etc., have always played a role in agricultural businesses. Therefore, students in the program study problems and issues unique to agribusiness industries.

International agribusiness involves large-scale international business operations, such as production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products and manufacturing of farm machinery, equipment, and supplies internationally. The program combines training in business, language skills, and economics courses that emphasize the role of trade and development issues that are critical to operating in the internationalized agribusiness sector.

International agribusiness provides a foundation for employment with businesses and institutions serving agriculture and rural regions, such as banks and financial institutions, marketing and buying cooperatives, value-added food producers, real estate, land management, agricultural chemical production and sales, farms, and ranches.

With a relatively small faculty, and a low student-to-teacher ratio, students are guaranteed individualized attention. Most of the faculty members in the College of Agriculture have national and international experience that helps them bring a global perspective to the class. Students have the opportunity to do research in labs and in the field.

To receive this degree, students must gain proficiency in one or more foreign languages.

Career Options

With a degree in international agribusiness, students can pursue the following careers, typically with global companies or in international settings:

- Commercial bank operations
- Commodities trader
- Food marketing and sales
- Agricultural input marketing and sales
- Insurance sales and adjusting
- Agribusiness manager
- Farm and ranch management
- Stock and commodity brokerage

Career Services provides counseling and information on hundreds of job and internship opportunities and even helps students apply and interview.

What it takes

Admissions Requirements

In addition to Utah State University's admissions requirements, the agribusiness program has additional requirements:

- **Freshmen:** New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing qualify for admission to this major.
- **Transfer students:** Transfer students from other institutions and students transferring from other USU majors need a 2.5 total GPA for admission to this major.

International students have additional admissions requirements.

Major Requirements

Click here to see course requirements for the **Bachelor of Arts**.

Students are required to complete a minor in a foreign language.

Contact

Advising

All new USU students participate in a New Student Orientation program, where they receive detailed information about major requirements, registering for classes, and other important advising information.

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Get Involved

Professional Organizations, Honor Societies, and Clubs

Agricultural and Applied Economics Association: This is a nonprofit association serving the professional interests of members working in agricultural and applied economic feilds. Members of AAEA work in academic or government institutions, as well as in industry and not-for-profit organizations. They also engage in a variety of teaching, research, Extension, and outreach activities.

Association of Environmental Resource Economists: AERE is a professional association for economists working in the environmental and natural resources fields. It serves as a means for exchanging ideas, stimulating research, and promoting graduate training in environmental and resource economics.

International Food and Agribusiness Management Association: This is an international management organization that brings together current and future business, academic, and government leaders, along with other industry stakeholders to improve the strategic focus, transparency, sustainability, and responsiveness of the global food and agribusiness system.

National Future Farmers of America Organization: This organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. USU members serve the agricultural industry, the agricultural education profession, and the FFA at the local, state, and national levels.

Western Agricultural Economics Association: This association fosters the study and understanding of agricultural economics and its application to problems in the western United States and Canada. It promotes unity, improvement, and cooperation with similar organizations and institutions so together they can increase the positive impact of agricultural economics.

Agribusiness Club: This club is designed for students interested in agribusiness. It holds activities and meetings to help students network and learn about careers in agribusiness.

Small Enterprise Education and Development Program: SEED gives USU students an opportunity to work with people in developing economies. Students teach workshops about business principles, including tracking sales, and how to identify costs, manage cash, and develop a business plan. At the conclusion of the training, participants may be awarded funding by an external company. USU students continue to work with the funded businesses, helping them grow.

Labs, Centers, Research

With the second oldest undergraduate research program in the nation, USU offers students a wide range of opportunities to gain hands-on research experience. The Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities program allows students to apply for grants and receive funding. USU's Honors Program prepares students for excellent graduate programs by helping them build relationships with professors, participate in research projects,

take smaller, more intensive classes, and develop leadership skills.

Utah Agricultural Experiment Station: The UAES is part of a network of researchers and facilities at the nation's land-grant universities and is committed to improving agriculture and managing natural resources for the people of Utah. At research facilities on the USU campus and throughout the state, UAES supports hundreds of research projects that promote agriculture and human nutrition and enhance the quality of rural life.