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The College of Agriculture includes the following departments:

Agricultural Systems Technology and Education (ASTE)
Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences (ADVS)
Applied Economics (Econ)
Nutrition and Food Sciences (NFS)
Plants, Soils, and Climate (PSC)

Degrees and curriculum options are listed in the *Instructional Units and Programs* section of this catalog. In addition to programs in the departments, the interdepartmental MS and PhD degrees in Toxicology involve more than one department.

Agriculture today is a dynamic, rapidly changing industry. It includes more than farming or producing food and fiber. It embodies all the occupations connected with the research, production, processing, marketing, and distribution of food and fiber products.

Agriculture is the nation's largest industry. Of the 131 million people employed in the United States, about 21 million (16 percent) work in agriculture or an agriculture-related industry. This includes about half a million scientists who serve agriculture directly or indirectly. The agricultural industry is the biggest buyer, seller, and borrower in the United States, and it has the largest investment of any industry.

Today's agriculture offers graduates challenging opportunities in a highly technological and competitive society. Students must be prepared to interact in such a society when they complete their formal education.

The success of various curricula in agriculture is manifest by the achievements of the graduates. They are setting new standards for agricultural production and in positions as professional specialists, teachers, research investigators, and leaders in agriculture and related industries locally, nationally, and internationally.

Education in agriculture includes fundamental science, as well as applied business and technology. Many graduates continue their education for advanced degrees and other specialized education and training.

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate students accepted in good standing by the University are eligible for admission to the College of Agriculture.

Facilities and Equipment

The E. G. Peterson Agricultural Science Building houses the administrative offices of the College of Agriculture; the Agricultural Experiment Station; University Extension; the Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences Department; and the Plants, Soils, and Climate Department. The Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences Department personnel are housed in the Agricultural Science Building, the Animal Sciences Building, the Biotechnology Center, the Skaggs Laboratory, the Veterinary Science Building, the South Farm, and the Caine Dairy. The Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department is located in the Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Building. The Family and Consumer Sciences Education faculty and classes are located in the Family Life Building. The Applied Economics Department is housed in the George S. Eccles Business Building. The Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences is housed in the C. A. Ernstrom Nutrition and Food Sciences Building. Some classes and laboratories are located on Agricultural Experiment Station facilities near the campus, where research and teaching interact. Research units located in more distant areas of the state provide research opportunities for graduate students and faculty members.

Curricula in Agriculture

Students may work toward the Bachelor of Science degree in any of the departments of the College of Agriculture.

Preveternary training is offered in the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences. Teacher certification can be completed through the ASTE Department in either Agricultural Education or Family and Consumer Sciences Education.

There are four basic curricula offered by most departments: (1) science, (2) production, (3) business, and (4) community development/technology transfer.

Departmental listings detail the requirements for earning a degree in these curricula.

Science

Students who choose the science curriculum learn the fundamentals of physical and biological sciences that are significant to agriculture, including biotechnology and genomics. In the basic science courses, students prepare themselves for graduate work and eventually research and teaching careers in the natural sciences. Graduates in science curricula are also prepared to do research or technical work in agriculturally oriented businesses such as farm chemicals, livestock health, feed processing and marketing, crop breeding, water use, and food processing. Science curricula are offered in the Departments of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences; Nutrition and Food Sciences; and Plants, Soils, and Climate.

Production

This curriculum is designed to educate students to meet the special demands of today's agriculture. Successful modern agricultural production requires an understanding of the latest scientific knowledge and an ability to apply the information. The production curriculum will satisfy the needs of a student who plans to be involved in production agriculture, to be a farm manager, or to work directly with farm operators as a businessman or as a government or farm organization employee. This curriculum is offered in the Departments of Agricultural Systems Technology and Education; Plants, Soils, and Climate; and in the animal and dairy science emphasis of the Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences major in the ADVS Department.

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Business

The businesses and industries that buy from, sell to, and provide service for people involved in production agriculture are expanding the need for employees educated in agriculture. These enterprises include feed, fertilizer, machinery, and chemical firms that supply the producer's needs, as well as marketing firms that assemble, process, ship, and merchandise agricultural products. Managers of large-scale farm enterprises also profit from the kind of education provided by the business curriculum. Students who want to capitalize on their agricultural background while pursuing a business or industrial career should consider the business option. This curriculum is offered in the Departments of Applied Economics; Agricultural Systems Technology and Education; Nutrition and Food Sciences; Plants, Soils, and Climate; and in the animal and dairy science emphasis of the Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences major in the ADVS Department.

Community Development/Technology Transfer

The community development/technology transfer curriculum allows for skill development in serving communities through teaching, research, entrepreneurship, leadership, and resource management. Family and consumer development is at the core of the community. The Family and Consumer Sciences Education program prepares individuals to lead in this area. Agribusiness management will enhance communities, especially rural, agrarian locations. A degree in Agribusiness or Agricultural Systems Technology will position a graduate to lead.

Interdepartmental and intercollege cooperation has and will continue to facilitate the development of various other curricula. Students should not hesitate to inquire about the possibilities of following a curriculum that would allow for special interests. The College of Agriculture participates in the Interdisciplinary Studies Major (see pages 342-343), which offers flexibility for qualifying students who cannot find an existing degree that meets their needs. Advisors in each department are available and should be consulted for guidance in scheduling classes and in planning careers.

Financial Support

The College of Agriculture and the agricultural industry in the Intermountain West annually sponsor more than 150 scholarships, internships, and assistantships. The college and the local agribusinesses also support many students through work experience programs. For further information, contact the College of Agriculture Dean's Office (Agricultural Science 221) and/or individual department offices.

Safety and Liability in Classes and Laboratories

Certain classes and laboratories involve a risk of bodily injury or of damage to clothing. Students should take appropriate precautions and wear suitable protective clothing. Some of the risks include handling or being near animals, slick floors or corrals, use of toxic or corrosive substances, and the use of sharp or breakable instruments and power equipment. Students should take safety precautions during demonstrations or work with chemical substances, animal tissues, or operative procedures. Students must assume their own liability protection for travel to and from classes, laboratories, and field trips. The University and its employees assume no liability in the performance of classroom or laboratory instruction or on scheduled field trips, or for other dangerous activities. The student, by voluntarily participating in these classes and activities, agrees to assume the risk and not hold USU or its staff liable.

Course Description

Agriculture (AG), [click here](#)