Agricultural Business Minor

DEPARTMENT

Department of Agricultural Business
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www.fresnostate.edu/jcast

MN in Agricultural Business Minor
BS in Agricultural Business, B.S.

Courses Offered

Join the leader in science, technology, and management. The award-winning Agricultural Business Program at California State University, Fresno is a pacesetter — having been recognized by the Agribusiness Education Project, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and comprised of agricultural industry leaders and higher education scholars from around the country.

The agricultural business curriculum is a comprehensive and integrative program of economic principles and business application with a problem-solving orientation and a practical experience emphasis.

Degree Programs

The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business combines core undergraduate courses in agricultural business (AGBS) with basic business management and agricultural science foundation courses. This undergraduate major allows you to emphasize a career specialty, such as agribusiness management, agricultural finance, agricultural marketing, farm management, or food industry management.

Certified Minor Programs. A Minor in Agricultural Business is available for students majoring in agricultural sciences, business, and other fields.

Complementary Fields of Study. Agricultural business students wishing to enhance their major with a technical field should consider a minor in such closely allied disciplines as animal science, family and consumer sciences, food and nutritional sciences, and plant science. A supplementary Minor in General Business is available through the Craig School of Business.

Ag One Grants for academic fees and books are available. Call 559.278.2061 for scholarship information and application.

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) has an elective area in agricultural business combining graduate courses in agricultural business (AGBS) with core courses from business. This degree program, AACSB-accredited, is administered by the Sid Craig School of Business. It is designed for individuals seeking to advance their career by enhancing their business management and economic analysis skills with an emphasis on agricultural sector applications. Contact the graduate business adviser at 559.278.2107. This area not currently accepting applications.

Instructional Facilities

Modern Computing Facilities. Labs are used to teach students computerized farm accounting systems, agricultural enterprise spreadsheets, agribusiness simulations, commodity trading, and to expose them to planning and decision-making aids as part of their professional expertise.

Institute for Food and Agriculture (IFA). Organized to promote the economic efficiency, profitability, and competitiveness of California agriculture, IFA uses faculty expertise and student assistance to address problems and opportunities in farm management, agribusiness finance, commodity marketing, agricultural trade, natural resources, and labor management. Seminars are held periodically on topics of concern to farmers and agribusiness managers. An annual Agribusiness Management Conference is co-sponsored with industry to explore current issues and report the economic outlook of the state’s agricultural sector.

Professional Preparation

Students establish credibility with prospective employers by participating in the following occupationally related activities.
• **Agricultural Business Club.** Students plan field trips, invite industry speakers to meetings, organize the annual alumni dinner, hold a newcomer picnic, support a campus job fair, and sponsor career preparation workshops.

• **Industry internships.** Opportunities exist for many career positions through management training programs with agricultural business firms and support institutions. The department coordinates internships on a competitive basis and grants academic credit in the major for this supervised experience (AGBS 194).

• **University Agricultural Laboratory Project.** Students gain farming experience through participation in the faculty supervised, student project program and concurrent enrollment in an Enterprise Management course (PLANT, ASCI 196). Such a course is highly recommended and can be used in the major.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**Agricultural Business, Minor Requirements**

This minor field of study is principally designed for agricultural science and business majors. Those students majoring in animal, plant, and food sciences as well as agricultural education may seek to complement their technical knowledge with competencies in agricultural business for professional advancement. Students majoring in one of the business degree options may anticipate staying in the San Joaquin Valley where they will most likely become involved with and require an understanding of the agricultural sector as employees, clients, or customers of agribusiness firms. The minor also provides a foundation for graduate study in agricultural business or agricultural economics.

You should consult with your faculty adviser in the Agricultural Economics Department to plan your program. The adviser and the department chair must approve the minor program of study before it can be filed with the Degree Advising Office, and recorded on your transcript.

The minor consists of 24 units, of which equivalent courses are acceptable for a maximum of 12 units.

**Core Requirements**

- Intro Microeconomics: AGBS 1 (3 units)
- Financial Accounting: AGBS 31 (3 units)
- Intermediate Microeconomics: AGBS 100 (3 units)
- Financial Principles: AGBS 130 (3 units)
- Organizational Behavior: AGBS 120 (3 units)
- Production Operations: AGBS 110 or AGBS 124 (3 units)
- Agricultural Marketing: AGBS 160 (3 units)
- Government Policy: AGBS 150 (3 units)

**Total (24 units)**

**Note:** The Agricultural Business Minor also requires a 2.0 GPA and 6 upper-division units in residence.

**Advising Notes**

1. University policy states that courses fulfilling requirements for a minor may be counted toward General Education.
2. Students pursuing a minor are expected to have basic computer competencies (AGBS 76 recommended) and fundamental quantitative reasoning skills (AGBS 78 or DS 71 or MATH 75 recommended) before enrolling in the required upper-division courses.
3. The department waives AGBS 1, 31, 120, and 130 for students who have already received credit for ECON 40, ACCT 4A, MGT 104 or 110, and FIN 120 respectively. Such course waivers correspondingly reduce the unit requirement for the minor from the maximum of 24 to a possible 12 - the minimum allowable under the Title 5 code. This adjustment accommodates the university policy that "courses in a major cannot be applied toward a minor unless designated as 'additional requirements' to the major."
4. Concerning the course selections to satisfy the production operations core requirement, consult with the minor adviser about which choices match your career plans.
5. All courses in the minor must be taken for a letter grade; CR/NC grading is not acceptable.

**Prerequisite Notice**

1. **Agricultural business majors** must complete the lower-division business management base courses (AGBS 2, 28, 31, 32, 71, 76) and the lower-division additional requirements to the major in General Education Foundation Area B4 (DS 71 or MATH 75) and Breadth Area D3 (AGBS 1) before enrolling in upper-division AGBS courses.
2. **Non agricultural business majors** who select the Production Management Option (Animal Sciences Major), the Production Management Emphasis (Plant Science Major), or the Teacher Preparation Option (Agricultural Education
Major) must complete AGBS 1, 31, and 76 before enrolling in any upper-division AGBS courses. Note: DS 71 or its equivalent is a prerequisite for some core upper-division AGBS courses. Permission of instructor may be necessary to register for some upper-division AGBS courses because of the general prerequisite structure indicated in note 1 above for students majoring in agricultural business and the specific prerequisites listed in individual course descriptions.

FACULTY

Faculty members are broadly trained with advanced degrees from top-ranked universities across the nation, and are highly experienced as teachers, consultants, and researchers. They bring practical insight to the classroom by being professionally active in service to California farms and agribusinesses, industry organizations, government agencies, and professional associations. Forming a strong advisee-adviser relationship with any one of the faculty can help you match your career goals with appropriate coursework.

For faculty phone numbers and e-mail, see the campus directory.

For more on the faculty, see the faculty pages.
The faculty pages are updated by the department or program.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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