

Agricultural Specialist Credential Program
Program Assessment Summary
Revised February 21, 2014

Program Design:

With authorization by the University President, the Kremen School of Education and Human Development (KSOEHD) Dean, Paul Beare serves as the Director of Teacher Education for the University. Dean Beare is authorized to speak on matters of teacher credentialing and certification, to work with colleges, schools, and departments at California State University, Fresno (CSUF) and to serve as liaison with agencies and organizations at the local, state, and national levels with interests in the training of professionals for public education.

Dr. Jody Daughtry coordinates the Single Subject Credential Program. She reports directly to the KSOEHD Dean regarding academic and curricular issues and to Dr. James Marshall, Associate Dean, regarding the administrative operations of the program.

Candidates for the Agriculture Specialist Credential must complete all of the professional education courses required for the Single Subject Credential and the agricultural education courses required for the Specialist Credential. Because of these additional requirements, the Agricultural Specialist Credential is referred to as an “advanced credential”.

Dr. Rosco Vaughn coordinates the Agricultural Education Degree Program and the Agriculture Specialist Credential Program. He is a faculty member of the Animal Sciences and Agricultural Education Department, located within the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (JCAST). Dean Charles Boyer is the chief administrative officer of JCAST and department heads and individual program coordinators, including the Agriculture Specialist Credential Program Coordinator, are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Dean.

Dr. Vaughn works closely with the KSOEHD credential coordinators and administrators in coordinating the Agriculture Specialist Credential program with the KSOEHD. He meets with the Single Subject Coordinator of KSOEHD on a frequent basis. Coordination of the Agriculture Specialist Program is enhanced by the university policy of concentrating all credential admissions and processing functions in one office located in the KSOEHD.

The program coordinator advises undergraduate and graduate Agricultural Education majors, teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Agricultural Education, places and supervises student teachers, serves as liaison with the State Department of Education Agricultural Education Unit, and is responsible for all phases of the Agricultural Education curriculum and program.

The coordinator also meets with the Agricultural Education Advisory Committee on matters related to the credential program. This committee establishes the vision for the program and provides an assessment function. The advisory committee consists of high school and community college teachers of agriculture and representatives from agribusiness and farming.

The committee provides one of many kinds of contacts between the program and the community served by the program.

The program coordinator meets regularly with other universities offering Single Subject – Agriculture Specialist Credentials. Representatives of these universities and the California Agricultural Education State Staff meet about four times each year to discuss and coordinate statewide issues and activities. The program coordinator attends these meetings. Other Agricultural Education faculty members have committee responsibilities and attend all or part of these meetings. This collaboration results in coordinated statewide programs for agriculture student teachers, cooperating teachers, and new professionals.

Course of Study (Curriculum and Field Experience):

The Agriculture Specialist Credential Program at CSUF is a five-year program. Students must first obtain the Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Agricultural Education. To complete the degree, students must complete 39 semester units of agriculture core subject matter. In addition they must also complete a specialization area comprised of 15 semester units from one of the following areas:

- Agricultural Business
- Mechanized Agriculture
- Animal Sciences
- Plant Science

The requirements for obtaining the undergraduate degree are listed on the Student Advising Sheet located in the Appendix of this document.

Subject matter competence and knowledge are documented through completion of the undergraduate preparation program and verification of 3,000 clock hours of occupational experience. Candidates complete a form, (T-14), listing their education and leadership records along with their occupational experience. They also complete a personal interview with a member of the California State Department of Education Agricultural Education Staff and provide this individual with a copy of their completed form. The form and interview must be completed prior to enrolling in the final field experience course.

Students desiring to enter the Agriculture Specialist Credential Program, with a degree in an agricultural major other than Agricultural Education, are usually lacking some of the courses required in the credential program. These students have two options to meet the requirements. They may choose to complete the courses that are required or they may choose to take the California Subject Examination for Teachers (CSET) Exam for Agriculture. A passing score on the CSET will satisfy the subject matter course requirements. Undergraduate students from other majors are advised to complete a major in Agricultural Education. Concurrent with establishment of subject matter competency, these students are also advised to enroll in AGED 050, Orientation to Agricultural Education.

Undergraduate students complete an early field experience course (AGED 050) and 12 additional semester units of Agricultural Education course work to provide them with a professional education knowledge base for teaching agricultural education. The sequence of agricultural education courses is:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Units</u>
AG ED 050 Orientation to Agricultural Education	3
AG ED 135 Introduction to Agricultural Education	3
AG ED 150 Resources, Materials & Equipment	3
AG ED 187 Organization, Administration & Supervision	3
AG ED 189 Education in Agricultural Mechanics	3
Total Units	15

After exhibiting subject matter competence, candidates are eligible for admission to the Single Subject in Agriculture and the Agriculture Specialist Credential Programs. To teach high school agricultural education in California, candidates must obtain both credentials.

The post-baccalaureate (fifth-year) program for Agricultural Education Teacher Preparation is structured so candidates, with a combination of undergraduate and graduate professional education course work, will concurrently fulfill the requirements for the Single Subject, Agriculture and Agriculture Specialist Credentials by taking a sequence of 39 semester units of post-baccalaureate courses.

At the post-baccalaureate level, candidates are enrolled in foundations, content instruction, psychology, and methods and materials courses. In addition, candidates are enrolled in a field experience course (EHD 155A) during the first semester of their graduate program. Second semester candidates are enrolled in an additional field experience course (EHD 155B) and spend one high school semester student teaching at an approved site. During this semester candidates are also enrolled in two graduate courses that require them to research and/or apply specific knowledge and skills to problems and issues arising during their final field experience. The sequence of post-baccalaureate courses is:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Units</u>
CI 151 Social Foundations of Education	3
CI 152 Educational Psychology	3
CI 159 Curriculum and Instruction in Secondary Schools	3
CI 161 Methods & Materials in Agricultural Education	3
LEE 154 Content Area Language & Literacy Instruction	5
EHD 155A Initial Student Teaching	4
SPED 121 Teaching Secondary Students with Special Needs	2
AGRI 280 Seminar in Agricultural Education	3
AGRI 281 Problems in Agricultural Education	3
EHD 155B Final, Full-time Student Teaching	10
Total Units	39

The teaching methods course (CI 161) is taught by an agricultural education faculty member and is part of both the single subject and agricultural specialist credential programs. The same is true

of the field experience classes. The preferred sequence of courses and activities in the Agriculture Specialist Credential Program are outlined on the “Agriculture Specialist Checklist”. A copy of this document is located in the Appendix. This sequence document outlines the design and content of the specialist program and is provided to all students in the “Introduction to Agricultural Education” course.

The agricultural education faculty members supervise all of the field experience courses (AGED 050, EHD 155A and EHD 155B). Field experience requirements unique to the agriculture specialist credential include: During the early field experience course, AGED 050 students are required to complete a philosophy of agricultural education assignment that includes the three-circle model of agricultural education. This model includes classroom and laboratory instruction, FFA leadership and experiential learning through supervised agricultural experience. During the initial student teaching phase, EHD 155A, students are required to study and discuss with cooperating teachers the agriculture department records, course of study, follow-up records of program completers, SAE reports, and FFA program of activities. They are also required to observe and assist with supervised agricultural experience programs and FFA activities. During final student teaching, EHD 155B, students are required to serve as advisor for at least one FFA meeting, attend an advisory committee meeting, plan and conduct a minimum of ten agricultural experience program supervisory visits, participate in state and/or national FFA activities, and participate in professional agricultural education association activities.

Assessment of Candidates:

All CSUF Agriculture Specialist candidates are concurrently enrolled in the Single Subject program and are assessed utilizing the Fresno Assessment of Student Teachers (FAST) to determine that candidates meet Teacher Performance Expectations. All three members of the Agricultural Education faculty have completed a formal training program for scoring each of the FAST assessment components and do most of the scoring of the Agriculture Specialist candidates. Other scorers that have successfully completed the FAST formal training for scoring complete the remainder of the scoring.

In addition to the FAST assessments, candidates complete a T-14 form documenting a minimum of 3,000 clock hours of occupational experience in agriculture. After completing the form they are required to meet with a representative of the California Department of Education Agricultural Education Unit who verifies each candidate’s occupational experience and signs the form. Copies of each candidates signed form are maintained in the program coordinators files. Every three to five years graduates and employers are surveyed to determine the satisfaction of both graduates and employers. Data from the surveys are compiled and shared with the program advisory committee. Candidates are also required to complete a final project during the semester they complete final student teaching. The master teacher at the cooperating school and the university supervisor must approve the project. A scoring rubric is used to assess candidate performance. Data is compiled at the end of each semester to determine candidate performance on the project. Candidates are also required to compile a professional portfolio during their final semester in the credential program. Portfolios are scored utilizing a scoring rubric and data is compiled at the end of each semester documenting candidate performance. Another assessment during final student teaching requires each candidate to complete a checklist of items

documenting they have met the exit competencies of a successful agriculture teacher. A panel of experts including cooperating master developed this instrument teachers and at the end of each semester the number of items completed by each candidate is compiled by category. Assessment data collected is shared with the program advisory committee and is taken into consideration when making changes in the Agriculture Specialist Credential Program.

Candidates are informed of assessments beginning with the introductory Agricultural Education courses and at the beginning of all courses as they progress through the program. Faculty advisors work with individual candidates to ensure they have ample opportunity to meet the program competencies.

Changes since the initial program review document submissions:

The program was revised to include the following courses:

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Units</u>
AGED 50 Pre-requisite Early Field Experience	3
CI 149 Pre-requisite Research-Based Planning and Instruction	3
Total Pre-requisite Units	6
CI 151 Social Context of Teaching	3
CI 152 Educational Psychology	3
CI 161 Methods and Materials in Secondary Teaching	3
LEE 156 Content Area Literacy & Communication in Secondary Classrooms	3
LEE 157 Teaching English Learners in Secondary Classrooms	3
SPED 158 Differentiated Instruction in Inclusive Settings	3
EHD 155A Student Teaching in Secondary Schools	4
EHD 154A Initial Student Teaching Seminar	1
EHD 155B Student Teaching in Secondary Schools	10
AGRI 280 Seminar in Agricultural Education	3
AGRI 281 Problems in Agricultural Education	3
Total Units	39

Other changes include:

- Dr. Nancy Akhavan replaced Dr. Jody Daughtry as the Single Subject Program Coordinator.
- An additional assignment was added to AGED 050 for students to complete a T-14 Form to determine their level of occupational experience and to develop a plan to ensure they achieve 3,000 clock hours of experience prior to enrolling in final student teaching. This assignment was also added to AGED 135 to ensure all students are aware of any deficiencies in meeting the occupational experience requirement in time for them to gain any needed additional experience.
- Beginning with the Spring 2014 Semester, students enrolled in AGRI 280 will be required to complete the unit-wide Exit Survey. This requirement was added to the course syllabus and students will complete the survey during the last seminar meeting of each semester.

