MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.ED.) MAJOR IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION (THESIS OPTION)

Major Program
The Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree with a major in Agricultural Education offered through the department prepares students to work as professionals in the agriculture industry and in positions of leadership and management in secondary schools and adult education.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international) for additional requirements.

- completed online ApplyTexas application
- $40 nonrefundable application fee
- $50 nonrefundable international evaluation fee (if applicable)
- baccalaureate degree in agriculture or a closely related field from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts required from each institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 2.75 GPA in your last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- official GRE scores not required*
- three letters of recommendation with at least two coming from academia

TOEFL or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

*Additional Information
If your last-60-hours GPA falls between 2.5-2.75, please submit the following:

- official GRE scores with a preferred minimum of 293 (verbal and quantitative sections combined)

Degree Requirements
The Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree with a major in Agricultural Education requires 36 semester credit hours. The major and supportive courses are to be taken with the advice and consent of the student’s advisory committee, which consists of three or more faculty selected with the help of the graduate advisor.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGED 5318</td>
<td>Administration and Supervision of Vocational Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGED 5330</td>
<td>Research Methods in Agricultural Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose 9 hours of advisor-approved electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minor in Integrated Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose 15 hours of advisor-approved courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGED 5399A</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGED 5199B</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
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<td>AGED 5299B</td>
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<td>AGED 5999B</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
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<td>Total Hours</td>
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<td>36</td>
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Comprehensive Examination Requirements
All candidates for graduate degrees must pass one or more comprehensive examinations.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student’s capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation.

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College.
by the end of the student’s enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

**Thesis Committee**
The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

**Thesis Enrollment and Credit**
The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student’s initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair’s discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrawn), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

**Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process**
Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) website under “Current Students.” The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student’s embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student’s progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university’s or institution’s email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university’s licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master’s level courses in Agriculture: AG (p. 2), AGED (p. 3)

**Courses Offered**

**Agriculture (AG)**

**AG 5360. Advancements in Animal Science.**
Survey of the current knowledge and concepts in animal production including economic considerations and current production problems in breeding and feeding livestock.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

**AG 5362. Advanced Animal Science: Minerals and Vitamins in Animal Nutrition.**
This course is an advanced study of the utilization and requirements of minerals and vitamins in farm and ranch animals. It emphasizes ruminant and non-ruminant mineral and vitamin metabolism and utilization. The utilization of specific minerals and vitamins by different species will be used to explain and predict subsequent performance.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

**AG 5370. Special Problems in Technical Agriculture.**
Special problems will be selected to meet the needs of the individual student. May be repeated (once) for additional credit when the problem differs.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
AG 5426. Soil Health and Development.
This course focuses on the fundamental topics of soil health and development. These fundamentals include pedogenesis, mineral composition, tillage practices, soil ecosystem and sustainability, soil biology and soil physics.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Agricultural Education (AGED)
AGED 5101. Instructional Skill Development.
Graduate assistants are required to enroll in this course to be prepared to instruct/assist with classes in Agricultural Education. Topics covered are essential teaching strategies, techniques, evaluation design, ethical classroom behavior, and effective instructional motivational techniques. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable with different emphasis.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

AGED 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

AGED 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

AGED 5314. Special Problems in Agricultural Education.
The student is given the opportunity to work on problems of special interest and need in the discipline of agricultural education. May be repeated (once) for additional credit when the problem differs.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5318. Administration and Supervision of Vocational Education.
The administration of comprehensive vocational education programs with emphasis on the operation and implementation of programs governed by state and national laws.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5319. Principles and Methods of Adult Education.
The rationale, planning, implementing, conducting, and evaluation of adult education programs in formal and non-formal settings will be discussed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5320. History and Philosophy of Agricultural Education.
This course covers the history, basic principles, and philosophy of different programs of agricultural education existing today.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5321. Methods of Technological Change.
The dynamics of cultural change as theoretical framework for planned technological change, methods of implementing change, the effects of change, and the prediction of change will be discussed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5330. Research Methods in Agricultural Education.
The principles and procedures of using and communicating both quantitative and qualitative research in agricultural education will be addressed. Special emphasis will be given to using appropriate methods to address research problems.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5331. Guidance.
Analysis of occupational and vocational opportunities for vocational students; includes work in interpersonal communications as well as in the techniques of individual and group counseling in guidance. Practice in personality and occupational interest testing.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5335. Curriculum Development of Vocational Programs.
Principles and practices in developing curricula for different areas of vocational education will be emphasized. The dynamics of cultural and technological changes on methods of planning and implementing vocational curricula as it relates to the educational needs of vocational youth will be stressed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

AGED 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until student has completed the thesis in Agricultural Education, AGED 5399B.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

AGED 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

AGED 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
AGED 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

**9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.**

**Grade Mode:** Credit/No Credit