

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS, PLAN A

The Master of Science in Agricultural and Resource Economics, Plan A, offered by the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, is a program of study consisting of 30 credit hours, including the preparation and defense of an original M.S. research thesis (up to 6 credits of research work). Completion of this degree implies a mastery of fundamental microeconomic theory and econometrics, with an ability to conduct applied economic research under supervision. Graduates are competitive for employment in the public and private sectors as analysts, consultants, researchers, and other occupations involving analytical skills. Our students have gone on to rewarding careers in federal agencies, NGOs, and the private sector. The program provides a solid foundation in microeconomics and quantitative methods, coupled with direct experience in applied economic research. This course of study represents an excellent basis for those inclined to pursue doctoral degrees, and many of our students have entered our own Ph.D. program or other top-level institutions across the country.

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin.](#)

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion, students will be able to:

1. Conduct impactful economic analysis and use quantitative tools to solve problems relevant to agricultural and environmental and natural resource economics.
2. Demonstrate competency in the theoretical and quantitative foundations of economics to successfully enter and complete a PhD program in applied economics.
3. Communicate economic concepts, analysis, and findings in both oral and written forms across a wide range of professional settings.
4. Support the dissemination of economic theory and methods as applied to topics in agricultural and natural resource economics.