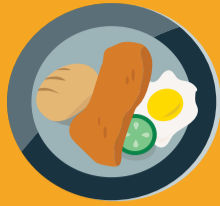


SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS



Since the foundation of this degree is business and economics, students may pursue employment opportunities outside of agriculture. Consider management, sales, marketing, communications, and public relations. A bachelor's may serve as a pre-professional path for students interested in pursuing advanced degrees in law, business, agribusiness management, or agricultural economics. Earn a graduate degree to pursue university teaching and advanced research positions.

Obtain relevant experience through internships and summer or part-time jobs. Get involved in relevant student organizations and seek leadership roles. Develop transferable skills that most employers value, such as communication skills, leadership ability, creativity, ability to work on a team, and self-motivation. Prepare to live in rural and farming communities for some of the career areas and be geographically flexible. Conduct informational interviews and build a professional network for exploring career opportunities and job openings.

AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

- Agricultural marketing
- Customer relations
- Logistics
- Outside Sales
- Retail Sales
- County planning
- Policy analysis
- Crop and livestock farm management
- Farm and home management
- Agribusiness management
- Land management

Agribusinesses
Farm input supply businesses
Commodity processors
Landscape design and maintenance firms
Production industries
Feedlot operations
Feed and seed companies
Manufacturers
Food wholesalers and retailers (grocery stores)
Farmers cooperatives
Gas, electric, and water distributors
Retailers outside of agriculture
Owner-operated businesses
Farm and garden supply stores
Wholesale distributors
Logistics firms

COMMON EMPLOYERS



PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



- [Agricultural and Applied Economics Association](#)
- [Association of Environmental and Resource Economists](#)
- [Farm Equipment Managers Association](#)
- [International Food and Agribusiness Management Association](#)
- [National Agri-Marketing Association](#)
- [National Association of State Departments of Agriculture](#)
- [National FFA Organization](#)



STRATEGIES ON ENTERING THE FIELD

- Take additional courses in statistics, finance, and accounting.
- Seek experience in financial areas through part-time employment or internships.
- Develop strong communication skills, as many positions require interaction with others and the ability to explain information clearly and concisely.
- Get involved in student professional associations such as the National Agrimarketing Association or other agribusiness clubs.
- Demonstrate competence in managing money and analyzing data. Serve as a treasurer for a student organization.
- Stay up to date on local, national, and global economic trends.
- Research and contact major and/or local financial and banking institutions that specialize in the agricultural market.
- Gain experience with retailers in the agricultural industry and other agribusinesses through internships or summer and part-time jobs.
- Develop strong interpersonal skills and the ability to relate well with a wide variety of people.
- Initiative, sales ability, and excellent customer service skills are also important in this area.
- Get involved in campus organizations such as the National Agrimarketing Association and seek leadership roles.