Agricultural and Extension Education (AEED)

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Agricultural and Extension Education website (http://agricultural-education-communications-and-technology.uark.edu/graduate-studies)

Degrees Conferred:
M.S. (AEED)

Areas of Study: Agricultural education, communication, technology, or extension education, and a technical area.

Primary Areas of Faculty Research: Agricultural teacher education; extension and non-formal education; agricultural systems technology management; and agricultural communications.

M.S. in Agricultural and Extension Education
Prerequisites to Degree Program: Bachelor’s degree in a closely allied field. Some deficiency courses may be assessed depending on the background and educational objectives of the student. Applicants must be admitted to the Graduate School and must have a) satisfactory undergraduate preparation in related fields of study and b) satisfactory GRE or MAT scores. In addition, applicants must submit three letters of recommendation and a writing sample.

Requirements for the Master of Science (M.S.) Degree: This program requires 33 semester hours, with a choice of either a thesis or non-thesis option. There are 12 hours of core courses consisting of AGED 5463 Research Methodology in the Social Sciences, AGED 5473 Interpreting Social Data in Agriculture, AGED 5483 Technical Communication in the Social Sciences, and AGED 5053 Philosophy of Agricultural and Extension Education. Additionally, students in the thesis option complete a written thesis, AGED 600V (six hours). Students in the non-thesis option complete a three-hour special problem, AGED 510V. The remaining hours (15 for the thesis option, 18 for the non-thesis option) may be taken in a technical area or agricultural and extension education courses. The thesis will focus on a research problem that bridges agricultural education, communication, technology or extension education, with the technical area.

Students should also be aware of Graduate School requirements with regard to master’s degrees (http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/degreerequirements/#mastersdegreecontent).

Graduate Faculty
Cox, Casandra Kay, M.S., B.S. (University of Arkansas), Instructor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 2003.
Edgar, Don, Ph.D. (Texas A&M University), M.S., B.S. (Tarleton State University), Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 2008.
Graham, Donna Lucas, Ph.D. (University of Maryland-College Park), M.Ed., B.S. (University of Arkansas), Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 1985.
Johnson, Donald M., Ph.D. (University of Missouri-Columbia), M.A., B.S. (Western Kentucky University), Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 1993.
Miller, Jefferson Davis, Ph.D., M.A. (Oklahoma State University), B.A. (Northeastern State University), Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 2001.
Rucker, Kathryn Jill, Ph.D., M.B.A., B.S. (Oklahoma State University), Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 2013.
Shoulders, Kate, Ph.D. (University of Florida), M.S., M.A. (Murray State University), Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 2012.
Wardlow, George W., Ph.D. (The Ohio State University), M.Ed., B.S. (University of Missouri-Columbia), Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology, 1992.

Courses
AGED 5001. Seminar. 1 Hour.
Presentations and discussion of graduate student research as well as review of current literature and topics of current interest by students and faculty. All graduate students will make at least one formal presentation. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for up to 3 hours of degree credit.
AGED 5013. Advanced Methods in Agricultural Mechanics. 3 Hours.
Emphasis on shop organization and management, courses of study, unit shop instruction, and development of skills in agricultural mechanics.
AGED 5033. Developing Leadership in Agricultural Organizations. 3 Hours.
Organizational concepts of leadership; administrative styles and structures; leadership for boards, committees, governmental bodies, and review of societal and political processes. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
AGED 5053. Philosophy of Agricultural and Extension Education. 3 Hours.
An examination and analysis of social and economic events leading to the establishment and maintenance of federal, state, county, and local agricultural education programs. Lecture 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
AGED 510V. Special Problems. 1-6 Hour.
Individual investigation of a special problem in agricultural education which is not available through regular courses. These will be directed by a member of the graduate faculty. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.
AGED 5113. Undergraduate Researchers Improving Student Experiences. 3 Hours.
To engage students in the social sciences in action research that serves to solve a problem or answer a question within the student’s academic field through scientific inquiry. All students will work with professionals, commonly outside of the university, within their discipline to conduct their action research in order to solve a problem experienced by that professional. Students may work in teams or individually to complete the overall purpose of the course. Prerequisite: AGED 5463 or HESC 5463 or other instructor approved Research Methods course.
AGED 5143. Electronic Communications in Agriculture. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4143.) An overview of communication technology in the agricultural, food and life sciences. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4143 and AGED 5143.

AGED 5153. Survey of Leadership Theory in Agriculture. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4153.) An interdisciplinary analysis of current issues in the practice of leadership in a contemporary and changing society, particularly as they affect agricultural organizations and issues. Discussions of leadership theory, roles of leaders, skills for effective leadership, diversity issues, and followership will challenge students to think critically about leadership, enhance personal leadership performance and potential, and prepare for or expand leadership roles, and to become innovative and productive in dealing with challenges facing agricultural organizations today. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4153 and AGED 5153. Prerequisite: AGED 3153.

AGED 5163. Leadership Analysis Through Film. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4163.) Films are a catalyst (Clemens, 1999). They make you laugh, cry, cheer, and think. Flaum (2002) stated leadership is best learned in the leadership moment. Moreover, the principles of Andragogy advocate adult learners best learning when there is a practical application of the learning subject. Therefore, this course builds upon the study of leadership theory by allowing students to analyze, reflect, synthesize, and apply leadership theories, models and concepts in the context of film. The course materials encourage students to reflect, synthesize, analyze, and apply the information learned from major leadership theories and apply them to various scenarios and situations demonstrated in selected films. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4163 and AGED 5163.

AGED 520V. Special Topics in Agricultural and Extension Education. 1-4 Hour.  
Topics not covered in other courses or a more intensive study of specific topics in agriculture education. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.

AGED 5243. Graphic Design in AFLS. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4243.) This course provides students with graphic design and software skills specific to industries in Agriculture, Food, and Life Sciences. Students will learn to use industry-standard software (InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Microsoft Excel, etc.) to prepare text and graphics and package them for use in print production. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4243 and AGED 5243. Prerequisite: AGME 2903 or ISYS 1123 or equivalent.

AGED 5343. Communication Campaigns in Agriculture. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4343.) Students will develop understanding of the principles, practices and applications of social marketing, integrated marketing communications, advertising and public relations as they pertain to developing communication campaign strategies for the agricultural industry. Students will develop a communication campaign for an agricultural company and/or entity focused on a specific product or service. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4343 and AGED 5343. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

AGED 5363. Educational Delivery Techniques. 3 Hours.  
Students will learn to apply teaching and learning theory in the development of engaging instruction delivered through electronic media. The goal of the course is not to make experts in "programming" or "theory," but rather to prepare students with the knowledge/practical skills necessary to deliver curriculum through various methods. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

AGED 5443. Principles of Technological Change. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4443.) This course introduces a structured approach for dealing with the organizational and human aspects of technology transition, including the key concepts of resistance and change management, organizational change, communications, and processes by which professional change agents influence the introduction, adoption, and diffusion of technological change. This course may be offered as a web-based course. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4443 and AGED 5443.

AGED 5463. Research Methodology in the Social Sciences. 3 Hours.  
Logical structure and the method of science. Basic elements of research design; observation, measurement, analytic method, interpretation, verification, presentation of results. Applications to research in economic or sociological problems of agriculture and human environmental sciences. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. This course is cross-listed with HESC 5463.

AGED 5473. Interpreting Social Data in Agriculture. 3 Hours.  
The development of competencies in analyzing, interpreting and reporting the results of analyses of social science data in agriculturally related professions. Students will select appropriate analysis techniques and procedures for various problems, analyze data, and interpret and report the results of statistical analyses in narrative and tabular form.

AGED 5483. Technical Communication in the Social Sciences. 3 Hours.  
This course will provide students with the basic principles and techniques in communicating social science information relevant to human subject research in agriculture, natural resources, and life sciences to the general public. Communication processes covered in the course include audience identification, writing, editing, and production of social science-based materials for popular and refereed publications. Focus will also be placed on thesis preparation and writing and research manuscript development and dissemination of social science research. Web delivered course. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

AGED 550V. College Teaching in Agriculture and Related Disciplines. 1-3 Hour.  
For students who are pursuing graduate degrees where emphasis is on preparation for a research career, but who also may desire or expect to teach. Provides theory and practice in planning and executing a college-level course.

AGED 5543. Ag Publications. 3 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4543.) Students produce a magazine through classroom study mirroring a professional magazine staff and are provided an opportunity for their writing, advertisements, photographs and artwork to be published in the magazine. By using computer applications, students integrate various skills including writing, editing and layout in agricultural publications. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4543 and AGED 5543.

AGED 5563. Thesis Proposal Development. 3 Hours.  
The purpose of this course is to assist graduate students in the preparation of their thesis research proposal. Students will produce the first three chapters of their thesis by the end of the course. Prerequisite: AGED 5463 or HESC 5463.

AGED 5632. Teaching Diverse Populations in Agricultural and Extension Education. 2 Hours.  
(Formerly AGED 4632.) This course is designed to provide pre-service teachers of agriculture with an understanding of teaching diverse populations as applied to problems of practice in agricultural and extension education. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both AGED 4632 and AGED 5632.

AGED 575V. Internship in Agricultural Education. 1-6 Hour.  
Scheduled practical field experiences under supervision of a professional practitioner in off-campus secondary school systems. Emphasis includes classroom preparation, teaching, and student evaluation.

AGED 600V. Master's Thesis. 1-6 Hour.  
Master's Thesis. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.