

Division of Agricultural Education

The Division of Agricultural Education is dedicated to serving the needs of all students and agricultural professionals through a dynamic and comprehensive program of rural leadership, technological advancement, and proven scientific and educational practices. The program is grounded in basic and applied research aimed at improving professional and technical skills in agriculture. Our students have the opportunity to make a difference in the agricultural education community through a creative, vibrant, hands-on curriculum.



CURRICULUM OPTIONS

B.S. Agricultural Education

The agricultural education curriculum is designed to provide professional preparation for extension agents, middle school and secondary agricultural education teachers and persons in agriculture service areas where content knowledge, pedagogical skills, and presentation experience are desirable attributes.

Broadfield Teaching Option

This option focuses on training future educators who plan to teach the myriad aspects of agriculture in our nation's schools.

Relations Option

This Relations Option prepares students for a wide variety of agricultural outreach careers in any agricultural area where the

knowledge, skills, attitudes, and experiences essential to teaching are desirable attributes. These include journalism (print and broadcast), marketing, sales, advertising, public relations, agribusiness communications, and many communicative positions within local, state and federal agencies.



Graduate Programs:

- M.S. in Agricultural Education
- Online M.S. in Agricultural Education

What can I do with my degree?

- Ag Literacy Coordinator
- Agricultural education instructor
- Breed Associations
- Extension Agent
- Farm business management instructor
- National Government Agency
- Public Relations
- State Government Agency
- Teacher
- State and federal agencies
- Young farmer instructor
- Adult agricultural education instructor
- Private industry
- Communications
- Marketing
- Sales
- Advertising

For additional information:

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RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

CHS Classroom

For years, CHS Inc., a farmer-owned energy and food processing cooperative, has funded numerous scholarships and educational opportunities for MSU students. The cooperative funded the renovation of an aging MSU agricultural education classroom into a 21st century setting, with capacity for distance delivery, video conferencing and other multimodal technologies.

Scholarships

The College of Agriculture offers over 100 unique scholarships and annually awards \$250,000 in scholarship funding. Award amounts and criteria vary greatly. Scholarship information can be found at: ag.montana.edu/students/scholarships. Applications are due on February 1st of each academic year.

CAREERS WITH A DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

There is a shortage of agricultural educators across the nation, despite the essential nature of agricultural literacy. The program at Montana State University prepares students to jump into the field with a wealth of knowledge concerning agricultural education and an excitement to spread their expertise, not only in Montana, but in schools across the US. Close to 70% of the AgEd Broadfield Teaching graduates pursue and secure teaching positions in Montana. Within recent years, graduates have also taken teaching positions in North Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho and California. Graduates of the Broadfield Teaching Option who decide not to teach in the formal public school setting often take entry-level positions in corporate agriculture or they pursue graduate degrees. Students also choose experience and careers within production agriculture.

Students earning a degree in AgEd Relations are prepared for a wide variety of positions, as they have a broad base of knowledge combined with excellent people skills. Past graduates have taken positions with the Natural Resources and Conservation Services, Montana Office of Public Instruction, United States Division of Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife Parks, Cooperative Extension Service, Kraft, Inc., Anheuser Busch, National FFA, CHS, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, American Feed Industry Association, Museum of the Rockies, Montana Farm Bureau, Montana Outdoor Science School, and in Montana non-formal education programs. The program also provides students with a strong foundation for advanced graduate education.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DISTINCTIONS

Youth Development

The students in the Agricultural Education Division work very closely with the Montana 4-H and Montana FFA state organizations. Students in the Division actively work to implement large-scale events such as Montana FFA Convention. They also assist with the John Deere Ag Expo which takes place each fall on the MSU campus.

Public Outreach

The faculty and students within the department conduct workshops for local youth groups and schools. Youth development and engagement projects are a critical piece of the Agricultural Education curriculum.

