The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics offers three graduate degree programs leading to the master of science and doctor of philosophy. Long recognized as one of the top programs in the nation, the department is an active center of research and graduate training in environmental and natural resource economics, the economic development of low-income countries, agricultural economics, community economics, and more recently, resource and energy demand analysis.

Department faculty are affiliated with a broad range of institutes and centers across the campus, including the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, the University Center for Cooperatives, the Renk Agribusiness Institute, Center for Community Economic Development, and the area studies programs. Each program has its own rich intellectual life of seminars and other activities.

The department provides office space, a lounge, and IT support for its approximately 60 graduate students. The Taylor–Hibbard Club, the department’s graduate student organization, serves as a link between graduate students and the faculty, elects student representatives to department committees, and promotes academic and social activities for its members.

There are three master’s degree programs in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics: the M.S. named option Agricultural and Applied Economics (A A E), the M.S. named option Resource and Energy Demand Analysis (REDA), and the M.S. named option Professional Option.

**M.S. NAMED OPTION IN AGRICULTURAL AND APPLIED ECONOMICS** ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-agricultural-applied-economics-ms/#text](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-agricultural-applied-economics-ms/#text))

The AAE-MS program is a 30-credit master’s degree program intended for students with research and academic interests, especially students who might want to go on for a Ph.D. program in economics of development, agriculture, energy and natural resources, and community development. This program normally takes four semesters to complete. For more information please visit the AAE department website ([https://aae.wisc.edu/programs/gradprogram/](https://aae.wisc.edu/programs/gradprogram/)).

**M.S. NAMED OPTION IN RESOURCE AND ENERGY DEMAND ANALYSIS (REDA)** ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-resource-energy-demand-analysis-ms/#text](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-resource-energy-demand-analysis-ms/#text))

This one-year program is designed to prepare students for jobs in economics and data analytics for a sustainable future. Industry professionals deliver seminars about their research, supply data for classroom activities, and mentor students via research projects. Our small class size means students get plenty of individual attention from faculty and staff. The cohort nature of our program fosters peer-to-peer learning and a culture of intellectual curiosity. Completion of this fast track master’s program requires 31 credits and does not include a thesis. Learn more ([https://jobs.wisc.edu/](https://jobs.wisc.edu/)).

**M.S. NAMED OPTION IN PROFESSIONAL OPTION** ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-professional-option-ms/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-professional-option-ms/))

This full-time, 15-month, on-campus professional master’s program is designed to prepare students to fill the growing private sector demand for quantitatively-skilled analysts and managers. Students will learn skills in economic reasoning, data management, empirical analysis, and technical communication in order to find analytical positions in governmental, or non-governmental sectors. The curriculum features three semesters and one summer term of core course offerings in econometrics, microeconomic theory, and professional development, along with a capstone practicum class leading to a final professional report. Students take electives to pursue specific interests in AAE’s focus areas of agricultural, development, and environmental and natural resource economics. Learn more. ([https://aae.wisc.edu/grad/mspo/](https://aae.wisc.edu/grad/mspo/))

**ADMISSIONS**

Students apply to the M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics through one of the named options:

- Agricultural and Applied Economics ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-agricultural-applied-economics-ms/#text](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-agricultural-applied-economics-ms/#text))
- Professional Option ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-professional-option-ms/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-professional-option-ms/))
- Resource and Energy Demand Analysis ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-resource-energy-demand-analysis-ms/#text](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-applied-economics-ms/agricultural-applied-economics-resource-energy-demand-analysis-ms/#text))

**FUNDING**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information ([https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/](https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/)) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

M.S. students in agricultural and applied economics can apply for graduate positions listed under students jobs ([https://jobs.wisc.edu/](https://jobs.wisc.edu/)).
Students in the Resource and Energy Demand Analysis (REDA) and Professional Option named options are not permitted to accept assistantships or seek dual degrees.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>See Named Option for requirement information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirement</td>
<td>See Named Option for requirement information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments and Examinations Requirement</td>
<td>See Named Option for requirement information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Requirements</td>
<td>No language requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REQUIRED COURSES

Select a N (p.)amed Option (p.) for courses required.

NAMED OPTIONS

A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferred. Students pursuing the Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics must select one of the following named options:

View as listView as grid


POLICIES

Students should refer to one of the named options for policy information:

- Professional Option (HTTP://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/AGRICULTURAL-APPLIED-ECONOMICS/AGRICULTURAL-APPLIED-ECONOMICS-MS/AGRICULTURAL-APPLIED-ECONOMICS-PROFESSIONAL-OPTION-MS/)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (HTTPS://GRAD.WISC.EDU/PD/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates and critiques theories and empirical methods for quantitative analysis relevant to agricultural, environmental, international development, or community economics.
2. Identifies data sources, applies appropriate econometric methodologies, and evaluates quantitative evidence relevant to questions in agricultural, environmental, international development, or community economics.
3. Clearly communicates applied economics issues, methods, and empirical analysis using both written and oral strategies.
4. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical, collegial and professional conduct.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Foltz (chair), Barham, Chavas, Coxhead, Deller, Gould, Mitchell, Phaneuf, Provencher, Rutherford, Stiegert; Associate Professors Alix-Garcia, Du, Grainger, Hueth, Schechter, Shi; Assistant Professors Conroy, Dower, Parker, Tjernström; Faculty Associate Dong

Lecturers: Beardmore, Glinsmann