International Agribusiness

Program and Application Information

Department Chair: Dr. William Nganje
Graduate Coordinator: Dr. David Ripplinger
Department Location: 500 Barry Hall
Department Phone: (701) 231-7441
Department Web Site: www.ag.ndsu.edu/agecon/
Application Deadline: March 1 for fall semester, October 1 for spring semester
Degrees Offered: M.S.
Test Requirement: GRE or GMAT
English Proficiency Requirements: TOEFL iBT 79 IELTS 6.5

Program Description

The International Agribusiness M.S. program offered by the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics at North Dakota State University provides both the academic training and the international experience required to excel in an international agribusiness career. The program of study includes course work in applied economics, quantitative methods, and international agribusiness strategy, management, finance, and marketing.

Students are required to have an international experience that may be satisfied by meeting one of three options:

1. The student may participate in an international internship. Both paid and unpaid opportunities exist with international agribusiness companies, with government agencies, or with nonprofit organizations. The semester-long or summer internship can be arranged by the student or in cooperation with NDSU’s Office of International Student and Study Abroad Services. Internship programs will be defined by the student and his or her major adviser, and approved by the Graduate Program Committee (GPC) and the student’s supervisory committee.

2. Students may participate in graduate courses in business or agribusiness at an international university during a semester-long or summer study abroad program. Study abroad programs will be defined by the student and his or her major adviser, and approved by the GPC and the student’s supervisory committee.

3. Students may select at least six additional credits of coursework offered at NDSU related to international business or agribusiness. Courses must be approved by the student’s supervisory committee as part of the student’s program of study prior to enrollment in the courses.

Students complete the program by writing and defending their comprehensive study papers under the supervision of their graduate committee.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to the Graduate School admission requirements (https://bulletin.ndsu.edu/graduate/admission-information), applicants must have earned a grade of B or higher in intermediate microeconomics and statistics including linear regression, and a grade of C or better in calculus.

Applicants must submit their complete application by March 1 for fall enrollment and October 1 for spring enrollment to guarantee admission and funding consideration. Admission will only be considered for candidates who submit a complete application.

It is desirable that students begin their program in the fall semester, although students may begin their program in the spring.

Financial Assistance

The Department offers assistantships on a competitive basis. Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs) provide monthly stipends plus tuition waivers. Students must pay a minimal activity fee each semester. Assistantships do not begin until the first semester of full graduate standing when courses that apply for the Master of Science degree are taken.

Most assistantships are half-time (20 hours per week) or one-quarter-time (10 hours per week). Students on assistantship perform research or teaching duties in the Department in return for their stipend. Assistantships are typically limited to 16 months.

Granting assistantships depends on academic performance, departmental needs, and availability of assistantships.

Students pursuing a Master of Science in International Agribusiness must complete all core courses. Students select elective courses (with approval of their adviser and supervisory committee) to fulfill the remaining Graduate School credit requirements. The core requirements assure breadth and competence in key areas of knowledge and professional activity. Students participate in an international internship, a study abroad program, or select six additional credits of course work at NDSU related to international agribusiness. The following courses, or their equivalent, constitute the core of the Master of Science program:

Core Courses
A minimum of 30 credits is necessary to complete the M.S. in International Agribusiness. Credits beyond those required courses listed above may be met through a combination of internship credits, courses taken during an international study program, or NDSU international courses approved by the student's supervisory committee.

Caton, James, Ph.D.
George Mason University, 2016
Research Interests: Entrepreneurship, Agent-based Computational Economics, Market Process Theory, Monetary Economics

Nganje, William, Ph.D.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1999
Research Interests: Agriculture Finance, Food Safety Economics

Erik Hanson, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota, 2016
Research Interests: Agricultural Finance, Farm Management, Marketing and Production Economics

Robert Hearne, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota, 1995
Research Interests: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

Jeremy Jackson, Ph.D.
Washington University in St. Louis, 2008
Research Interests: Microeconomics, Political Economy, Public Finance

Siew Hoon Lim, Ph.D.
University of Georgia, 2005
Research Interests: Production Economics, Transportation, Industrial Organization

Dragan Miljkovic, Ph.D.
University of Illinois, 1996
Research Interests: Agricultural Prices, International Trade, Agricultural and Food Marketing and Policy

Frayne Olson, Ph.D.
University of Missouri, 2007
Research Interests: Crop Marketing Strategies, Crop Supply Chain Management, Agricultural Contracting, Agricultural Risk Management

Timothy Petry, M.S.
North Dakota State University, 1973
Research interests: Livestock Marketing

David Ripplinger, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2011
Research Interests: Production Economics and Marketing

David Roberts, Ph.D.
Oklahoma State University, 2009
Research Interests: Natural Resource and Environmental Economics, Econometrics, Production Agriculture

David M. Saxowsky, J.D.
The Ohio State University, 1979
Research Interests: Agricultural Law

Saleem Shaik, Ph.D.
University of Nebraska, 1998
Research Interests: Agriculture Policy and Risk Management, Agriculture Production Economics

Anupa Sharma, Ph.D.
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2016
Research Interests: Economics, Agriculture Business and Management

Cheryl J. Wachenheim, Ph.D.
Michigan State University, 1994
Research Interests: Agribusiness

Tom Wahl, Ph.D.
Iowa State University, 1989
Research Interests: International Marketing and Trade, Agricultural Trade Policy, Marketing and Price Analysis

William W. Wilson, Ph.D.
University of Manitoba, 1980
Research Interests: Commodity Marketing, Agribusiness, Industrial Organization

Lei Zhang, Ph.D.
University of Texas at Dallas, 2011
Research Interests: Applied Econometrics, Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics, Regional and Urban Economics