

Date Submitted: 09/05/19 3:18 pm

Viewing: **10KS5273PHD : Agricultural and Applied Economics, PhD**

Last edit: 09/18/19 3:38 pm

Changes proposed by: Nick Paulson

[Agricultural and Consumer Economics](#)

Catalog Pages
Using this
Program

In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **1470 Head**
3. **KL Committee Chair**
4. **KL Dean**
5. **University Librarian**
6. **Grad_College**
7. **Provost**
8. **Senate EPC**
9. Senate
10. U Senate Conf
11. Board of Trustees
12. IBHE
13. DMI

Approval Path

1. 09/05/19 3:55 pm
Deb Forgacs (dforgacs):
Approved for U Program Review
2. 09/05/19 10:31 pm
Sean Fox (seanfox):
Approved for 1470 Head
3. 09/05/19 10:56 pm
Anthony Yannarell (acyann):
Approved for KL Committee Chair
4. 09/06/19 12:37 pm
Anna Ball (aball):
Approved for KL Dean

5. 09/06/19 12:56 pm
John Wilkin
(jpwilkin):
Approved for
University
Librarian
6. 09/18/19 3:39 pm
Allison McKinney
(agrindly):
Approved for
Grad_College
7. 09/18/19 3:43 pm
Kathy Martensen
(kmartens):
Approved for
Provost

Proposal Type

Proposal Type:

Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is

for a:

Revision

Proposal Title

Elimination of requirement of a Masters degree for admission to Agricultural and Applied Economics PhD program

Official Program Name Agricultural and Applied Economics, PhD

Banner/Codebook Name

PHD: Agr & Applied Econ - UIUC

Corresponding Degree ~~PhD Doctor of Philosophy~~

Program Code: 10KS5273PHD

| Major Code | 5273 | Minor Code | Conc Code | Degree Code |
|------------|------|------------|-----------|-------------|
|------------|------|------------|-----------|-------------|

EPC Control Number

Senate Approval
Date

Senate
Conference
Approval Date

BOT Approval
Date

IBHE Approval
Date

Effective Date:

Effective Catalog Term Fall 2020

Sponsor College Agr, Consumer, & Env Sciences

Sponsor Department Agricultural and Consumer Economics

Sponsor Name **Nick Paulson**
npaulson@illinois.edu

Sponsor Email

College Contact

College Contact
Email

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Academic Level Graduate

Will you admit to
the concentration
directly?

Is a concentration
required for
graduation?

CIP Code 010103 - Agricultural Economics.

Program Description and Justification

Justification for proposal change:

Virtually all peer PhD programs with which ACE competes for student admits do not require an MS degree, putting ACE at a disadvantage in recruiting strong PhD program applicants. Historically, ACE required an MS for admission to the PhD because we want applicants to have demonstrated independent research experience. However, as the prevalence of undergraduate research has increased over time, our graduate admissions committee has seen an increasing number of very strong applicants directly from bachelors programs that have the academic credentials and research experience needed for direct admission to the PhD program. The current requirement for an MS limits our ability to compete directly with peers for these students. Removing the requirement would not change the standards used in our admissions decisions; rather, it would allow our admissions committee the flexibility to admit exceptional students directly from a bachelors program to our PhD program.

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Admission Requirements

Desired **Fall 2020**

Admissions Term

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

The following minimum admission requirements apply to all applicants to the PhD program in Agricultural and Applied Economics.

A grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0), or comparable GPA for an international applicant, for the last two years of undergraduate study is a minimum requirement for admission.

For admission, international applicants whose native language is not English must provide:

- 1. A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT) score of at least 79 OR**
- 2. An International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic examination overall score of at least 6.5.**

Scores must be less than two years old from the first day of class at the proposed term of entry in order to be valid.

In addition to quantitative elements of the application, the following enhance an applicant's credentials:

Evident motivation to undertake graduate study

- 1. A clear interest in studying and researching in a focus area of the department**
- 2. Good preparation in economics and quantitative methods**
- 3. Relevant experience**

Describe how critical academic functions such as admissions and student advising are managed.

Admissions are handled by a faculty committee under direction by the Director of Graduate Admissions and in consultation with the Head of the Department and Director of Graduate Studies.

PhD students are assigned academic advisors upon admission, and are matched with research advisors by the end of their first year of study. Advisors are approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.

Enrollment

Describe how this revision will impact enrollment and degrees awarded.

This changes is not anticipated to significantly impact enrollment or degrees awarded. The target cohort size will remain the same at 10-12 students per academic year.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year One Estimate

5th Year Estimate (or when
fully implemented)

What is the
matriculation
term for this
program?

Delivery Method

What is the
program's
primary delivery
method?

Face-to-Face

Other than certification via the students' degree audits, is there any
additional planned mechanism to award/honor successful completion of
the minor?

No

Budget

Are there
budgetary
implications for
this revision?

No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.)
beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget
Information

N/A

Attach File(s)

Resource Implications

Facilities

Will the program require new or additional facilities or significant
improvements to already existing facilities?

No

Technology

Will the program need additional technology beyond what is currently available for the unit?

No

Non-Technical Resources

Will the program require additional supplies, services or equipment (non-technical)?

No

Resources

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc. Describe how the unit will support student advising, including job placement and/or admission to advanced studies.

This minor change to admission requirements will not impact faculty resources.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

This minor change to admission requirements will not impact library resources.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include any required or recommended subjects that are offered by other departments?

No

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

N/A

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

Will an existing tuition rate be used or continue to be used for this program?

Yes

Program Regulation

Describe how the program is aligned with or meets licensure, certification, and/or entitlement requirements, if applicable.

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

All proposals must attach the new or revised version of the Academic Catalog program of study entry. Contact your college office if you have questions.

Revised programs [**PhD Ag and Applied Economics - admission requirement revision Aug 2019.docx**](#)
[**PhD AAE Academic Catalog Revision.docx**](#)

Attach a side-by-side comparison with the existing program AND, if the revision references or adds "chose-from" lists of courses students can select from to fulfill requirements, a listing of these courses, including the course rubric, number, title, and number of credit hours.

Catalog Page Text

Catalog Page Text: Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the catalog pages for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

See the attachment for a comparison of current catalog and revised catalog recommendations.

9/16/19 - amckinney - Received updated catalog statement from Nick Paulson, and included with POS statement below. Removed statement about "masters degree required for admission" from POS table for clarity.

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

Entering with approved B.S./B.A. degree

Course List

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| Core Courses | | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | | 16 |
| ACE 561 | Adv Res and Scholarly Comm | 4 |
| ACE 599 | Thesis Research ((max applied toward degree)) | 48 |
| Total Hours | | 96 |

Grad Other Degree Requirements

| Requirement | Description |
|---|---|
| Other requirements may overlap | |
| Minimum Hours required within the unit at the 500 level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
| A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference | |
| Written Core Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Minimum GPA | 3.0 |

Entering with approved M.S./M.A. Degree

Course List

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|---|-----------|
| Core courses | | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | | 16 |
| 4 hours in Advanced Research and Scholarly Communication (ACE 561) | | 4 |
| ACE 599 | Thesis Research (max applied toward degree) | 32 |
| Total Hours | | 64 |

Other Requirements¹

Grad Other Degree Requirements

| Requirement | Description |
|---|--|
| Other requirements may overlap | |
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit at the 500-Level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
| A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference. | |

| Requirement | Description |
|--|---|
| Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? | Yes, but students meeting specific conditions may petition to move from the M.S. to the Ph.D. program within three semesters. Students who take this route must complete 96 total hours. |
| Written Core Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |
| 1For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Program information for the Ph.D. degree and the Graduate College Handbook . | |

DMI Documentation

Attach Final
Approval Notices

Attached
Document

Justification for
this request

Program Reviewer
Comments

Anthony Yannarell (acyann) (09/05/19 11:40 am): To the "Admissions Requirement" section: add a short description of admissions requirements for the program, and explicitly state whether these are the same or different for applicants with or without MS. If different, then describe.

Anthony Yannarell (acyann) (09/05/19 11:40 am): Rollback: suggested revisions for Grad College consideration

Revision to Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural and Applied Economics

“Elimination of requirement of a MS degree for admission to Agricultural and Applied Economics PhD program”

Current Academic Catalog Listing:

<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/ag-cons-econ/#doctoratetext>

Description/justification:

The proposed revision would remove the admission requirement of a Masters degree for the existing PhD program in Agricultural and Applied Economics. Virtually all of our peer programs will consider and admit exceptional undergraduates directly to their PhD programs, which puts ACE at a recruiting disadvantage to those peer programs. Removing this restriction will not change our admission criteria or affect any program/curriculum requirements or details. It will simply provide the admissions committee more flexibility in being able to extend offers of admission directly to the PhD program for exceptional applicants directly from undergrad programs.

CURRENT PROGRAM CATALOG LISTING

Requirements

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Core courses | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | 16 |
| 4 hours in Advanced Research and Scholarly Communication (ACE 561) | 4 |
| ACE 599 Thesis Research (max applied toward degree) | 32 |
| Total Hours | 64 |

Other Requirements

| Requirement | Description |
|---|--|
| Other requirements may overlap | |
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit at the 500-Level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
| A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference. | |
| Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? | Yes, but students meeting specific conditions may petition to move from the M.S. to the Ph.D. program within three semesters. Students who take this route must complete 96 total hours. |
| Written Core Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |
| Grad Other Degree Requirements | |

CURRENT PROGRAM CATALOG LISTING

Requirements

| | Students with MS | <i>Students without MS</i> |
|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| Core courses | 24-28 | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | 4 | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | 16 | 16 |
| 4 hours in Advanced Research and Scholarly Communication (ACE 561) | 4 | 4 |
| ACE 599 Thesis Research (max applied toward degree) | 32 | 48 |
| Total Hours | 64 | 96 |

Other Requirements

Other requirements may overlap

| | |
|--|--|
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit at the 500-Level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
|--|--|

A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference.

Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD?

No

Written Core Exam Required

Yes

Preliminary Exam Required

Yes

Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required

Yes

Dissertation Deposit Required

Yes

Minimum GPA:

3.0

Grad Other Degree Requirements

Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural and Applied Economics

The Doctor of Philosophy is a research-oriented degree that prepares successful candidates for positions in higher education, governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the research and management functions of the private sector. In consultation with a faculty advisor, students develop an area of specialization to fit their career aspirations. Typical areas of specialization include:

- agricultural finance
- environmental and natural resource economics
- family and consumer economics
- farm and agribusiness management
- international and policy economics
- price analysis and agricultural marketing
- regional economics and public policy

Students pursue coursework in theory, quantitative methods, and their area of specialization; pass a written core exam, a second-year research paper requirement, an oral preliminary examination which includes the formal proposal for dissertation research; and complete and defend a dissertation. The core courses cover the theory and quantitative methods upon which advanced research, teaching, and service in ACE are based. The specialty courses build on the knowledge gained in the core courses and provide an understanding of the application of economic theory and the tools of economic analysis. Students are encouraged to complete substantial coursework in other departments, such as economics, finance, and business administration.

A 3.0 (A = 4.0) GPA is required in all courses completed in the program.

Entering with approved M.S./M.A. degree

| Requirement | Hours |
|--|-----------|
| Core courses | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | 16 |
| 4 hours in Advanced Research and Scholarly Communication (ACE 561) | 4 |
| ACE 599 Thesis Research (max applied toward degree) | 32 |
| Total Hours (minimum) | 64 |

Other Requirements¹

| Requirement | Description |
|---|--|
| Other requirements may overlap | |
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit at the 500-Level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
| A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference. | |
| Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? | Yes |
| Written Core Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |

¹ For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Program information for the [Ph.D. degree](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

Entering with approved B.S./B.A. degree

| Requirement | Hours |
|--|-----------|
| Core courses | 24-28 |
| 4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core | 4 |
| 16 hours at the 500 level to define two fields of expertise. At least 8 of those 16 hours must be in ACE | 16 |
| 4 hours in Advanced Research and Scholarly Communication (ACE 561) | 4 |
| ACE 599 Thesis Research (max applied toward degree) | 48 |
| Total Hours (minimum) | 96 |

Other Requirements¹

| Requirement | Description |
|---|--|
| Other requirements may overlap | |
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit at the 500-Level: | 16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses |
| A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference. | |
| Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? | No |
| Written Core Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |

¹ For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Program information for the [Ph.D. degree](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).