Undergraduate Program Outcomes
Agricultural and Resource Economics
Colorado State University

Mission

Undergraduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics provide a high quality educational experience that prepares students for a diverse set of career possibilities and the foundation for life-long learning. Our programs blend applications of economic and business management tools with technical training in agricultural, environmental, and natural resource sciences. Graduates are prepared to work independently and in diverse teams solving problems faced in agricultural and natural resource management and the larger societal community. Our faculty members engage students in formal coursework designed to develop analytic and professional skills. Our faculty members also mentor students in experiential learning, particularly through extracurricular activities, that reinforce problem solving skills and foster personal responsibility.

Outcomes

Successful graduates from undergraduate programs in Agricultural and Resource Economics will exhibit the following characteristics:

Professional Development: Graduates will embody a general awareness of issues in agricultural and natural resource management and their implications in a larger societal context. Students will begin to develop a network of personal and professional connections which will foster an understanding of the culture surrounding professional expectations and conduct.

Technical Competence: Graduates will demonstrate technical competency including the ability to appropriately use economic theory in formulating analytical problems, identifying and gathering appropriate data, and employing appropriate economic methods to analyze those problems, utilizing appropriate available computer technology.

Problem-solving Skills: Graduates will demonstrate the ability to solve real-world problems beyond the context of the classroom. Students will be able to identify a problem and its scope, evaluate resources available to address the problem, formulate alternative solutions, and select the solution(s) most consistent with a stated objective.

Communication Skills: Graduates will demonstrate proficiency in oral and written communication in terms of substance, organization, mechanics, documentation, and synthesis. Proficient students will have the ability to clearly communicate findings, critically and analytically, at a professional level within their chosen career.

Leadership: Graduates will have developed leadership qualities that they will use in their professional, personal and community interactions leveraging the other competencies acquired in the program. These leadership qualities include vision, initiative, personal responsibility, team building, and motivating collective action.