VirginiaTech® College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Agricultural and Applied Economics

Department of





Agricultural and applied economics

is the science of human decision-making as it applies to agribusiness, finance, community and rural economic development, international trade, and the environment.

For more information:

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Why major in agricultural and applied economics?

Agricultural and applied economics (AAEC) provides a systematic way to understand the economy and address the challenges confronting agriculture, sustainable development, small business profitability, and financial management. Our academic program provides students opportunities to apply this knowledge by:



- Managing a commodity investment portfolio.
- Consulting directly with agribusinesses.
- Participating in regional and national competitions.
- Working closely with faculty on undergraduate research projects.

What can you become?

Students can choose between six academic options:

- Agribusiness management prepare for a career as an agricultural loan officer, sales manager, marketing specialist, commodity trader, and more.
- **Financial planning** gain the training to become a financial planner and help individuals and families plan and achieve their financial goals.
- **Community economic development** learn skills needed to analyze policies designed to promote growth and address poverty.
- International trade and development gain an understanding of international development, trade, and economic development policies.
- Environmental economics and policy learn to apply economic principles for effective and sustainable protection of the environment.
- Veterinary business learn small business management skills while gaining the science background needed to go directly into veterinary medicine or professional schools.

Agricultural Economics majors have a 98 percent employment rate after graduation, according to Georgetown University's Center on Education in the Workforce.



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