Your career. Your future. Our priority.

Graduates of the agricultural sciences major experience an interdisciplinary program of study designed to address the growing needs of today’s evolving agricultural and food systems. This includes preparation for a variety of employment options in the field. The major complements and supports several new innovative minors on campus, including leadership and social change, and civic agriculture and food systems.

Students enrolled in agricultural sciences typically study one of two areas:

- **Teaching and learning in agriculture** — for individuals interested in teaching high school agriculture with a seamless transition into a master’s program for licensure.
- **Community leadership and development** — for individuals interested in non-formal education and leadership development to improve the sustainability of communities across Virginia and the United States.

Skills and topics you will explore

The agricultural sciences program produces graduates with strengths in teaching and learning in formal and non-formal settings, community education and development, and leadership and social change. Students who can integrate their passion for agriculture with a commitment to working with people have virtually unlimited career opportunities. Specific skill and topic areas you may explore include:

- **Making decisions and solving problems** — analyzing information and evaluating results to choose the best solution and solve problems.
- **Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education** — supporting integrated, applied, and collaborative approaches to STEM-based agricultural education.
- **Service learning and community engagement** — connecting agricultural classrooms with the community.
- **Facilitating community change** — developing educational experiences in communities for viable and resilient outcomes.
- **Guiding, directing, and motivating peers** — providing guidance and direction to employees, including setting performance standards and monitoring performance.

The Residential Leadership Community (RLC), housed in ALCE, offers a transformative experience wherein young leaders at Virginia Tech can engage in the discovery, scholarship, and practice of leadership for social change. Former RLC students often describe the program as an invaluable added component of their Virginia Tech experience.