

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Program Description



The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (<http://aces.nmsu.edu>) offers a M.A. in Agriculture and Extension Education; M.S. degrees in Agronomy, Agriculture Economics and Agriculture Business, Animal Science, Range Science, Family and Consumer Science, Horticulture, and Fishery and Wildlife Science; and Ph.D. degrees in Agronomy, Agriculture Economics, Animal Science and Range Science. Generally, a M.S./M.A. degree requires 24 cr of coursework and 6 cr of thesis, in addition to any deficiency courses deemed necessary by

the graduate committee of each student. A Ph.D. generally requires 35-60 cr beyond a M.S. degree. It is assumed a M.S. degree program will result in at least one publishable manuscript, and a Ph.D. program will result in at least three publishable manuscripts with at least one accepted while the student is enrolled.

College departments that offer graduate degrees include:

- Agricultural and Extension Education (AXED)
- Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business (AEAB)
- Animal and Range Sciences (ANRS)
- Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science (EPPWS)
- Family and Consumer Science (FCS)
- Fishery and Wildlife Science (FWLS)
- Plant and Environmental Sciences (PES)
- Hospitality, Restaurant and Tourism Management (HRTM) through the FCS department

Information about graduate coursework and programs for individual departments can be found at the following Web link:

- **Graduate School:** <http://gradschool.nmsu.edu/>
- **International Students:** <http://prospective.nmsu.edu/international/index.html>

Specific information about each department can be found at their respective websites. General information about each program follows:

- **Agricultural and Extension Education (AXED)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/axed/>) offers a Master of Arts in Agricultural and Extension Education. Flexibility in each program allows students to pursue professional interests and to develop specialized competencies in agricultural and Extension education, technology education, international extension and development, community development, and adult non-formal education. The department delivers courses in evening, weekend, and distance formats to accommodate student needs. A nine-credit minor is available to students completing major work in other departments.
- **Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business (AEAB)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/aeab/>) offers a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics (MSAE), a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with specialization in Agribusiness (MBAAB), a Master of Agriculture with specialization in Agribusiness (MAAB), and a Doctorate in Economic Development (DED) program. The MSAE is designed to train students in the application of economic theory and research methods to analyze agricultural and natural resource management issues. The MBAAB is a fully accredited MBA program, offered jointly with the College of Business, designed to train students for administrative/management careers with the food and agribusiness industry. The MAAB is mainly designed for students whose undergraduate degree is not in Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness but what to get some exposure to Agribusiness concepts and analysis tools as well as the opportunity to take graduate-level courses in other food and agricultural science fields. The DED program, offered jointly with the Department of Economics and International Business, is aimed at training professionals in this field with state-of-the-art concepts, information and tools that allow them to analyze and propose solutions to real-life economic development problems.
- **Animal and Range Sciences (ANRS)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/anrs/>) offers M.S. degrees in Agriculture in the areas Animal Science (reproductive physiology, ruminant nutrition, animal breeding, nutritional microbiology, nutritional toxicology) and Rangeland Resources (range ecology, plant taxonomy, range improvements, rangeland restoration, brush and weed control, ecophysiology and watershed management). The Department offers work that will lead to a Ph.D. in Ruminant Nutrition, Reproductive Physiology and Rangeland Resources. The department consists of 17 on-campus faculty and 2 off-campus faculty. The average appointment is about 50% research and 50% teaching. Our current enrollment is 320 undergraduates and 39 graduate students with 21 on research and teaching assistantships. Research facilities include modern research labs and a livestock farm housing beef cattle, sheep, hogs and horses. Off campus facilities include the 64,000 acre Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center located 20 miles north of Las Cruces, the 27,500 acre Corona Range and Livestock Research Center located 180 miles north of Las Cruces just east of the town of Corona, NM. These research centers focus on beef cattle management, range management and ecology and range sheep production (Corona). Feedlot cattle research is conducted at a 1,000 head feedlot located in Clayton, NM.
- **Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science (EPPWS)** (<http://eppws.nmsu.edu/>) offers a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Biology. Students prepare for careers in

research, extension, teaching, private consulting, industry, and government or to continue in a broad range of Ph.D. programs. Typically, students specialize in one of our discipline areas or take advantage of the opportunity for integrated studies within the department. A minor is available to students completing major work in other departments.

- **Family and Consumer Science (FCS)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/fcs/>) offers M.S. degrees in four areas of study: Clothing, Textiles and Fashion Merchandising; Family and Child Science; Human Nutrition and Food Science; and Family and Consumer Science Education. Areas of research in the department include: childhood obesity, diabetes education, effect of calcium on bone density of adolescents, effective parenting, pathways for mentoring community college student to careers in Family and Consumer Science Education, work-life balance, body image and clothing and brand recognition in foreign markets. The School of Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management offers a M.S. degree through Family and Consumer Sciences in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management. Students take graduate level statistics, a research methods course, and leveling coursework in HRTM depending on the discipline in which they received a Bachelor's degree. Past graduates have pursued research in the areas of Tourism Public Policy and Funding, Non-Profit Management of Events, Tourism Marketing, Food Allergies and the Restaurant Industry, and Recreational Vehicle Travel in the U. S. Border Region.
- **Fishery and Wildlife Sciences (FWLS)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/fws/>) offers an M.S. degree in Fishery and Wildlife and has a current enrollment of 30 graduate students. The department consists of 6 faculty, 4 specializing in terrestrial wildlife ecology and 2 in aquatic ecology. There is one assistant professor, three associate professors, and two full professors. In addition, the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, housed within the department, has 2 adjunct wildlife scientists who also teach and direct graduate studies. The average teaching appointment of the faculty is 33% teaching and 67% research. Research activities include fish and wildlife population ecology and habitat requirements and management, aquatic toxicology and population genetics, with emphasis on arid lands of the American Southwest and northern Mexico.
- **Plant and Environmental Sciences (PES)** (<http://aces.nmsu.edu/academics/pes/>) offers M.S. degrees in Agronomy and Horticulture and a Ph.D. degree in Agronomy, in addition to 5 B.S. degrees with a current enrollment of 104 undergraduates and 60 graduate students. The department consists of 24 faculty, including 6 off-campus faculty with exclusive research appointments at agricultural and forestry research centers strategically located throughout New Mexico. There are 2 Regents Professors, 11 professors, 5 associate professors, and 7 assistant professors and 2 open positions. The average teaching appointment of the faculty is 25% with 75% research appointment. Research activities focus on plant breeding and genetics, molecular biology, natural resource management, reclamation/restoration of disturbed lands, phytoremediation, and sustainable agriculture under both dryland and irrigated systems.