

**REQUIREMENTS FOR M.S.  
AGRICULTURAL & RESOURCE ECONOMICS  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Credits:

- Total Credits required are:
  - Plan A – 30 credits including a thesis (maximum of 6 credits for thesis)
  - Plan B – 33 credits including a technical paper (maximum of 3 credits for technical paper)
- A Minimum of:
  - 24 credits must be earned at Colorado State University
  - 21 credits must be earned after admission to the Agricultural and Resource Economics Graduate Program.
  - 18 Credits must be in 500-level or above courses, with at least 12 credits from formal courses (i.e., not independent studies or research).
- No student-option pass-fail grading is permitted in the program of study (i.e., GS Form 6)

Required Courses:

- The following classes must be completed with a minimum grade of B (3.0 grade points) within three academic semesters after full admission to the program:
  - ECON 506: Microeconomic Analysis I
  - AREC 535: Applied Econometrics I
  - AREC 572: Social Benefit Cost Analysis or AREC 678: Agricultural Policy

Students must retake courses if they receive a B- or below.

- In addition, students must take at least three additional 500 or above AREC courses.
- Students are expected to have mathematical skills equivalent to ECON 501, which may be listed on the GS Form 6.
- ECON 504, Macroeconomics, is strongly recommended, especially for students going on to a Ph.D. program.

Courses Not Counted

- The following courses are considered prerequisite to the M.S. and should be completed before starting your program at CSU. These courses may not be counted as part of the student's program of study (i.e., GS Form 6):
  - AREC 335: Introduction to Econometrics
  - ECON 304: Intermediate Macroeconomics
  - ECON 306: Intermediate Microeconomics
  - STAT 301: Introduction to Statistical Methods
  - STAT 304: Multiple Regression Analysis
  - All 100 and 200 level courses
- All background courses required by the department must be taken with traditional grading, even though they may not count towards the student's formal program of study.

**DARE Field Specializations**  
 Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics  
 Colorado State University

Masters students take three required courses and a minimum of five additional courses to complete their programs. The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Colorado State University has developed several specialization options for our students. A specialization requires two courses. You may choose one or more specializations; we encourage, but do not require you to specialize. Consider combining two specializations, such as environmental and resource economics with water or land economics, or combining production and finance with welfare and policy. Other specializations can be formed in consultation with your advisor and written permission from the graduate coordinator.

<b>Specialization</b>	<b>Courses</b>
Environmental & Resources	AREC 540/AREC 541
Water	AREC 540/AREC 542
Land Use	AREC 540/547
Agribusiness	AREC 510/ 624 (new course)
Marketing	AREC 510/ 710 (new course)
Production and Finance	AREC 505/AREC 508
Regional and Community Development	AREC 563/AREC 566
Welfare and Policy	AREC 572/AREC 678
Econometrics and Statistics	AREC 535 + AREC 635 or other
<b>Supporting Specializations Outside the Department</b>	
<i>Quantitative Methods/Statistics</i>	<i>STAT 420/ STAT 430</i>
<i>Quantitative Methods/Optimization</i>	<i>Non-linear programming Multiobjective programming</i>
<i>Natural Resources</i>	<i>GIS, Watershed Science, etc.</i>
<i>Agricultural Sciences</i>	<i>Animal, Crop, Soil, Pest, etc</i>
<i>Business</i>	<i>Varies by interest</i>

### Typical Course Schedule

#### Fall (First Semester)

ECON 580 Quantitative Methods  
ECON 506 Microeconomic Theory  
AREC 505 Production Economics  
AREC 535 Econometrics (If not taking EA 505)  
AREC 547 Public Lands Planning and Mgt  
(offered every other year)  
AREC 566 Contemporary Issues in Econ.  
Development (offered every other year)  
AREC 524 Agribusiness

#### Spring (Second Semester)

AREC 535 Econometrics  
AREC 541 Environmental Economics  
AREC 572/678 Social Benefit Cost  
Analysis/Agricultural and Resource  
Policy  
AREC 508 Financial Mgt in Agriculture  
AREC 542 Economics of Water Res.  
Planning  
AREC 510 Agricultural Price Analysis and  
Product Marketing

#### Fall (Third Semester)

AREC 535 Econometrics  
AREC 540 Economics of Natural Resources  
AREC 624 Advanced Agribusiness Analysis  
AREC 566 Contemporary Issues in Econ.  
Development (offered every other year)  
AREC 547 Public Lands Planning and Mgt  
(offered every other year)  
AREC 710 Advanced Price and Commodity  
Market Analysis (offered every other year)

#### Spring (Fourth Semester)

Work on thesis and take courses as needed.

# Example Specialization Paths for the Masters Degree

Effective 06/05

