MAJOR IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Agricultural Education is defined as a systematic program of instruction for students desiring to learn and teach/educate the science, business, and technology of agriculture, food and environmental/natural resource systems. Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices regarding agriculture. Agricultural Education is a major in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, but works significantly with the School of Education – Center for Educator Preparation. CSU focuses on two delivery concentrations in Agricultural Education: Teacher Development for school-based agricultural education, and Agricultural Literacy. The department also offers a minor in Agricultural Literacy.

Learning Outcomes
The successful student will demonstrate:

- Competent knowledge of agricultural subject matter
- Ability to create instruction opportunities that are adapted to diverse learners in agricultural education
- Employment of innovative instructional methodologies and assessment techniques to promote learning in agriculture
- Effective program management and program evaluation techniques

Potential Occupations
Graduates in Agricultural Education are in demand to fill a continuous shortage of agricultural teachers in Colorado and nationwide. Two-thirds of the CSU graduates have become teachers or administrators in public schools. Other graduates take agribusiness positions with seed, fertilizer, feed, machinery, or finance firms. Students are also prepared to teach in community or junior colleges, area career and technical schools, and technical institutes. Participation in internships is required to enhance practical training and development.

Advanced studies after graduation include graduate studies in agricultural education, extension education and administration, or more in-depth studies in other areas of agriculture, food and natural resources. Upon completion of these advanced degrees, additional opportunities exist for program completers including: advanced high school agriculture teachers, post-secondary agriculture teacher, agribusiness or agriservice representative, cooperative extension agent, education specialist, 4-H association youth specialist, youth development specialist, science teacher.

A Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education with an Agricultural Literacy concentration will enable students to guide, direct, plan, deliver and assess agriculture programs for non-formal or informal programs such as museums, business or industry programs, county or state fair displays or integrated after-school programs. A Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education with a Teacher Development concentration leads to teacher licensure by the state of Colorado. Teachers combine classroom, laboratory, and hands-on experiences to teach high school students about the myriad agricultural topics. The curriculum requires students to demonstrate a competent knowledge of educational theory and a broad-based understanding in agricultural content.

Concentrations
- Agricultural Literacy Concentration
- Teacher Development Concentration