

Graduate Student Handbook

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

2009 – 2010

UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING
New Thinking

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About this Handbook

The objective of this Handbook is to present general policies, procedures and expectations applicable to students pursuing a graduate degree in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wyoming (AGEC). This Handbook supplements the information provided in the [University of Wyoming Graduate Bulletin](#). The general requirements listed in the University Graduate Bulletin apply to all students pursuing graduate degrees at the University of Wyoming. All AGECE students should become familiar with these University wide policies.

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Welcome to the Graduate Program in Agricultural & Applied Economics

Welcome to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. We hope this booklet and our web pages provide you with helpful information about the Department and the University of Wyoming (UW). We encourage you to save this booklet for future use.

The Department embraces three missions. The first and most important is undergraduate and graduate education of students on campus. The second is educational outreach to the people and communities of the state. The third is solving problems in agricultural and rural economies through our research programs. The melding of these three missions in our Department has produced vital and synergistic programs.

The Department offers a Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics. This degree is oriented toward those who wish to enter the work force upon completion but also serves as preparation for a Ph.D. Employment opportunities have been excellent for our Master's graduates.

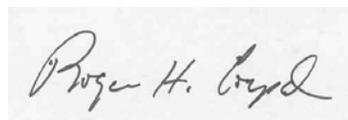
With enrollment ranging from 8-15 students per year, our masters program provides small classes and close working relationships with faculty. Our students have a unique opportunity for collegial relationships with faculty and staff. This interaction results in very high quality, but individualized educational experiences for our students.

About one third of our resources are dedicated to applied and basic research. A strength of our research program is the extensive interaction of our faculty with other colleagues in the life sciences and on multidisciplinary research teams. Our faculty are working toward solutions to some of the most complex agricultural and natural resource problems of today. We are working on better ways for agriculture to be more profitable and to enhance the environment; we are looking at ways rural communities can improve their economies; we are examining the impact of environmental and other public policies on rural people and communities, to name a few.

I hope you will take the time to view the highlights of our research programs on the website. The students, faculty and staff of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wyoming are proud of their Department and their college as well as the University and its accomplishments. We hope that you will enjoy your experiences at UW!

If you have a question or would like to learn more, please call or email.

Sincerely,



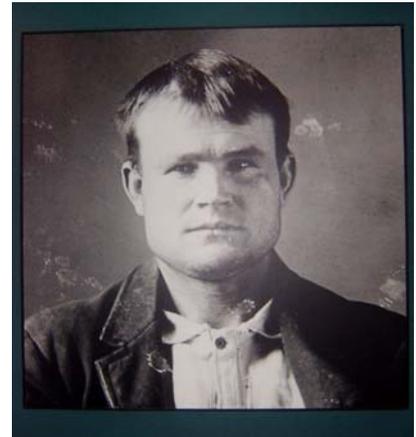
Roger H. Coupal

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The City of Laramie and the University of Wyoming

Laramie, Wyoming is a town of 28,000 located in southeastern Wyoming 49 miles west the state capital of Cheyenne, and 70 miles north of Ft. Collins, Colorado. Laramie sits 7,200 feet above sea level on a large plateau called the Laramie Plains. The city was founded in 1868 as a rough and tumble rail head town on the transcontinental railroad. As such, Laramie has a storied history that includes many events that are synonymous with the folklore of the American West. One of the city's historical claims to fame is the territorial prison, one of whose occupants was Butch Cassidy (right).



Laramie's location on interstate 80 means that you can have that small town feel along with easy access to larger urban centers. Denver International Airport, a hub for a number of major airlines, is just two and a half hours away.

Outdoor activities are one of Laramie's major attractions. The Laramie Range, just a twenty minute ride to the east, provides easy access to rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, fishing and camping. During the winter months, cross country skiing and snowshoeing at Happy Jack recreation area, 10 miles east of Laramie, are popular activities.

To the west, the Snowy Range rises to over 12,000 feet. Hiking, camping, hunting and fishing as well as cross country skiing and snowmobiling during the winter are popular activities.



The University of Wyoming, the state's only 4-year educational institution, was founded in Laramie in 1886, four years before the territory became a state. UW combines the major-university benefits of 180 programs of study and an outstanding faculty with the small-school advantages of an enrollment of just over 12,000. UW, as a land-grant institution, has a strong service ethic. For much of its history UW's primary focus was on educating

state residents and conducting research to help solve the problems of a young and developing state. In more recent decades, UW has looked outward and evolved into a modern state university with diverse faculty and research areas.

Agricultural and Applied Economics - The Discipline and the Department

The Discipline

Agricultural economics is recognized by the National Academy of Sciences as a unique social science discipline. Work in the field of agricultural and applied economics involves the application of economic theory, concepts, and methods to problems and issues pertaining to agriculture, natural resources, food, and the rural economy. Although the discipline began as farm economics (with a focus on farm production and efficiency), it has evolved to now address issues as diverse as obesity, carbon sequestration, water allocation, cattle markets, grazing permits, endangered species, land use, risk management, and community economic development. Because of the nature of these problem areas, agricultural economists often work in collaboration with other scientists in the biological, physical and social sciences.

Problems addressed by agricultural economists arise because of their importance to private decision makers in agriculture (e.g. producers, marketers, lenders and suppliers) or to those affected by agriculture (e.g. consumers, taxpayers, citizens), or to public decision makers. Although agricultural economics is inherently an applied and mission-oriented field, agricultural economists regularly make contributions to advancing the underlying discipline by discovering new analytical and empirical methods, refining theory to reflect changes in industry structure and market institutions, and illuminating new problems with the application of accepted concepts. Thus, work on issues of critical interest within

the State or Region can gain national and international recognition.

The Department

The Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics at the University of Wyoming has 15 faculty members and three academic professionals. The Department typically is among those with the highest undergraduate enrollments in the College. It plays a key role in addressing economic/management issues facing decision makers in the state and region. The Department has a solid personnel base, including a number of recent hires, and is looking to further expand its academic and service role in the region and nation. The Department offers a BS degree program with options in agricultural business, farm and ranch management, and international agriculture; and MS degree programs in agricultural economics and agricultural business. Multi-disciplinary collaborations in research and teaching also are encouraged. At present the Department participates in several interdisciplinary degree programs including BS and MS degrees in Environmental and Natural Resources and an MS degree in International Studies. The Department's nationally recognized extension programs focus on using economic principles and analyses to assist in decision making at the family, firm, and community levels. An experimental economics laboratory housed in the Department contributes to research programs using laboratory techniques to study economic issues.

When You Arrive on Campus

When you arrive on the UW campus for the first time there are several tasks you need to complete. Below is a list of tasks that will assure that your first semester gets off to a great start:

- **Visit the Department:** When you first arrive on campus you should visit the Department, which is located on the second floor of the College of Agriculture (see map). Introduce yourself to the Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Ben Rashford (AG 234B) or the Department Head, Dr. Roger Coupal. They will direct you to your office space, where you can access the computer system, and will introduce you to the Department.
- **Acquire a UW Computer Account:** Your UW computer account will allow you to access the University computer system, set-up a UW email account and access WyoWeb (the University Web portal). A computer account is created for all UW students as soon as they are accepted. Visit www.wyoweb.uwyo.edu and select **Get Username and Initial Password** to activate your account.
- **Complete Assistantship Paperwork:** If you have been offered a graduate assistantship, you must see the Department Accountant, Lorraine Harrison (AG 204) to complete required employment and payroll forms as soon as you arrive on campus. Students that reside in Laramie or visit during the summer prior to their first semester should complete this paperwork during the summer. This will assure that their first month's paycheck is not delayed.

Admission Requirements

University Graduate Admission Requirements

All students must meet the University graduate students minimum requirements listed below:

- Graduate application and fee (submit online at www.uwyo.edu/uwgrad/);
- Successful completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. If bachelor's is earned from a non-accredited or international institution, a transcript evaluation will be completed by the University of Wyoming to determine if the degree is acceptable;
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (not necessary if UW is the most recent institution attended);
- A cumulative minimum grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) on previous coursework;
- Composite minimum score of 900 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Official scores should be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) [Note: GRE scores are valid for five years from the test date. To request scores be sent to UW, visit www.GRE.org and use UW's institutional code – 4855];
- Three letters of recommendation sent directly to AGEC (electronic letters are accepted);
- Application for Graduate Assistantship sent to AGEC, if financial assistance is desired.

International students, in addition to the requirements above, must also meet the following requirements:

- Official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores sent directly to UW from ETS. UW requires a minimum TOEFL score of 540 on the written exam or 76 on the internet-based exam. TOEFL scores are normally not required for applicants from an English speaking country or those who have attended a U.S. institution within one year preceding application to UW. [Note: TOEFL scores are valid for two years from the test date.] UW will also accept a minimum score of 6.0 on the IETLS exam or certification of level 112 ELS completion in lieu of the TOEFL requirements;
- Confidential financial statement form with supporting documentation. A full assistantship offer from AGEC may be claimed as support in lieu of the confidential financial statement;
- International Student Advisor's Report must be filed with UW if you plan to study at UW immediately following studies at another U.S. institution.

Departmental Admission Requirements

In addition to the General Admission Requirements, the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics requires:

- Successful completion of at least one undergraduate course in calculus, statistics/econometrics, and intermediate microeconomic theory. Students lacking these courses may be required to complete them without graduate credit.

The Department does not require an undergraduate degree in economics or agricultural economics; applicants from all disciplinary backgrounds are encouraged.

The Graduate Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics

The Department offers graduate work leading to the Master of Science degree. Students may choose among three primary tracts, the Plan A Agricultural Economics option, the Plan B Agricultural Economics option, or the Plan B Agricultural Business option. The Agricultural Economics option emphasizes research with any of the following focus areas:

- production economics and management
- marketing and market analysis
- resource and environmental economics
- international agriculture, and
- economic and rural development

Students pursuing the Agricultural Economics option may also pair the degree with a second masters in Environmental and Natural Resources offered through the Helga Otto Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Plan B Agricultural Business option offers advanced skills to students seeking careers in the business sector. Students in this option may concentrate their coursework and writing in management, marketing or finance.

The Department also offers a Graduate Minor in Applied Economics. This program is for currently enrolled students in other disciplines seeking a foundation in economics to complement their major discipline.

Degree Requirements

The following courses constitute the M.S. in Agricultural Economics *core requirements* and are required of both Plan A and Plan B candidates (20 hrs)

Economic Theory•

- AGEC 5310 (3) – Theory of Producer Behavior
- AGEC 5630 (3) – Advanced Natural Resource Economics
- AGEC 5710 (3) – Advanced Agricultural Market Theory
- AGEC 5740 (3) – Theory of Consumer Behavior

Quantitative Methods•

- AGEC 5230 (3) – Intermediate Econometric Theory
- AGEC 5320 (3) – Quantitative Methods in Agricultural Economics

Research•

- AGEC 5650 (1) – Research Methods
- AGEC 5880 (1) – Advanced Seminar

M.S. in Agricultural Economics
CORE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the core requirements above, **Plan A Agricultural Economics** students must complete the following degree requirements:

- Minimum of 30 credit hours including AGEC M.S. core requirements, thesis hours and electives.
- No more than three hours of AGEC coursework numbered below 5000 count toward the 30 hour requirement.
- A minimum of four thesis hours (AGEC 5960)
- Achieve a cumulative 3.0 GPA in the AGEC M.S. core requirements.
- The student's graduate committee, nominated by the major professor, the student and the department head and appointed by the University, determine the final program of study and thesis research topic.
- Participate in a meaningful teaching experience to be coordinated by the student's major professor.
- Presentation of research results at a formal public seminar.
- Completion of an oral examination covering the student's thesis research administered by the student's graduate committee.

M.S. in Agricultural Economics
PLAN A (Thesis)

In addition to the core requirements above, **Plan B Agricultural Economics** students must complete the following degree requirements:

- Minimum of 32 credit hours including AGECE M.S. core requirements and electives.
- No coursework numbered below 4000 can count towards the 32 hour requirement.
- Achieve a cumulative 3.0 GPA in the AGECE M.S. core requirements.
- The student's graduate committee, nominated by the major professor, the student and the department head and appointed by the University, determine the final program of study and non-thesis research topic.
- Participate in a meaningful teaching experience to be coordinated by the student's major professor.
- Presentation of the non-thesis research paper at a formal public seminar.
- Completion of an oral examination covering the candidate's non-thesis research paper administered by the student's graduate committee.

Students pursuing the **Agricultural Business** option must meet the following degree requirements:

- Minimum of 32 hours of coursework.
- Non-thesis business analysis paper accepted by the student's graduate committee.
- Minimum of 13 credit hours of agricultural economics coursework numbered at the 5000 level are required, including:
 - AGEC 5310,
 - AGEC 5740,
 - AGEC 5880,
 - AGEC 5630 or AGEC 5710, and
 - AGEC 5320 or AGEC 5230.
- In addition, students are required to complete 3 credit hours from each of the following three areas:
 - Management: AGEC 4060, 4640 or 5450; or MGT 4410, 4420, 4440, 4470, or 4520
 - Marketing : AGEC 4050, 4830, 4840, 4880, or 5710, or MKT 4240, 4430, 4520, or 4540
 - Finance : AGEC 4500; or FIN 4510, 4520, 4610, 4810; or ECON 4740
- Remaining credit hours will be filled with electives.
- The student's graduate committee, nominated by the major professor, the student and the department head and appointed by the University, determine the final program of study and business analysis paper topic.
- Participate in a meaningful teaching experience to be coordinated by the student's major professor.
- Presentation of the business analysis paper at a formal public seminar.
- An internship experience is strongly encouraged as part of the agricultural business option (AGEC 5990).

Students pursuing the second master's degree in **Environment and Natural Resources** in addition to the M.S. in Agricultural Economics must meet the following requirements:

- Complete the 26 credit hour agricultural and applied economics M.S. core requirements plus 15 credit hours in environment and natural resources approved courses and (at least) 4 thesis hours. Some courses may be counted in both agricultural and applied economics and environment and natural resources, as approved by the student's committee and the ENR academic advisor.
- Achieve a cumulative 3.0 GPA in the AGECE M.S. core requirements.
- The student's graduate committee, nominated by the major professor, the student and the department head and appointed by the University, determine the final program of study and thesis research topic, which must be in the area of environment and natural resources.
- Participate in a meaningful teaching experience to be coordinated by the student's major professor.
- Presentation of research results at a formal public seminar.
- Completion of an oral examination covering the student's thesis research administered by the student's graduate committee.

Students pursuing the **Graduate Minor in Applied Economics** must meet the following degree requirements:

- Graduate standing.
- Complete 10 credit hours of 4000-5000 level Agricultural and Applied Economics approved courses including:
 - AGECE 5310 or AGECE 5740,
 - AGECE 5320 or AGECE 5230, and
 - AGECE 5880
- No coursework numbered below 4000 can count towards the 10 hour requirement.

The Major Professor and Graduate Committee

Specific requirements for graduate degrees and degree completion are determined by the student's Major Professor and Graduate Committee within University and Departmental guidelines. Each student is expected to select a major professor early in his/her graduate program (see Timeline below). If necessary, the Graduate Coordinator (Ben Rashford) serves as the academic adviser for entering graduate students until a major professor is identified. Selection of graduate advisers and committee members are based on the intellectual interests of the student. Every student is expected to become familiar with the research of faculty, and to identify and request that specific faculty serve as their major professor or as committee members. The Department will not arbitrarily assign major professors or committee members.

The major professor is expected to provide guidance on all aspects of a student's graduate education including:

- Selecting courses and completing a compliant Program of Study;
- Identifying a thesis or Plan B research topic;
- Selecting the Graduate Committee.

A student's graduate committee is nominated by the student, major professor and Department Head and is approved by the University. The graduate committee functions to guide the student in coursework selection, thesis or Plan B paper construction and completion of degree requirements. The graduate committee must also approve the student's program of study and conducts the final examination. Every M.S. graduate committee must consist of at least three members, including:

- Major Professor (or chair) – the student's chairperson must be a faculty member in AGECEC and must be a member of the UW Graduate Faculty. [Note: Faculty must successfully serve as a student's Co-chair and be nominated by the Department Head to obtain Graduate Faculty status.]
- Graduate Faculty Representative (GFR) – the GFR is responsible for assuring that all University procedures and regulations are followed and that the process is fair and unbiased. The GFR must be a member of the UW Graduate Faculty and be from a department other than AGECEC.

AGEC Graduate Courses

5230. Inter Econometric Theory. 3.

Covers simple and multiple regression models, problems of estimation, hypothesis and diagnostic testing, dummy variables, autoregressive and distributed lag models, and time-series analysis. The objective is to understand the underlying theory of econometric modeling and obtain operational ability to construct, estimate, and test econometric models. Dual listed with AGECE 4230. Prerequisites: ECON 3020, STAT 2050 and MATH 2350.

5310. Producer Behavior. 3. Economic models of optimization as they apply to firm-level production decisions. Topics include the properties of production functions, theories of linear and non-linear optimization, firm decision making under perfect and imperfect competition and firm decision making under uncertainty. Prerequisites: ECON 3020, STAT 2050 and MATH 2350.

5320. Quant Methods: Ag Econ. 3.

Covers mathematical programming and simulation techniques for solving applied problems in agricultural economics. Emphasizes the formulation of economic research problems in quantitative terms and the use of computer software packages to derive solutions. Prerequisites: ECON 3020, STAT 2050 and MATH 2350.

5450. Negotiation. 3. Examines how to use negotiation to resolve conflict. Describes conflict; outlines way to address conflict; examines different negotiation strategies and the impact of cognitive bias, power, ethics, and individual and cultural differences; and explores mediation practices. Students complete negotiations, role-plays, and

questionnaires. Prerequisite: CMJR 1010 and junior standing. Dual listed with AGECE 4450.

5600. Comm Econ Analysis. 3.

Analysis of regions and rural communities; their problems, socioeconomic characteristics, land use and economic development. Provides training in regional economic theory, regional economic analysis, fiscal impact analysis and benefit cost analysis. Prerequisite: ECON 3010, 3020 and MATH 1400; or consent of instructor.

5630. Adv Nat Resrc Ec. 3. An in-depth treatment of theoretical issues, quantitative techniques, and institutional arrangements in the natural resource field. Topics include welfare economics, property rights, market failure and externalities, and benefit cost analysis. Prerequisites: ECON 3010 and 3020, STAT 2050 and MATH 2350.

5650. Resrch Methods. 1. Examines scientific methods as they specifically relate to a masters level research project in applied economics. This includes formulating the research question, developing hypotheses, determining a theoretical framework from which the data gathering and analysis will proceed and lead to reporting research outcomes. Prerequisites: ECON 3010 and 3020, STAT 2050.

5660. Comm/Econ Develop. 3.

Community development from an interdisciplinary perspective, integrating theory, concepts and methods from sociology, economics, political science, and community development. Students learn how community theory can be used to design and support effective economic development programs. Includes

readings, lectures, guest lectures, field trips and community analysis projects. Prerequisite: AGECECON 1020 or SOC 2090 and junior standing. Dual listed with AGECE 4660.

5710. Advanced Ag Market Theory. 3.

Theoretical foundations of the study of agricultural markets and how business is conducted in those markets. Topics include pure competition, industrial organization concepts related to imperfect competition including game theory, principal-agent theory, transaction costs economics, intermediary theory, and welfare implications of alternative agricultural market structures. Prerequisites: ECON 3020 and MATH 2350.

5740. Cons Behavior/Pric. 3. Focuses on microeconomic consumer theory and its application. Topics include utility theory, market demand theory, expected utility theory, and econometric applications. Prerequisite: ECON 3020, MATH 2350 and STAT 2050.

5880. Advanced Seminar. 1-2. (Max. 2). Involves reporting to the seminar group on research methods and results obtained in the investigation of a topic or question relevant to the field of agricultural economics. Prerequisite: 9 credits in AGECE and/or ECON.

5890. Adv Probs: Ag Econ. 1-3. (Max. 6). Supervised study and research on current problems in marketing, farm and

ranch management, policy prices, land economics or finance. Prerequisite: Graduate standing in AGECE or ECON.

5900. Prac: College Tchng. 1-3. (Max. 3).

Work in classroom with a major professor. Expected to give some lectures and gain classroom experience. Prerequisite: Graduate status.

5920. Cont Reg: On Campus. 1-2. (Max. 16).

Prerequisite: Advanced degree candidacy.

5940. Cont Reg: Off Campus. 1-2. (Max. 16).

Prerequisite: Advanced degree candidacy.

5959. Enrichment Stds.: 1-3. (Max. 99).

The course is designed to provide an enrichment experience in a variety of topics. NOTE: Credit in this course may not be included in a graduate program of study for degree purposes.

5960. Thesis Research. 1-12. (Max. 24).

Graduate level course designed for students who are involved in research for their thesis project. Also used for students whose coursework is complete and are writing their thesis. Prerequisite: Enrolled in a graduate degree program. [Note: Students should register for the Thesis Research section assigned to their major professor.]

5990. Internship. 1-12. (Max. 24).

Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

Typical Course Scheduling – Plan A M.S. in Agricultural Economics.

Program Year	Semester	Course Number	Credit hours	Cumulative Hours
Year 1	Fall	AGEC 5320	3	9
		AGEC 5310	3	
		AGEC 5630 or 5710	3	
	Spring	AGEC 5230	3	9
		AGEC 5740	3	
		AGEC 5650	1	
		AGEC 5960 (Thesis) ¹	2	
Year 2	Fall	AGEC 5630 or 5710	3	9
		Elective ^{1,2}	3	
		Elective ^{1,2}	3	
	Spring	AGEC 5880	1	9
		AGEC 5960 (Thesis) ¹	8	
				36 ³

¹A minimum of four thesis (AGEC 5960) hours are required for degree completion. Note, however, that nine credits hours per semester are required to have full-time graduate student status.

²No more than three hours of coursework numbered below 5000 count toward the 26 hour M.S. Plan A course requirement. Therefore, at least one chosen elective must be numbered 5000 or above.

³Electives and thesis hours can be rearranged between semesters to best meet individual students' needs. Students should consult with their major professor and graduate committee to align elective and thesis hours to best facilitate thesis research and to ensure on time completion of degree requirements.

Financial Assistance

Graduate assistantships are available on a competitive basis for students seeking the Plan A – Agricultural Economics option (assistantships are sometimes available for students seeking a non-thesis option). Assistantships typically include a monthly stipend during the academic year (approximately \$1,200 for the 2009-2010), tuition, health insurance and mandatory fees, and a monthly stipend for one summer of study. Some assistantships funded through extramural research grants may not cover all tuition and fee expenses. Additionally, all students (including those receiving assistantships) are responsible for minimal student fees (<\$75 per semester).

Students receiving an assistantship are expected to be involved with current faculty research and/or teaching activities and are expected to commit 20 hours/week on average to these activities. Employment, in addition to the assistantship, is prohibited unless explicitly approved by the student's major professor and the Department Head.

Facilities, Supplies and Services

The Department is committed to the success of each student it admits. To this end, the Department attempts to provide each student with office space that includes a personal desk, storage space and a personal desktop computer. Graduate student office spaces are currently located in AG 201, 207 and 314A. Students will be assigned a personal space in one of these offices. Office and building keys will be provided. Students are expected to maintain their space in an orderly manner, respect other students' space and to treat computer equipment with care. Any abuse of these privileges will result in their revocation.

In addition to space, students may be provided research related supplies (e.g. notebooks, paper and computer software) and other services (e.g. access to copying machine). Contact your major professor or Janet Marsh if you have specific needs.

Expectations for Graduate Student Behavior and Performance

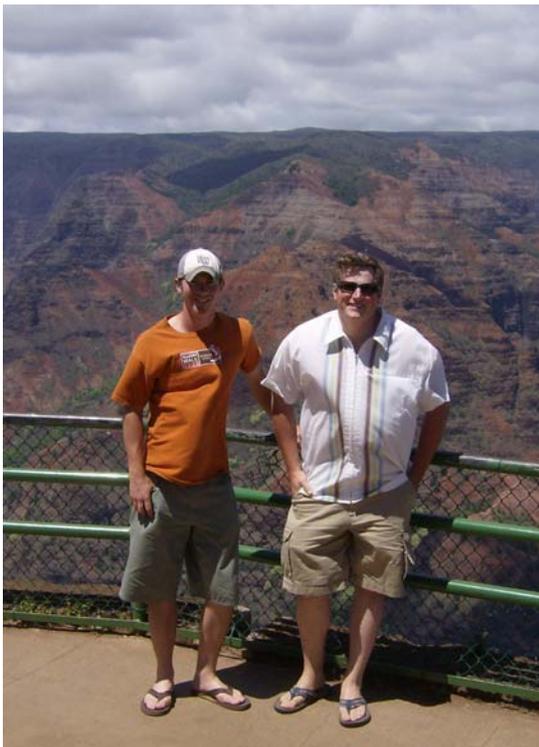
In addition to the specific degree requirements specified above, there are other expectations and responsibilities that can enhance your graduate education.

- As a graduate student your primary responsibility is to learn. The faculty will provide you with opportunities to learn through courses and research projects. Recognize that learning is a time-consuming effort that requires self-discipline. You should be aware that the in-depth study required in a graduate program will challenge you. You should be prepared for this and expect nothing less.
- As indicated above, graduate students, particularly those on assistantship, have a responsibility to contribute to the Department's teaching and research programs. You may choose a faculty mentor to provide assistance in both teaching and research

programs. Early in your graduate studies (normally the first semester), the latter may or may not be related to your thesis research.

- Be aware that an important component of graduate education is the interaction with fellow students and faculty in both formal and informal settings. Participation in Department activities (e.g. seminars and social gatherings) will significantly enhance your education; thus, you should take every opportunity to participate in these activities.
- As a member of the Department, you may be given the opportunity to help with recruitment of graduate students and faculty and to contribute to other Department functions and activities.
- It is your responsibility to stay abreast of timeline of requirements related to selecting a major professor; filing the Program of Study, Committee Assignment, and Graduation Forms; and other requirements specified in the Timeline that follows.
- Your graduate research represents the culminating experience of your education. As such, you should seek to publish and present your research in appropriate forums.
- Both on and off campus you are a representative of this Department and the University; you are expected to be a positive representative.

Finally, while your success in the graduate program is your responsibility, the faculty and staff are here to contribute to that success. Get involved; get to know the faculty and staff; ask questions, and good luck!!



Graduate students Graham McGaffin (left) and Milt Geiger (right) overlooking Waimea Canyon on the Hawaiian island of Kauai. Graham, Milt and Bridgette White (below) were each invited to present their thesis research at the annual meeting of the Western Agricultural Economics Association in Kauai, June 24-26, 2009



Timeline

What to do	When
Select major professor	Before end of first semester
Select graduate committee in consultation with major professor	By mid-term of second semester
File Program of Study Form	By mid-term of second semester
File Committee Assignment Form	By mid-term of second semester
File Graduation/Title Form	Must be filed by the University deadline (approximately midterm) for the semester in which graduation is planned. Places student on Graduation List. Must be refilled each semester if graduation doesn't occur.
Schedule public seminar (thesis defense)	At least two-weeks prior to the presentation date (Title and Abstract must be sent to Janet Marsh)
Submit thesis to graduate committee	Two weeks before final examination
Complete final oral examination	
File Completion of Requirements and Certificate of Approval Form	Must be filed by the deadline set by the University (approximately one-week prior to graduation date). Students must take these forms to their defense for committee approval signatures.
Pay fees	Done in Cashier's office – retain receipt for degree check
Degree check	Scheduled with degree analyst in Registration & Records. Must be completed for each semester that a Grad/Title form is submitted.
Format Check	Completed electronically. Can occur after submission deadline.
Submit approved thesis or dissertation.	Submitted by the semester graduation deadline.
Submit electronic thesis to Department and complete Thesis Posting Permission Form	Before graduation date
Graduation Ceremony	Contact College Dean's Offices. .
Receive diploma from Registrar's Office	Mailed approximately 6-8 weeks after end of graduation term.

Registering for Classes using WyoWeb

Official University of Wyoming communication with students will be through the WyoWeb Portal. Students will be expected to check their University of Wyoming email accounts and the WyoWeb Portal for official University communication regularly.

1. Receive your PERC (**P**ersonal **E**lectronic **R**egistration **C**ode) and your registration date and time.
 2. At your designated time, log in to WyoWeb at: <http://wyoweb.uwyo.edu>
Enter your used ID and password (the same ID and password that you use to log onto UW computers). If you have not received your user name and password, contact the IT Help Desk at 307-766-HELP, option 1 or, if you are on campus, go to the Ivinson Building, Room 136.
 3. Click on the “Student Resources” tab
 4. Find the “Registration Tools” channel
 5. Click on “Health Insurance Coverage” to make a decision regarding student Medical insurance. Select **Yes** if you want the student medical insurance (you will be charged for this coverage unless you are on an assistantship). Select **No** if you do not want the student medical insurance.
 6. In the “Registration Tools” channel click on “Add or Drop Classes”
 7. Select the correct semester
 8. Enter your PERC
 9. Enter the 5-digit Course Reference Number (CRN) for each course in the boxes provided. Press *Submit*
You may enter one course at a time or several.
 - If a course is offered for variable credit you will be prompted to select the number of credit hours. Press *Submit*
 - If a class is closed and a waitlist is available you will be given the option of adding yourself to the waitlist. Click on *waitlist* and press *Submit*
 10. To search for available classes click on *Look Up Classes* – you may also register directly from the Look Up Classes listing by clicking on the Select box to the left of the course listing
 11. Find the “Banner Self-Service” channel
 12. Click on Banner Self-Service then Student and Registration to view your class schedule- In August your courses will appear in the “My Courses” channel in WyoWeb.
 13. To drop a course click on “Add/Drop” Classes – select Drop in the Registration Action Field- press *Submit Changes*
 14. To change grading options click on the “Change Class Options” link. Change grading option for appropriate course
 - Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory – to register for or add a course S/U: select *S/U Grade Option* (Check with your advisor before signing up for S/U grade option).
 - Audit – to register for or add a course for audit: select *Audit Grade Option* (Audited hours will not be counted toward full-time enrollment but you will be charged regular tuition for these courses).
-

Agricultural and Applied Economics Faculty and Extension Specialists

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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics – University of California, Davis - 2005

M.S., Mineral Economics – The Colorado School of Mines - 2000

B.A., Political Science – The Colorado College - 1991

Areas of Expertise

Agricultural Production and Productivity
Applied Econometrics

Nicole Ballenger
Associate VP –
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Office: Old Main-312

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics University of California Davis - 1984

M.S., Agricultural Economics UC Davis - 1980

B.A., Economics UC Santa Cruz - 1975

Areas of Expertise

Food and Agricultural Policy
Food Consumption, Diets, and Health
International Agricultural Trade

Ed Bradley
Associate Professor



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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics - Pennsylvania State University - 1978
B.S., Agricultural Economics - University of Wisconsin - 1971

Areas of Expertise

International Trade and Marketing
Agricultural and Food Policy
Natural Resource Management
French Exchange Program

Roger Coupal
Associate Professor
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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Washington State University - 1996
M.S., University of Arizona - 1985
B.S., Utah State University - 1979

Areas of Expertise

Economic and fiscal impact analysis
GIS applications in economic analysis
Natural resource policy
The NEPA process
Public Lands policy

Cole Ehmke
Agriculture
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Personal Financial
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Academic Degrees:

M.S., Agricultural Economics - University of Sydney - 1999
B.A., Economics and Business, Bethany College – 1997

Areas of Expertise

Personal Financial Management
Family Resource Management
Consumer Issues
Business Startup, Development, and Management

Mariah Ehmke
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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, 2005
M.S., Agricultural Economics, The Ohio State University, 2001
B.S., Human Ecology, Kansas State University, 1997

Areas of Expertise

Agribusiness Strategy
Agribusiness Management and Marketing
Consumer Economics
Experimental Economics

Tom Foulke
Associate Research
Scientist



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Academic Degrees:

B.A., Geography/Geology Emphasis -University of Montana - 1985
M.S., Agricultural Economics and Water Resources - UWYO - 1992

Areas of Expertise:

Community Economic Development
Enterprise Costs and Returns

Larry Held
Professor



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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics - University of Nebraska - 1977
M.S., Agricultural Economics -North Dakota State University - 1973
B.S., Agricultural Economics - North Dakota State University - 1971

Areas of Expertise:

Farm and Ranch Management
Agricultural Finance

John Hewlett
Extension Educator



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Academic Degrees:

M.S., Agricultural Economics - Oregon State University - 1987
B.S., Agricultural Business - Montana State University - 1985

Areas of Expertise:

Integrated Ranch/Farm Management
Cost of Production (Enterprise) Budgets
Machinery Ownership and Operation Costs
Financial Management
Ag Land Values

Jim Jacobs
Professor Emeritus



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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Iowa State University - 1972
M.S., University of Arizona - 1968
B.S., North Dakota State University - 1965

Areas of Expertise

Water Resource Economics
Economics: Water Resources

Don McLeod
Associate Professor



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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural & Resource Economics - Oregon State - 1994
M.S., Agricultural & Resource Economics - Oregon State - 1987
B.A., Liberal Arts - St. John's College - 1982

Areas of Expertise:

Environmental Valuation
Land and Water Economics
Natural Resource/Agricultural Policy

Dale Menkhaus
Professor



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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural Economics - Purdue University - 1973
M.S., Agricultural Economics - Michigan State University - 1970
B.S., Agricultural Business - Purdue University - 1967

Areas of Expertise

Marketing
Price Analysis
Markets

Dannele Peck
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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics - Oregon State - 2006
M.S., Agricultural and Applied Economics - UWYO - 2002
BS Wildlife Biology (*minor Economics*)
- University of Wyoming - 2000

Areas of Expertise:

Natural resource and environmental economics
(*specifically issues related to wildlife or water*)
Agricultural Production under uncertainty

Ben Rashford
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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. Agricultural and Resource Economics - Oregon State - 2006
M.S., Economics - University of Wyoming - 2001
B.S., Economics - University of Wyoming - 1999

Areas of Expertise:

Resource and Environmental Economics
Wildlife Conservation/Management

Alan Schroeder
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Academic Degrees:

Ph.D., Natural Resource Economics - University of Wisconsin - 1982
J.D., University of Wisconsin - 1977
M.S., Natural Resource Economics - University of Wisconsin - 1974
B.S., Agricultural Economics - North Dakota State University - 1971

Areas of Expertise:

Natural Resource Economics
Agricultural Law
Mediation/Conflict Resolution

David “Tex” Taylor
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Ph.D., Agricultural & Natural Resource Economics - Colorado State
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M.S., Agricultural Economics - Montana State University - 1973
B.S., Agricultural Business - Montana State University - 1972

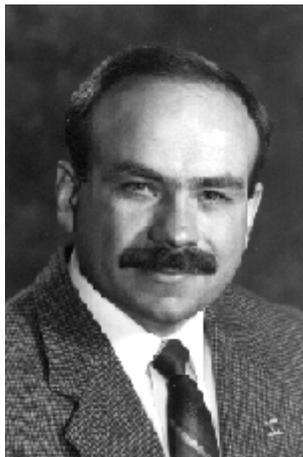
Areas of Expertise

Economic Development
Recreation Economics (I/O Models)

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Ph.D., Agricultural Economics - Washington State University - 1980

M.S., Economics - Brigham Young University - 1976

B.A., Economics - Brigham Young University - 1974

Areas of Expertise:

Ag Marketing

Wool and Sugar

International Trade

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