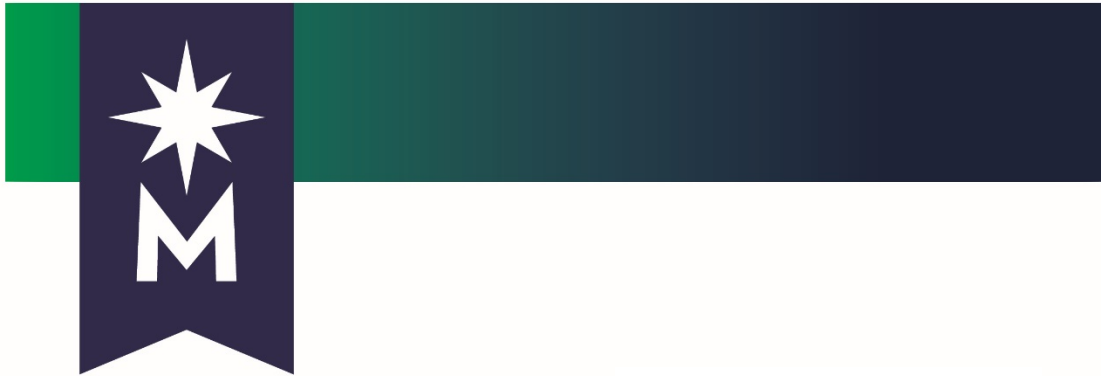


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February 15, 2017

Academic and Student

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# Teacher Preparation in Agricultural Education

Minnesota State

## **Introduction**

This report is required by Session Law 2015, Chapter 69, Article 1, Section 4, Subdivision 3 to report progress on the development of a teacher preparation program leading to licensure in agricultural education at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU). This report describes the status of the program approved by the Minnesota Board of Teaching, information about the degree program, and reports the number of students enrolled in the program.

## **Background:**

Currently, there are 183 approved secondary agriculture programs in Minnesota with 232 teachers serving nearly 21,000 students (2015-2016 enrollment).<sup>1</sup> Those students are enrolled in approximately 29,000 agriculture, food and natural resources courses. The courses constituted 16.4 percent of all career and technical education courses offered in secondary programs. This is the third largest group of Career and Technical Education (CTE) course offerings behind business and consumer family science (1,900 and 1,593 courses respectively).<sup>2</sup>

## **Status of Program**

The teacher preparation program leading to licensure in agricultural education at Southwest Minnesota State University was approved by the Minnesota Board of Teaching in spring 2016.

## **Emphasis of the Program**

The Southwest Minnesota State University School of Agriculture's teacher education program is multidisciplinary. It is founded on a strong liberal education program that emphasizes critical thinking, effective communication and a well-rounded knowledge base. Through active learning, the Agricultural Education Teacher Licensure Specialization directly prepares students to become agricultural teachers and FFA Advisors in Minnesota's secondary schools. The core of the agriculture teacher education major is a balanced program of study that includes core courses in science, agriculture, educational methodology and leadership development.

See Appendix A for the full sequence of courses to be offered as approved by the Board of Teaching.

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<sup>1</sup> Career and Technical Education Approved AFNR Programs, Minnesota Department of Education 2011-2016 Actuals

<sup>2</sup> Career and Technical Education Inventory, February 1, 2015, Minnesota Department of Education

### **Field Experiences**

SMSU students in agricultural education with a teacher licensure specialization benefit from several field experiences. Students observe 15 hours and teach at least one lesson as part of the Introduction to Education freshman-level course. Students also participate in a pre-student teaching experience for three weeks, observing and teaching in a secondary classroom. The capstone of the program is a semester-long student teaching experience. SMSU ensures a quality experience by working closely with partnering secondary schools. In addition, SMSU has opportunities with established community partners allowing students to expand their teaching and learning experiences.

### **Minnesota State Collaboration**

The agricultural teacher education program is unique in that it places a strong emphasis on partnerships with other Minnesota State institutions. Southwest Minnesota State works together with Minnesota State's two-year colleges to offer articulated applied courses as part of the program's major requirements. Students attending these two-year colleges have clear pathways for transfer to Southwest Minnesota State for bachelor's degree completion.

### **Scholarships**

SMSU's School of Agriculture offers an array of academic scholarships from alumni donations, SMSU Farm Seminar donors, regional agriculture industry partners and faculty donors. Agriculture-related scholarships are awarded based on a student's past academic record, civic involvement and leadership potential. In spring semester 2016, SMSU awarded a total of \$30,000 in agriculture-related scholarships for students who ranged from freshman to experienced senior students.

### **Career Opportunities**

SMSU's bachelor's degree in agricultural education provides opportunities for careers in education, agriculture and related industries. Currently there is a severe shortage of agricultural educators in secondary schools in Minnesota and nationwide. In addition, community and technical colleges also need faculty who can train the next generation of agricultural leaders. As a result, students with an Agriculture Education Degree are in high demand with a need to fill positions in education, agricultural communications, consulting, training and research.

### **Enrollment**

Southwest Minnesota State University has 14 students enrolled in the program in this, its initial year. SMSU expects to enroll 20-25 students in the second year of the program, beginning fall 2017.

## Appendix A

**Southwest Minnesota State University  
BS in Agricultural Education (AGED) Teaching Licensure (TL) Specialization  
Professional Secondary Education Sequence**

Courses	Credits
ED 101 – Introduction to Education and Lab	3
ED 102 – Tech: Classroom Applications & Portfolio	2
ED 301 – The Teaching & Learning Process & Lab	3
ED 304 – Professional Development & Classroom Application	1
ED 430 – Reading in the Content Areas	2
PSYC 341 – Child & Adolescent Psychology	3
SPED 290 – Introduction to Special Needs and Lab	3
SOCI 212 – Human Relations... (Counted Under LEP Goal #7)	0
ED 469 – Student Teaching: Grade 5 – 12	12
<b>Total Credits for Professional Secondary Ed Sequence</b>	29
<b>B. Methods Courses in Agricultural Education</b>	Credits
AGED 401 (New Course) - K-12 Methods: Agricultural Education	2
ED 407 - Secondary Methods: Science	3
<b>Total Credits for Methods Courses in Ag Education</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>C. Subtotal of Credits for</b>	
<i>Professional Education and Methods Courses</i>	34
<b>D. LEP - Core Requirements for Agricultural Education</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Goal 1 – Communications</b>	
ENGL 151 – Academic Writing	4
SPCH 110 – Essentials of Speaking and Listening	3
ENGL 251 – Writing in Professions or PHIL 303 – Ethical Issues in Prof. Life	3
<b>Goal 2 – Critical Thinking</b>	
LEP 100 or PHIL 101	3

<b>Goal 3 – Natural Sciences</b>	
<b>BIOL 100 &amp; Lab</b> – Biol in Modern World or BIOL 200 & Lab Cell Biology	4
<b>ENVS 180</b> – Introduction to Environmental Science & Lab	4
<b>Goal 4 – Mathematics and Logical Thinking</b>	
<b>MATH 110 or MATH 115 or MATH 140, 150 or 151</b>	3
<b>Goal 5 – History, Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>	
<b>ECON 201</b> – Principles of Microeconomics	3
<b>PSYC 101</b> – General Psychology	3
<b>Goal 6 – Humanities and Fine Arts</b>	
Choose two approved Goal 6 Courses (in different disciplines) from the SMSU catalog (Consult with Academic Advisor)	6
<b>Goal 7 – Human Diversity</b>	
<b>SOCI 212</b> – Human Relations (included in Teacher Licensure Reqts.)	3
<b>Goal 8 – Global Perspective</b>	
Choose an approved Goal 8 Course from the SMSU catalog (Consult with Academic Advisor)	3
<b>Goal 9 – Ethical and Civic Responsibility</b>	
<b>ECON 210</b> – Intro to Cooperatives (included in Ag Education Major)	3
<b>Goal 10 – People and the Environment</b>	
<b>ENVS 180</b> – Introduction to Environmental Science (Counted under LEP Category #3)	0
<b>Total Maximum Credits for LEP Core Requirements - Ag Education</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Actual Minimum # Credits for LEP Core Requirements - Ag Education</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>E. Core Course Requirements for the Agricultural Education Major</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>AGED 201</b> – (New Course) Communication and Leadership Skills for Agricultural Educators	
<b>AGRI 2210</b> – Ag Industry Machinery Maintenance at Ridgewater College (3 credits) or <b>2214</b> – Machinery Principles and Management at MN West CTC (3 credits)	3

<i>or</i> <b>MEAG 1610</b> – Ag Equipment Maintenance at South Central College (3 Credits)	
<b>AGED 301</b> – (New Course) Advising Youth Organizations & Supervising Work Experiences	1
<b>AGED 351</b> – (New Course) Professional Development in Agricultural Education: Internship & Job Shadowing	1
<b>ACCT 211</b> – Principles of Accounting I	3
<b>AGBU 365</b> – Farm and Ranch Management I	3
<b>AGBU 440</b> – Agricultural Marketing	3
<b>AGBU 400</b> – International Agricultural Development	3
<b>AGRO 115</b> – Prof. Development in Agriculture: Orientation & Career Planning	1
<b>AGRO 132</b> – Principles and Practices of Crop Production	4
<b>AGRO 312</b> – Agroecology	3
<b>AGRO 390</b> – Introduction to Precision Agriculture	3
<b>AGRI 2201</b> – Principles of Animal Nutrition at MN West CTC <i>or</i> <b>AGRI 1810</b> – Introduction to Animal Science at Ridgewater College <i>or</i> <b>ANSC 2100</b> – Principles of Animal Nutrition at South Central College	3
<b>ECON 210</b> – Introduction to Cooperatives (Count as 3 credits under LEP Goal #9)	0
<b>ENVS 301</b> – Basic Soil Science	3
<b>HOSP 120</b> – Food Sanitation and Safety	1
<b>LEP 400</b> – Interdisciplinary Senior Seminar	3
<b>RNEW 1300</b> – Introduction to Traditional and Renewable Energy at MN West CTC (3 credits)	3
<b>AGRI 2200</b> – Farm Buildings and Structures at Ridgewater (2 credits) <i>or</i> <b>MEAG 1500</b> – Facilities Maintenance (3 cr) @ SCC	2
<b>Total Credits for Ag Education Major</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Tally: Credits for BS in Agricultural Education – Teacher Licensure Specialization</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Professional Secondary Education Sequence	34
SMSU LEP	42
Agricultural Education Major Requirements (including LEP 400)	44
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>