



Department of
APPLIED ECONOMICS

Helping to solve some of society’s most pressing problems, the Department of Applied Economics (AEC) deploys modern economic tools that help maximize business vitality while limiting environmental impact and addressing climate change. Reviews of research productivity have ranked AEC in the top five agricultural and resource economics departments in the nation and the department’s Ph.D. program is among the top ten in the world in resource and agricultural economics.

Degree Programs

Undergraduate

- Agricultural and Food Business Management
- Environmental Economics and Policy

Graduate

- Applied Economics, M.S. | M.A. | Ph.D.

Experiential Learning Opportunities

Students do much of their learning outside the classroom, including:

- Academic Quiz Bowl Team for national competitions
- Undergraduate research guided by a faculty advisor
- Internships with companies
- LEAP environmental policy club



Faces of AgSci

“ I chose to major in Agricultural & Food Business management because I want to play a role in strengthening the future of agriculture.

Kourtney Lehman, National FFA Secretary

Read more at agsci.oregonstate.edu

APPLIED ECONOMICS AT A GLANCE

20



Faculty

140



Undergraduate Students

30

Graduate Students



Research

2022 Research Expenditures: \$2,381,590

Research Focus Areas:

- Land use
- Climate change, sustainable development
- Water allocation and quality
- Agricultural competitiveness and value-added agriculture
- Marine resources
- International development, poverty, hunger
- Endangered species and biodiversity
- Community and rural development

Extension Highlights

Applied Economics has long served Oregon and elsewhere with a deep tradition of outreach and extension in agricultural and resource economics and policy extension. Specialists help to improve decision and policy making in Oregon and beyond through rigorous economic analysis and training.

- The Profitability Decision Tool helps farmers and agricultural professionals explore alternative rotations in dryland farming systems of the inland Pacific Northwest.
- The Tradeoff Analysis (TOA) Project provides tools to improve understanding of agricultural profitability and sustainability.
- AgBiz Logic offers a user-friendly interface for a suite of economic, financial, and environmental decision tools designed for businesses that grow, harvest, package, add value, and sell agricultural products.
- Enterprise Budgets report the potential profitability of different business activities.
- Other extension and outreach programs include:

Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) Certificates and Courses
Extension workshops
Regional and national conferences
Succession planning

The Future of Applied Economics

Oregon's agricultural, food, and marine resource sectors are facing unprecedented challenges. Wise stewardship of resources in a rapidly changing world is at the center of these on-going challenges. We have a tradition of working with researchers in other disciplines to solve on-going "wicked problems" and seek to provide information to be used by producers, consumers, and policymakers.

With a focus on the human dimension of natural resource and environmental problems, AEC creates new knowledge in applied economic theory and rigorous quantitative analysis that can inform societal choices. Students develop analytical and quantitative skills that allow them to become leaders in both the private and public sectors as we strive to support community and business vitality, local decision-making, and policy design in Oregon and beyond.

