# Master of Agricultural Education (MAgEd – Online)

Graduate Student Handbook
2024-2025

# Contents

Clemson® University
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES**
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# Clemson Graduate School Information

These guidelines supplement the current version of the [Clemson University Graduate School Policy Handbook](https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/files/pdfs/gs_policy_handbook.pdf) (https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/files/pdfs/gs_policy_handbook.pdf)

The policies and procedures of the Graduate School have been established to ensure that a consistent set of standards are followed from the admissions process all the way through to the awarding of degrees for every Graduate School program.

**Graduate School Forms**
([https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/students/forms.html](https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/students/forms.html))

**Graduate School Deadlines**
([https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/students/deadlines.html](https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/students/deadlines.html))

# Overview of Program

The Master of Agricultural Education (MAgEd) is a professional degree designed to provide excellent academic programs, timely outreach and service programs, and cutting-edge research programs in South Carolina to enhance Clemson University's effort to reach a position of leadership among public universities in the United States. Agricultural Education is accountable for teaching, research, and service activities within the public education system by preparing and maintaining professionals. This coincides with the Universities mission "to establish a "high seminary of learning' through its land-grant responsibilities of teaching, research, and extended public services." The program is an academic unit of professionals who discover, adapt and disseminate knowledge and technologies to our students and community. The focus is to provide educational and leadership training for future agricultural leaders and teachers of science and agriculture for South Carolina's secondary education system. The program is committed to producing highly qualified graduates which is congruent with the Universities goals "to develop students' communication and critical-thinking skills, ethical judgment, global awareness, and scientific and technological knowledge." The program strives to lead the state and nation in addressing emerging challenges related to the development of current and future agricultural educators and supporting the needs and objectives of the educational system at Clemson University and the people of South Carolina.

## *Goal*

The agricultural education program prepares and provides continuing education for professionals who will build on the knowledge- base of learning and teaching, improve the basis of curriculum development, demonstrate effective delivery methodologies, assess program relevance and effectiveness, and project future educational needs of people who are involved in or affected by

agricultural industries. The agricultural education program develops instructional materials and conduct research on innovative instruction methods and other relevant educational aspects in agricultural education and leadership. The agricultural education program also provides educational services, support and leadership for secondary education curricula in agricultural education, the FFA, adult education programs, cooperative extension agents, and residents of South Carolina. The student leaning outcomes are as follows:

1. Students design and defend a unique research project.
2. Student displays advanced knowledge of the field as evidenced by successfully taking and passing written and oral examinations as presented by their graduate committee.
3. Students effectively communicate the results of their research by successfully presenting and submitting their research project for publication at the completion of their graduate experience.

## What Graduates do

Graduates earning a Master's in Agricultural Education are often hired into many facets of agricultural service and education in South Carolina. Those seeking a career in the cooperative extension service are informed that a master's degree is preferred and many of those decide to seek a Master's in Agricultural Education. A lot of our coursework at the graduate level aligns with many of the responsibilities cooperative extension agents have so the Master's in Ag Ed has traditionally been favored by many. An overwhelming majority of those employed with the cooperative extension completed their graduate work with Clemson's agricultural education program. Agricultural Educators in secondary and post-secondary schools across South Carolina are also strongly encouraged to complete a master's degree. The Master's also impacts professional development for the secondary agriculture teachers as it increases their pay, keeping them in the profession.

## Professional Licensure

No professional licensure applies to the Graduate Program.

## Approved Locations and Modalities of Delivery

This program is completely online with asynchronous delivery.

## Cohort information

## Basic Program Metrics

Typical time to degree: 2 years for a MAgEd.

## *Contact Information*

The graduate program coordinator is Michael Vassalos (mvassal@clemson.edu), and his contact information is: email: [mvassal@clemson.edu](mailto:mvassal@clemson.edu) phone: 864-656-2439.

## *Advisory Board*

There is no Advisory Board for the Graduate Program.

# Admission Requirements

## *Requirements* (*in addition to Graduate School requirements*)

To apply to the MAgEd program follow the instructions at [www.grad.clemson.edu/admission/index.php](http://www.grad.clemson.edu/admission/index.php) and complete the online application. Applications should be completed by April 15 for the fall semester. Students who apply for the spring semester need to complete their applications no later than October 15.

**For admittance students must have either:**

**GRE Score:**

Combined scores of the two objective sections (verbal and quantitative) of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be 280 or above if taken on or after 8/1/2011.

**OR**

**GPA:**

A cumulative grade point average of 2.75 from undergraduate degree institution.

**TOEFL** (international students):

Because of the strong communication component of graduate degree programs, non-native speakers of English should have a minimum TOEFL score of 80. IELTS can be taken in lieu of TOEFL. Minimum score accepted on the IELTS is 6.5. It should be noted that **acceptance into this program does NOT lead to a U.S. Visa.**

## *Dates and deadlines*

Applications should be completed by April 15 for the fall semester. Students who apply for the spring semester need to complete their applications no later than October 15. However, with a delay in student VISAs, international students should apply a month earlier than these deadlines.

### *Support Mechanisms*

Students are self-funded.

### *Fees*

No Program-specific Fees apply to the Graduate Program.

### *Transfer Credits*

The Program follows Graduate School guidelines for transfer credits.

# Requirements for Degree

### *Minimum Degree Requirements*

A master's degree program in Agricultural Education shall consist of a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate credit. For the Master of Agricultural Education degree, at least one half of the total graduate credit hours must be selected from courses numbered 8000 or above.

Prerequisite and co-requisite courses do not count toward the 30 semester hours of graduate credit required for the degree. Prerequisite courses must be completed before admission as a graduate student, whereas co-requisite courses may be taken concurrently but must be completed before receipt of the master's degree.

### *Advisory Committees*

No advisory committee is required for the online degree.

### *Preliminary Exams*

Not Applicable

### *Comprehensive Exam*

Not Applicable

### *Expectations for Thesis/Dissertation*

Not Applicable

## Additional Requirements

**Required Core Courses**

All master's students are required to take all core courses below (unless a similar course was previously taken and accepted by the Program Coordinator or department chair).

1. AGED 6800/6801 – Foundations of Digital Media and Learning/Lab (3 credits)
2. AGED 6810/6811 – Web Design for the Life Sciences and Agriculture/Lab (3 credits)
3. AGED 8010 – Systems for Technology Transfer (3 credits)
4. AGED 8120 – Development of Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs (3 credits)
5. AGED 8210 – Theories and Practices of Adult Education (3 credits)
6. ED 8600 – Classroom-Based Research (3 credits)
7. STAT 8010 – Statistical Methods I (3 credits)

# Suggested Timetable of Student Progress

| Time | Action |
|---|---|
| End of the term prior to the term in which you plan to graduate | Submit your final GS2 to Enrolled Services |
| Within the first four weeks of the term in which you will graduate | Complete online application for diploma (formerly Form GS4) |
| | |

# Standards of Performance

*Annual Review of Progress*

## Academic Performance

The Graduate Program follows Graduate School policy and expectations for academic performance.

## Professional Requirements and Expectations

## Performance Expectations for Graduate Assistants

The Program follows Graduate School guidelines on performance expectations for Graduate Assistants.

## Attendance Policies

The Program follows Graduate School guidelines on performance expectations on attendance.