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**To:** [Smith, Randy](#)  
**Cc:** [Reed, Katie](#); [Violet, Cynthia](#); [Lewandowski, Monica](#); [Barker, David](#); [Jackson-Smith, Douglas](#)  
**Subject:** Information item for CAA: Update to the Sustainable Agriculture BS AGR  
**Date:** Thursday, November 7, 2024 12:14:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [Sustainable Agriculture BS \(eff AU24\).pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Dear Dr. Smith

Attached please find an updated curriculum sheet for the interdisciplinary Sustainable Agriculture major offered in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. With the revision to the Production Agriculture minor that was recently approved by the CAA, it became evident that the option to select the Production Agriculture minor should be excluded for students in the Sustainable Agriculture major due to great overlap in course options as well as the goals for students in the major and the minor. The interdisciplinary Advisory Committee for the Sustainable Agriculture major recommended to the CFAES Committee on Academic Affairs that students in the Sustainable Agriculture major be excluded from choosing the Production Agriculture minor and be directed to another minor option that will give breadth to their educational experience. Current students will not be impacted by this change, and it will apply only to new students to the major.

Attached please find an updated curriculum sheet noting the addition of Production Agriculture to the excluded minors (footnote b – adding to the Sustainable Agriculture minor, which continues to be an excluded minor). This update has been approved by the Sustainable Agriculture advisory committee and the CFAES Committee on Academic Affairs. I believe this can be shared as an information item with the Council on Academic Affairs – if you believe this will require a vote for approval (rather than shared as an information item), please let me know and I will prepare a formal proposal for revision.

Please let me know if you need additional information or clarification.

Thank you,

Jeanne



*Jeanne M. Osborne* | Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

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*'Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated*

*agent of human change'* (Bob Kerrey)

**Bachelor of Science in Agriculture  
Major: Sustainable Agriculture**

Students pursuing the major will not only learn about agricultural practice but will graduate with valuable transferable skills in problem solving, written and verbal communication, management, advocacy, sustainable sourcing and marketing, entrepreneurship, big-picture and detail-oriented systems-thinking, teamwork, and leadership; skills that provide an edge in any career. Students in this major will complete a minimum of 121 hours outlined as follows.

General Education Requirements		
Requirement	Course Options	Hours
GE Launch Seminar	<b>GENED 1201</b>	1
Writing and Information Literacy	<b>Student Choice</b>	3
Mathematical & Quantitative Reasoning/Data Analysis	Major requirement: <b>MATH 1130, 1148 or 1150</b> * (or Student Choice – see below)	4-5
Literary, Visual and Performing Arts	<b>Student Choice</b>	3
Historical & Cultural Studies	<b>Student Choice</b>	3
Natural Science	Major requirement: <b>BIOLOGY 1113</b> * (or Student Choice – see below)	4
Social & Behavioral Sciences	Major requirement: <b>AEDECON 2001 or ECON 2001.01</b> * (or Student Choice – see below)	3
Race, Ethnic and Gender Diversity	<b>Student Choice</b>	3
Theme: <b>Citizenship for a Diverse &amp; Just World</b> <sup>a</sup>	<b>Student Choice</b>	4-6
Theme: <b>Student Choice</b> <sup>a</sup>	<b>Student Choice</b>	4-6
GE Reflection	<b>GENED 4001</b>	1
<b>Credit Hours:</b>		<b>33-38</b>

\* Indicates a pre/corequisite course for this major that also satisfies this GE category. If a student chooses an alternative course in this GE category, **they must also complete this course.**

B.S. in Agriculture Degree Requirements		
Requirement	Course Options	Hours
College & Department Survey	<b>FAES 1100 (0.5) &amp; HCS 1100 (0.5)</b>	1
Oral Expression	<b>AGRCOMM 3130 or COMM 2110</b>	3
Additional Science	<b>CHEM 1110 or 1210</b>	5
Internship	<b>FAES 3191 &amp; HCS 4191.01</b>	2
Minor <sup>b</sup>	<b>Student Choice</b>	12-15
<b>Credit Hours:</b>		<b>23-26</b>

General Education	<b>33-38</b>
Degree Requirements & Minor	<b>23-26</b>
Major	<b>53-54</b>
Open Electives	<b>3-12</b>
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>121</b>

Major Coursework		
Course	Title	Hours
<b>RURLSOC 1500</b>	Introduction to Rural Sociology	3
<b>HCS 2204 &amp; 2205 -or-</b>	Ecology of Managed Plant Systems -or-	4
<b>HCS 2202</b>	Form and Function in Cultivated Plants	
Data Analysis	Select from: <b>HCS 2260, ANIMSCI 2260, ENR 2000, AEDECON 2005, or COMLDR 3537</b>	3
<b>HCS 2307</b>	Farm-Based Practical Experience (2 cr., repeated)	4
<b>ENR/AEDECON 2500</b> <sup>d</sup>	Introduction to Sustainability	3
<b>ENR 3000 &amp; 3001</b>	Soil Science & Soil Science Laboratory	4
<b>ENR 3100</b>	Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture	3
<b>AEDECON 3101 -or-</b>	Principles of Agribusiness Management -or-	3
<b>AEDECON 4100</b>	Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Food, Agriculture, and Resource Sectors	
<b>ENR 3500</b>	Community, Environment & Development	3
<b>ANIMSCI 3600 -or-</b>	Global Food and Agriculture	3
<b>AEDECON 2580 -or-</b>	Feast or Famine: The Global Business of Food	
<b>AEDECON 4597.01</b>	Food, Population, and the Environment	
<b>ENR 5600</b>	Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems	3
<b>HCS 5602</b>	Ecology of Agriculture	3
<b>PLNTPTH 3001 -or-</b>	General Plant Pathology -or-	3
<b>HCS 5422 -or-</b>	Biology & Mgmt. of Weeds & Invasive Plants -or-	
<b>ENTMLGY 4600 &amp; 4601</b>	Introduction to Insect Science (1) & General Insect Pest Management (2)	
<b>AEDECON/ENR 4567</b>	Assessing Sustainability: Project Experience (Capstone)	3
<b>Select 8-9 hours in Production courses<sup>c</sup>:</b>		
<b>AGSYSMT 3550</b>	Animal and Rural Waste Management	2
<b>ANIMSCI 2200.01</b>	Introductory Animal Sciences	3
<b>ANIMSCI 2200.02</b>	Introductory Animal Sciences Lab	1
<b>ANIMSCI 3100</b>	Animal Growth and Development	3
<b>ANIMSCI 3130</b>	Principles of Animal Nutrition	3
<b>ANIMSCI 3400</b>	Management Intensive Grazing	2
<b>ANIMSCI/HCS 5420</b>	Environmental Impacts of Crop-Livestock Systems	3
<b>ENTMLGY 4601</b>	General Insect Pest Management (if not selected above)	2
<b>FDSCTE 2400</b>	Introduction to Food Processing	3
<b>FDSCTE 4410</b>	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points	2
<b>HCS 2201/2204 &amp; 2205</b>	Ecology of Managed Plant Systems (if not selected above)	4
<b>HCS 2202</b>	Form and Function in Cultivated Plants (if not selected above)	4
<b>HCS 2305</b>	Organic Gardening	1
<b>HCS 3100</b>	Introduction to Agronomy	3
<b>HCS 3220</b>	Crop Origins and Diversity	2
<b>HCS 3310</b>	Crop Responses to the Environment	3
<b>HCS 5422</b>	Biology & Management of Weeds & Invasive Plants (if not selected above)	3
<b>HCS 5450</b>	Vegetable Crop Production and Physiology	3
<b>PLNTPTH 3001</b>	General Plant Pathology (if not selected above)	3
<b>PLNTPTH 5140</b>	Diseases of Field Crops	2
<b>Credit Hours:</b>		<b>53-54</b>

<sup>a</sup> Students complete either a 4-credit course or two 3-credit courses in each of two General Education Theme areas: Citizenship for a Diverse & Just World (required), and the student's choice of available GE Themes. If any major-required courses are identified as a GE Theme course, one course in each GE Theme area may double count in the GE and major hours. Theme courses are identified with a ♣ symbol.

<sup>b</sup> Students in this program must complete a minor. A minor should be declared by the time 60 credit hours are accumulated. A minor in Production Agriculture or Sustainable Agriculture is not permitted.

<sup>c</sup> Review prerequisites.

<sup>d</sup> ENR/AEDECON 2500 was updated to 2501 (4cr) in Autumn 2023. It is also a GE Theme course in the Sustainability theme.

### **Policies and General Requirements for Degree**

- A minimum of **121** total credit hours. Remedial coursework (English 1109; EDUTL 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1010; Mathematics 1040, 1050, 1073, 1074, 1075) do not count toward the 121-hour minimum requirement for the BS degree.
- A minimum of 30 semester hours of credit earned through regular course enrollment at this University, and regular course enrollment in the last semester in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.
- A cumulative point-hour ratio of at least **2.00** on **all** coursework completed at The Ohio State University as well as at least a 2.00 in the **major**.
- If a major-required course or major elective is a GE Theme course, two 3-4 cr courses (no more than one per theme area) is permitted to double count in the GE and major hours. GE Theme courses are indicated with a ❖ symbol.
- Students are encouraged to participate in education abroad opportunities. Consult with your advisor for how education abroad credit applies to your degree or consider the CFAES Global Option.
- Students must complete a minimum of 40 hours in major/major supporting coursework with at least 12 hours taken from the academic unit(s) offering the major at OSU in the baccalaureate program.
- Courses required in the major (including major supporting courses and major electives) may **not** be taken pass/non-pass.
- Coursework taken as open electives may include a maximum of 4 credit hours of physical activity courses (all 1139-1197 courses), and a maximum of 4 credit hours of campus music organizations.
- A college maximum of six hours of individual studies courses (x193) can be applied toward graduation; some majors may have a lower maximum.
- Students of CFAES must complete an internship of 1-2 hours as a requirement for degree. Any additional internship credit hours may count towards major hours (consult with your advisor). A college maximum of six hours of internship credit can be applied toward graduation; some majors may have a lower maximum.
- A maximum of three credits of 3488 can be applied toward graduation although some majors may have a lower maximum. A cumulative point-hour ratio of 2.0 is required to register for 3488 credit.
- Credit hours for 4999 ("with Research Distinction") and 4999H ("with Honors Research Distinction") are repeatable to maximum of six hours.
- **An application for degree must be submitted online at least two semesters prior to the intended graduation term. Application found at:**  
<https://students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/academics/undergraduate/graduation>

### **Policies and General Requirements for Minors/Minor Equivalent**

- The minor/minor equivalent must contain a minimum of 12 credit hours distinct from the major and/or additional minors (i.e., if a minor requires more than 12 credit hours, a student is permitted to overlap those hours beyond 12 with the major or with another minor).
- A 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio is required in the minor/minor equivalent with a minimum C- grade for any course to be listed in the minor or minor equivalent (includes transfer credit).
- For programs requiring a minor: minors should be declared by the time students complete 60 hours.
- A student is permitted to count up to 6 credit-hours of transfer and/or EM credit in the minor or minor equivalent.
- Coursework graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count in the minor. No more than 3 credit-hours of course work graded S/U may count toward the minor. Maximum of 3 credit-hours of xx93 are allowed to count in the minor.