“Terrified’ is the only feeling I felt when I walked back in a classroom after seven years. If it weren’t for the small family atmosphere of the Agriculture Department, I probably wouldn’t have transitioned as quickly as I did. The faculty and students really made me feel I was part of the family. I am thankful every day that I decided to come back to school, and I am even more thankful that I chose the Texas State University Department of Agriculture as my home.”

— Jennifer Smith AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION MASTER’S STUDENT

The master of education program offered through the Department of Agriculture at Texas State University prepares students to work as professionals in the agriculture industry, in leadership and management positions, and in secondary schools and adult education.

The department offers an emphasis on teaching development with research possibilities. Our campus is located near Freeman Ranch, a 3,500-acre, university-operated teaching and research ranch that provides a unique learning environment.

Agriculture education has a long history at this university. When Southwest Texas State Normal School (now Texas State University) was created in 1899, it was charged with the responsibility of teaching agriculture to teachers who were training to work in rural schools. The first classes were held in 1909, and the agriculture department began offering a master of education degree in the 1970s.
**Course Work**

A thesis or non-thesis degree may be selected.

The curriculum consists of 36 hours, with 21 hours in agricultural education and 15 hours in an integrated minor. The thesis counts as six hours toward the 21-hour agricultural education requirement.

In addition, three hours are required in research and analysis as part of the 21 hours. The major and supportive courses are to be taken on the recommendation and approval of the student's advisory committee, which consists of three or more faculty selected with the help of the graduate advisor.

Agriculture courses include:
- Instructional Skill Development
- Advancements in Animal Science
- Problems in Technical Agriculture

Agricultural education courses include:
- Special Problems in Agricultural Education
- Administration and Supervision of Vocational Education
- Principles and Methods of Adult Education
- History and Philosophy of Agricultural Education
- Methods of Technological Change
- Research Methods in Agricultural Education
- Guidance
- Curriculum Development of Vocational Programs
- Advanced Farm Power and Machinery
- Agricultural Structures Design
- Advanced Welding Processes and Designs
- Thesis

**Admission Policy**

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Texas State Graduate College, the Department of Agriculture requires a bachelor's degree with a 2.75 GPA during the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work. Conditional admission is available to students with a 2.50 GPA on the last 60 hours and a preferred Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score. See [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/aged.html](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/aged.html) for details about GRE requirements.

Each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College:
- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- one official transcript from each college or university attended
- three letters of reference (at least two from academia) to the department

Visit [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply) for access to an online application, where to submit application documents and additional details. Applications must be submitted by June 15 for the fall semester, October 15 for the spring semester and April 15 for the summer semester.

**Career Options**

Our graduates gain employment in agricultural education enterprises such as the AgriLife Extension Service, USDA agencies, human resource development, and other leadership positions. Many also gain teacher certification to teach agriculture science and technology at the public school level. Others continue their education to pursue a Ph.D.

**Financial Assistance**

Graduate assistantships and scholarships are available through the Department of Agriculture. Graduate students may work as laboratory instructors or faculty research assistants. Stipends are available on a competitive basis. Send application letter, statement of purpose for graduate study, and two reference letters under separate cover to the graduate advisor in the Department of Agriculture by March 31 for fall assistantships. For students seeking admission at other times, assistantship awards will be made if funds are available. The awards are based on scholastic achievement.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) and click on *Financing Your Graduate Education*. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

**Contact**

Dr. Douglas Morrish  
Graduate Advisor  
Department of Agriculture  
Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684  
Phone: 512.245.2130  
Fax: 512.245.3338  
E-mail: dm43@txstate.edu