Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Business Administration (Agribusiness)

The objective of the PhD program in business administration with a concentration in agribusiness is to produce scholars who are trained in the latest methods of business and economic analysis and who can apply these methods to address critical research problems in a vital sector of the global economy. The program is a full-time residential program in which graduates are expected to assume research and teaching positions at top-ranked universities.

Agribusiness doctoral students are involved with research in the following:

- agribusiness management
- derivatives, commodity marketing and risk management
- food and fiber supply chain management
- food marketing
- food policy and promotion
- global agricultural trade and policy
- strategic marketing by food retailers

At a Glance

- **College/School:** W. P. Carey School of Business
- **Location:** Polytechnic campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Plan of Study

At least 30 credit hours (which may include research credit) of the approved doctoral program and 12
dissertation hours must be completed after admission to the student's doctoral program. Students may not apply credit hours earned for a doctorate degree previously awarded at ASU or another institution toward their current ASU doctorate. However, at the individual academic unit's discretion, students may apply up to 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree toward their doctoral plan of study.

Agribusiness doctoral students are expected to develop a program of study that consists of three elements. They will study a core of theory and quantitative methods coursework in economics and management from the Morrison School of Agribusiness. They will also take advanced courses in at least one of these areas in the W. P. Carey School of Business: economics, finance, marketing, supply chain management or management. Their study will also consist of a three-course sequence of doctorate-level theory and methods from the Morrison School of Agribusiness as applied to issues and concepts specific to the agribusiness sector.

The agribusiness doctorate is designed to allow flexibility with focus, so each student's program of study is unique, but is designed to produce the highest level of research competency in the student's chosen area of interest.

**Comprehensive Examinations**

Upon completion of all necessary coursework on a student's approved program of study, the academic unit may initiate the scheduling and administering of a student's comprehensive examinations. The comprehensive examination consists of a minimum of a written exam; at the discretion of the academic unit, an oral exam may also be required.

**Candidacy**

Doctoral students are notified of achieving candidacy status in a letter from the Dean of the Graduate College upon passing the comprehensive examinations and successfully defending the dissertation prospectus.

**Dissertation Requirements**

Students are required to present a dissertation to satisfy the research requirement for the doctorate. The dissertation is defended in an oral examination commonly known as the dissertation defense.

Students must be enrolled in at least one credit hour that appears on the plan of study or one hour of appropriate graduate-level credit (such as 795 Continuing Registration) during the semester (including summer session) in which the student defends the dissertation.

For detailed information regarding the university's doctoral degree requirements, students should refer to the Graduate College Policies and Procedures.

**Maximum Time Limit**

Doctoral students must complete all program requirements with in 10 consecutive years.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the W. P. Carey School of Business.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. official GRE general exam or GMAT scores
4. personal statement
5. current curriculum vitae
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. Complete information on the English proficiency exams and other required documents can be found on the Graduate Admission Services website: https://students.asu.edu/graduate/international.

Applicants must submit all the items listed above to complete an application file. Incomplete files will not be reviewed or considered until complete.

An explanation of the applicant's goals should be addressed in the personal statement.

Students should see the program website for application deadlines. Late applications may still be considered for the same application term or for the next term of admission; however, the department reserves the right to deny or not review a late application.

Contact Information

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