10KL6080BS: AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION, & COMMUNICATIONS: AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS, BS

In Workflow

1. U Program Review (eastuby@illinois.edu; mhazen@illinois.edu; bv4@illinois.edu; jswen@illinois.edu)
2. Gen Ed Review (menewell@illinois.edu)
3. 1342-ALEC Committee Chair (garyochs@illinois.edu)
4. 1342-ALEC Head (aball@illinois.edu)
5. KL Committee Chair (adilger2@illinois.edu; bjgray2@illinois.edu; djford2@illinois.edu)
6. KL Dean (aball@illinois.edu)
7. University Librarian (clairest@illinois.edu; tteper@illinois.edu)
8. COTE Programs (suzannel@illinois.edu)
9. Provost (bsnewell@illinois.edu)
10. Senate EPC (bjlehman@illinois.edu;bsnewell@illinois.edu)
11. Senate (jtempel@illinois.edu;bjlehman@illinois.edu)
12. U Senate Conf (kakuntz@illinois.edu)
13. Board of Trustees (kakuntz@illinois.edu)
14. IBHE (kakuntz@illinois.edu)
15. HLC (kakuntz@illinois.edu)
16. Catalog Editor (bv4@illinois.edu; bsnewell@illinois.edu)
17. DAIR (eastuby@illinois.edu; nnagy2@illinois.edu; bv4@illinois.edu; jswen@illinois.edu)

Approval Path

1. Wed, 09 Sep 2026 18:55:43 GMT
   Brianna Vargas-Gonzalez (bv4): Approved for U Program Review
2. Mon, 14 Sep 2026 15:34:12 GMT
   Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell): Approved for Gen Ed Review
3. Mon, 14 Sep 2026 17:07:52 GMT
   Gary Ochs (garyochs): Approved for 1342-ALEC Committee Chair
4. Mon, 14 Sep 2026 18:17:39 GMT
   Anna Ball (aball): Approved for 1342-ALEC Head
5. Mon, 19 Oct 2026 16:21:33 GMT
   Brianna Gregg (bjgray2): Approved for KL Committee Chair
6. Mon, 19 Oct 2026 16:24:52 GMT
   Anna Ball (aball): Approved for KL Dean
7. Mon, 19 Oct 2026 18:20:19 GMT
   Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian
8. Mon, 19 Oct 2026 19:33:21 GMT
   Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs
9. Wed, 21 Oct 2026 15:17:02 GMT
   Brooke Newell (bsnewell): Approved for Provost

History

1. Feb 4, 2022 by Eric Morgan (elmorg19)
2. Mar 13, 2025 by Gary Ochs (garyochs)

Deactivation Proposal

Date Submitted: Fri, 04 Sep 2026 20:34:28 GMT

Viewing: 10KL6080BS : Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications: Agricultural Communications, BS
Last approved: Thu, 13 Mar 2025 19:50:48 GMT
Last edit: Wed, 21 Oct 2026 16:43:21 GMT

Changes proposed by: Brianna Gregg

Proposal Type:

Concentration (ex. Dietetics)

This proposal is for a:

~~Revision~~
Phase Down/Elimination

Administration Details

Official Program Name

Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications: Agricultural Communications, BS

Sponsor College

Agr, Consumer, & Env Sciences

Sponsor Department

Agricultural Leadership Education & Communication Department

Sponsor Name

Jennifer Smist ~~Gary Ochs~~

Sponsor Email

jsmist@illinois.edu ~~garyochs@illinois.edu~~

College Contact

Brianna Gregg

College Contact Email

bjgray2@illinois.edu

College Budget Officer

College Budget Officer Email

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Catalog Term

Desired Effective Catalog Term

Fall 2027

Effective Catalog

2027-2028

Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Eliminate the Concentration in Agricultural Communications in the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Are there other related proposals that should be considered simultaneously with this one? If yes, please list the program keys and/or titles. Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

This concentration proposal (key 1105) is related to the following proposals:

- Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications, BS (key 798)
- Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications: Agricultural Education, BS (key 801)
- Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications: Organizational & Community Leadership, BS (key 802)

Program Justification

Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

Provide a list of numbered items of what changed and why each change was necessary.

The Agricultural Communications concentration is being deactivated, along with the Agricultural Education and Organizational & Community Leadership concentrations, and phased out as part of a comprehensive curriculum revision within the ALEC department.

Rather than maintaining three separate, rigid concentrations (Agricultural Education, Agricultural Communications, and Organizational & Community Leadership), the department is streamlining its academic offerings into a single, highly customizable program.

The core coursework and pedagogical content previously housed within the Agricultural Communications concentration will be integrated into the revised, non-concentrated ALEC, BS degree. Students seeking careers in agricultural education or teacher licensure will work with academic advisors to select the appropriate education and technical agriculture coursework within the updated major's flexible elective structure.

Eliminating the formal concentration structure reduces internal administrative complexity, removes restrictive degree-audit bottlenecks, and allows students greater adaptability to tailor their studies across agricultural leadership, education, and communications without needing to formally change concentrations.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

Yes

Please email the Department Head or a CIM User in the Department Head role of the units that own the courses that are impacted by the creation/revision/phase down or elimination of this program. For example, if you are adding a course, you will need support from the course owning unit to do so. Likewise, if you are removing a course or adding additional courses where enrollment in existing courses in the program of study could be impacted, you will need acknowledgement from the course owning unit. If the program has potential for perceived overlap with another unit on campus, you should have consultation with the other unit/stakeholders. Once this is complete, acknowledge that you have done so below.

Acknowledged

Indicate which departments/units/stakeholders were notified/consulted by listing the name of the department(s). For example, if you are adding a course owned by the Department of Philosophy and a course owned by the Department of Theatre and notified the units accordingly, you would include in the box below: 1. Department of Philosophy; 2. Department of Theatre.

1. Department of Advertising (Tracy Sulkin, Michelle Nelson)

2. Department of Agricultural & Consumer Economics (Sarah Low, Bryan Endres, Maria Teresa Serra Devesa, Caroline Helton)

3. Department of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences (Deb Korte, Brianna Gregg)

4. Department of Animal Sciences (Daniel Shike, Anna Dilger, Sandra Rodriguez Zas, Jamie Evans)

5. Department of Communication (John Caughlin, Jennifer Jones Barbour, Leanne Knobloch)

6. Department of Crop Sciences (Adam Davis, Isaac Klimasmith, Kris Lambert, Andrea Taylor)

7. Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition (Nicki Engeseth, Becca Snook, Susan Coppess)

8. Department of Journalism (Jeffrey Magee, Stephanie Craft, Melita Garza)

9. Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences (Robert Schooley, James Miller, Piper Hodson)

Please attach any letters of support/acknowledgement for any Instructional Resources. Consider faculty, students, and/or other impacted units as appropriate.

Letter of Acknowledgement for ALEC Concentration Deactivations.pdf

Program Features

Academic Level

Undergraduate

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 126 hours.

University Requirements

A minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300 and 400 level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The University and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/) (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/).

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
Composition I		4-6
Advanced Composition		3
fulfilled by AGCM 220; JOUR 200		
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)		6
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)		6
fulfilled by ACES 102; FSHN 101 or FSHN 120; NRES 100 or CPSC 112 or CPSC 113		
Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)		6
fulfilled by CMN 232, CMN 277, or CMN 280; and ADV 150		
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)		3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)		3
fulfilled by LEAD 340		
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)		3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)		6-10
Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)		0-15

Code	Title	Hours
Major Requirements		**15**
ALEC 110	Introduction to Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications	3
ALEC 123	ALEC Orientation to Illinois	1
ALEC 451	Professional Development in ALEC	2
AGCM 220	Communicating Agriculture	3
LEAD 340	Leadership Ethics & Society: Addressing Contemporary Challenges	3
Oral Communication		3-6
ALEC 115	Let's Talk about Food, Agriculture, and the Environment	
or CMN 101	Public Speaking	
or CMN 111 & CMN 112	Oral & Written Comm I and Oral & Written Comm II	

Code	Title	Hours
Agricultural Communications Concentration Requirements		**54**
AGCM 310	Investigating Agricultural Communications	3
AGCM 315	Social Media Management in Agricultural Communications	3
AGCM 375	International Agricultural Communications	3
AGCM 420	Public Information Campaigns	3
ALEC 393	Internship in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications	3
Select 9 additional hours of 300 or 400 level AGCM courses		9
JOUR 200	Introduction to Journalism	3
ADV 150	Introduction to Advertising	3

Select any 300- or 400-level Advertising elective course		3
Select any 300- or 400-level Journalism elective course		3
Select one of the following Communication electives:		3
CMN 232	Intro to Intercultural Comm	
CMN 277	Introduction to Mediated Communication	
CMN 280	Comm Technology & Society	
ACES 102	Intro Sustainable Food Systems	3
ACE 231	Food and Agribusiness Mgt	3
Select one of the following Animal Science electives:		3
ANSC 100	Intro to Animal Sciences	
ANSC 101	Contemporary Animal Issues	
ANSC 255	Animal Ethics	
Select one of the following Food Science electives:		3
FSHN 101	The Science of Food and How it Relates to You	
FSHN 120	Contemporary Nutrition	
Select one of the following Land and Environment Science electives:		3
NRES 100	Fundamentals of Env Sci	
CPSC 112	Introduction to Crop Sciences	
CPSC 113	Environment, Agriculture, and Society	
Electives		
Free electives as needed to total 126 hours minimum		
Total Hours:		**126**

Program Relationships

Corresponding Program(s):

Corresponding Program(s)
Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications, BS

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Enrollment

Phase Down/Elimination Enrollment

Does this program currently have enrollment?

Yes

If so, what is the anticipated term of completion?

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

The direct impact on departmental enrollment and degrees awarded is expected to be minimal, as students seeking the Agricultural Communications concentration will now enroll in or transition to the revised, flexible ALEC, BS degree. Rather than completing a rigid concentration, students will fulfill their career goals through customizable elective tracks within the unified major, supported by tailored academic advising.

All currently enrolled students, as well as students admitted for the 2026-2027 admissions cycle, will be permitted to complete their degrees under their existing concentration catalog requirements. The concentration will officially close to new admissions following the Fall 2026-2027 admissions cycle. Students entering in Fall 2027 will be admitted under the current catalog structure and subsequently guided through a seamless curriculum change to align with the newly approved ALEC, BS program requirements upon matriculation.

For students completing the legacy concentration structure, the anticipated graduation term is Spring 2031, with a full teach-out window extending through Summer 2031. Any remaining students beyond the teach-out window will be transitioned to the updated ALEC, BS degree with zero loss of earned credit hours.

To give better insight on the enrollment in this program, here are the fall census enrollment numbers over the last five years:

Fall 2025:
36 enrolled in AGCM concentration
122 total in ALEC major

Fall 2024:
44 enrolled in AGCM concentration
121 total in ALEC major

Fall 2023:
43 enrolled in AGCM concentration
103 enrolled in ALEC major

Fall 2022:
43 enrolled in AGCM concentration
108 enrolled in ALEC major

Fall 2021:
52 enrolled in AGCM concentration
120 enrolled in ALEC major

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?

No

Attach File(s)

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

After consulting with the Agricultural Communications Librarian, Janis Shearer, and the Agriculture Librarian, Sarah Williams, the curriculum changes to the Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications, BS and its concentrations will have no impact on the University Library's resources. Current library resources are sufficient to cover the requirements of this program. No new or additional resources will be necessary to support its development.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number

EP.27.071

Attach Rollback/Approval Notices

Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review Comments

Rollback Documentation and Attachment

DMI Documentation

Attach Final Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook Name

BS:ALEC:Ag Communications-UIUC

Program Code:

10KL6080BS

Minor Code

Conc Code

6080

Degree Code

BS

Major Code

5740

Senate Approval Date

Senate Conference Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date

n/a

Effective Date:

Attached Document

Justification for this request

Program Reviewer Comments

Key: 1105