



---

## Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

**PROPOSAL TITLE:** Revise the major in Agricultural and Consumer Economics leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

**SPONSOR:** Craig Gundersen, Soybean Industry Endowed Professor of Agricultural Strategy and Director of Undergraduate Studies, (217) 333-2857, [cggunder@illinois.edu](mailto:cggunder@illinois.edu)

**COLLEGE CONTACT:** Mary Lowry, Assistant Dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, (217) 333-9391, [lowry@illinois.edu](mailto:lowry@illinois.edu).

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Three revisions are requested to the major requirements in ACE, and none will change the number of hours required to earn the degree.

1. Currently, ACE Majors have to choose from the following list of courses to meet their Advanced Composition requirement: BTW 250 (Principles of Business Communication), BTW 261 (Principles of Technical Communication), BTW 263 (Writing in the Disciplines), RHET 233 (Principles of Composition), and CMN 220 (Communicating Public Policy). We are requesting a change to allow ACE majors to choose any course listed by campus to meet the Advanced Composition requirement.
2. We are requesting to add ACE 341 (Issues and Careers in Applied Economics) to the "Department Requirements".
3. Under "Department Requirements", we are requesting to change [At least 12 hours of credit for study abroad or one international course selected from:] to [Choose one international course from the following list or take an approved international experience with at least 3 hours of credit.

This proposal has a partner proposal requesting minor revisions to 6 of the concentrations attached to the ACE major.

### JUSTIFICATION:

#### Rationale for the change:

1. We believe that ACE students can obtain the relevant skills and knowledge from any of the courses approved to meet the Advanced Composition requirement. In other words, we no longer believe that this specific list of courses is superior to

other courses and we would like the students to have more flexibility in meeting this requirement.

2. ACE faculty have determined that ACE 341, Issues and Careers in Applied Economics (1 or 2 hours), has sufficient value across all concentrations in ACE to justify being required for all ACE majors. It is a practical complement to the technical content ACE students learn in the ACE curriculum.
3. The international course requirement is being amended to make the international experience alternative more commensurate with the on-campus course requirement. The current courses listed that meet the requirement: ACE 435, 436, 451, 452, 454 and 455, are all 3 or 4 undergraduate hours courses. In addition, this will allow some faculty-led experiences of shorter duration than a traditional semester-long experience, to also meet the requirement.

1) BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: Resources

- a. How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

No additional financial support is needed.

- b. How will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? If applicable, what functions or programs will the unit no longer support to create capacity?

For the Advanced Composition request, given the number of majors in ACE (approximately 150 per class), compared to the number of courses that meet the requirement (approximately 150), it is unlikely that the opening up of a broader set of classes will have an influence on the ability of these courses to accommodate the additional students that might take it as a result of this change.

ACE 341 has the capacity to accommodate the additional students required to take it as a result of this change. In the last two years this course has been made available in both fall and spring semesters instead of fall only, to meet additional need.

The international experience change is not expected to impact the courses listed, and all are offered by ACE, except ACE/ECON 452. The Department of Economics has been notified of possible enrollment impacts of this and changes in the partner proposal. See Appendix B.

- c. Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources? If so, please provide a summary of the sources and an indication of the approved support.

No, the unit will not need to seek campus or other external resources.

- d. Please provide a letter of acknowledgment from the college that outlines the financial arrangements for the proposed program.

This is not relevant – no financial arrangements are needed.

2) Resource Implications

- a. Please address the impact on faculty resources including the changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

The Advanced Composition courses that ACE students were restricted to take will likely decline slightly in numbers but given that five courses were listed and the number of ACE majors is not especially large in comparison to other majors outside ACES, it is unlikely to have a major impact on any individual course. Conversely, some courses that are now available to ACE students will likely see increases in enrollment but, again, this is likely to be a small impact.

The courses being moved to required or choose one will likely increase in numbers but this will not alter the format in which those classes are offered. The ACE 341 course is taught in sections per concentration by the ACE advising staff who have capacity to take on this role.

The international experience revision may decrease enrollments in the listed courses, due to students being able to meet the requirement with faculty-led experiences.

- b. Please address the impact on course enrollment in other units and provide an explanation of discussions with representatives of those units. (*A letter of acknowledgement from units impacted should be included.*)

Please see previous response. Copies of the notifications to units currently offering Advanced Composition courses listed for ACE are attached as Appendix B.

- c. Please address the impact on the University Library.

There will be no impact on the University Library. All courses are currently offered.

- d. Please address the impact on technology and space (e.g. computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.)

There will be no impact on technology and space.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Fall 2018

**STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:** On <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/aces/departments/ag-cons-econ/#majorstext> , the changes noted above will need to be incorporated as shown in Appendix A.

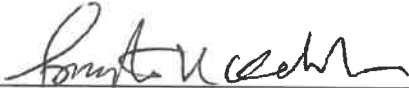
**CLEARANCES:** (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)

Signatures:



Unit Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

February 23, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date:



College Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate College Representative:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Appendix A  
**For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics**  
**Prescribed Courses including Campus General Education**

**Current**

**Composition I and Speech**<sup>1</sup>

RHET 105 Writing and Research  
 & CMN 101 Public Speaking (or equivalent (see College  
 Composition I requirement) 7

**Advanced Composition**<sup>2</sup> Select one of the following: 3

BTW 250 Principles Bus Comm  
 BTW 261 Principles Tech Comm  
 BTW 263 Writing in the Disciplines  
 RHET 233 Adv Rhetoric & Composition  
 CMN 220 Communicating Public Policy

**Foreign Language** Coursework at or above the third level is  
 required for graduation.

**Quantitative Reasoning I** 7-8

Select one of:  
 MATH 124 Finite Mathematics  
 MATH 125 Elementary Linear Algebra  
 MATH 231 Calculus II  
 Select one of:  
 MATH 220 Calculus  
 MATH 221 Calculus I  
 MATH 234 Calculus for Business I

**Quantitative Reasoning II**<sup>3</sup> 4-6

Select one of:  
 ACE 261 Applied Statistical Methods  
 Economic Statistics I and Economic Statistics  
 ECON 202 & ECON 203 II

**Proposed**

**Composition I and Speech**<sup>1</sup>

RHET 105 Writing and Research  
 & CMN 101 Public Speaking (or equivalent (see College  
 Composition I requirement)) 7

**Advanced Composition**<sup>2</sup> Selected from campus approved list. 3

**Foreign Language** Coursework at or above the third level is  
 required for graduation.

**Quantitative Reasoning I** 7-8

Select one of:  
 MATH 124 Finite Mathematics  
 MATH 125 Elementary Linear Algebra  
 MATH 231 Calculus II  
 Select one of:  
 MATH 220 Calculus  
 MATH 221 Calculus I  
 MATH 234 Calculus for Business I

**Quantitative Reasoning II**<sup>3</sup> 4-6

Select one of:  
 ACE 261 Applied Statistical Methods  
 Economic Statistics I and Economic Statistics  
 ECON 202 & ECON 203 II

<b>Humanities and the Arts</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Natural Sciences and Technology</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Cultural Studies</b>	Select one course from Western culture and one from non-Western/U.S. minority culture from campus approved list.	6
<b>ACES Prescribed</b>	Contemporary Issues in ACES (for freshmen only)	2

#### Department Requirements

Minimum Hours in the College of ACES of which 20, excluding ACE 161 and ACE 261, must be in the Department of ACE		35
Minimum of two 400-level courses in ACE		6
ACE 100	Agr Cons and Resource Econ <sup>1</sup>	4
ACCY 201	Accounting and Accountancy I	3
ECON 103	Macroeconomic Principles	3
ECON 302	Inter Microeconomic Theory <sup>2</sup>	3
ACE 161 or CS 105	Microcomputer Applications Intro Computing: Non-Tech	3

At least 12 hours of credit for study abroad or one international course selected from: 12

ACE 435	Global Agribusiness Management
ACE 436	Intl Business Immersion
ACE 451	Agriculture in Intl Dev
ACE 452	The Latin American Economies
ACE 454	Econ Dev of Tropical Africa

<b>Humanities and the Arts</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Natural Sciences and Technology</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>	Selected from campus approved list.	6
<b>Cultural Studies</b>	Select one course from Western culture and one from non-Western/U.S. minority culture from campus approved list.	6
<b>ACES Prescribed</b>	Contemporary Issues in ACES (for freshmen only)	2

#### Department Requirements

Minimum Hours in the College of ACES of which 20, excluding ACE 161 and ACE 261, must be in the Department of ACE		35
Minimum of two 400-level courses in ACE		6
ACE 100	Agr Cons and Resource Econ <sup>1</sup>	4
ACCY 201	Accounting and Accountancy I	3
ECON 103	Macroeconomic Principles	3
ECON 302	Inter Microeconomic Theory <sup>2</sup>	3
ACE 161 or CS 105	Microcomputer Applications Intro Computing: Non-Tech	3

**ACE 341 Issues & Careers in Applied Econ 1-2**  
 At least **3** hours of credit for study abroad or one international course selected from: 3-4

ACE 435	Global Agribusiness Management
ACE 436	Intl Business Immersion
ACE 451	Agriculture in Intl Dev
ACE 452	The Latin American Economies
ACE 454	Econ Dev of Tropical Africa

ACE 455 Intl Trade in Food and Agr  
**Required Concentration** 15-27  
 Concentration prescribed courses. See specific requirements for each concentration listed below.  
**Total Hours** 126

Footnotes	
1	<i>Requirement must be satisfied by end of first year.</i>
2	<i>Students are encouraged to complete this requirement prior to the seventh semester.</i>
3	<i>Students pursuing Agricultural Accounting or Finance in Agribusiness must select ECON 202 and ECON 203.</i>

**Approved Concentrations:**

Agri-Accounting  
 Agribusiness Markets and Management  
 Finance in Agribusiness  
 Consumer Economics and Finance  
 Environmental Economics and Policy  
 Farm Management  
 Financial Planning  
 Policy, International Trade and Development  
 Public Policy and Law

ACE 455 Intl Trade in Food and Agr  
**Required Concentration** 15-27  
 Concentration prescribed courses. See specific requirements for each concentration listed below.  
**Total Hours** 126

Footnotes	
1	<i>Requirement must be satisfied by end of first year.</i>
2	<i>Students are encouraged to complete this requirement prior to the seventh semester.</i>
3	<i>Students pursuing Agricultural Accounting or Finance in Agribusiness must select ECON 202 and ECON 203.</i>

**Approved Concentrations:**

Agri-Accounting  
 Agribusiness Markets and Management  
 Finance in Agribusiness  
 Consumer Economics and Finance  
 Environmental Economics and Policy  
 Farm Management  
 Financial Planning  
 Policy, International Trade and Development  
 Public Policy and Law

Appendix B:

**Lowry, Mary K**

---

**From:** Perry, Martin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:16 PM  
**To:** Lowry, Mary K  
**Subject:** RE: some proposed changes in ACE concentrations that may affect ECON class enrollments

Mary

Yes, I received this email from Sean. I forwarded it to Melissa Newell. She has not read it yet because she is travelling this week. But I think I can answer your question.

I do not see any problem for our Department. The change in enrollment would be indirect and minor, as Sean conjectured. We have plenty of students taking 440 and 482. I think the main impact would be on 452. Since Werner Baer passed away in 2016, we have been struggling to offer this course in smaller sections. And next year, we will not even offer 452.

If you want one of our courses to be included as an option in one of the elective categories for the International Trade and Development Concentration, we have some new courses that you should consider instead of 452. When Melissa returns, she can tell which courses might work for your students.

Marty

---

**From:** Lowry, Mary K  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:03 PM  
**To:** Perry, Martin  
**Subject:** FW: some proposed changes in ACE concentrations that may affect ECON class enrollments

Professor Perry,  
I am checking to make sure you received this message from Prof. Fox about the ACE proposals. The Senate Educational Policy Committee wanted to know that you know about these proposals before sending them on the Senate. Please let us know if these will or won't have any negative impacts on the Department of Economics or if you have any questions. I need to get the response back to them very soon.

Thank you,  
Mary

~~~~~  
~~~~~

Mary Lowry  
Assistant Dean  
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences  
Office of Academic Programs, 128 Mumford Hall  
1301 W. Gregory Dr.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
217-333-3380  
Fax 217-244-6537

---

**From:** Fox, Sean  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 10, 2018 8:24 AM



**To:** Perry, Martin <[mkperry@illinois.edu](mailto:mkperry@illinois.edu)>

**Cc:** Lowry, Mary K <[lowry@illinois.edu](mailto:lowry@illinois.edu)>; Gundersen, Craig <[cggunder@illinois.edu](mailto:cggunder@illinois.edu)>; Fox, Sean <[seanfox@illinois.edu](mailto:seanfox@illinois.edu)>

**Subject:** some proposed changes in ACE concentrations that may affect ECON class enrollments

Marty,

ACE is proposing some changes to our concentrations that may impact ECON. They are described in the attached file.

Briefly:

1. Adding ACE 410 (Energy Economics) as a required class in our Environmental Economics & Policy Concentration
2. Adding ACE 410 (Energy Economics) as an elective in the "Select two (or three) of the following" category in the Policy, International Trade and Development Concentration and in the Public Policy and Law Concentration.
3. Adding ACE 335 (Food Marketing and Behavior) as an elective in the "Select two of the following" category in the Consumer Economics & Finance concentration.
4. Adding ACE 231 (Food & AgBus Mgmt) and ACE 428 (Commodity Futures & Options) as required classes, and removing ACE 448 (Rural Real Estate Appraisal) as a required class in the Farm Management concentration.
5. Moving ACE 445 from the "Select one of the following" category to the "Required" category in the Financial Planning concentration.

These changes may result in some changes in enrollments for other classes that are included in the various "Select 2 of the following" or "Select 3 of the following" categories. The list of classes included in those categories includes some ECON courses – e.g., ECON 452 in the Policy, International Trade and Development Concentration, and ECON 440 and ECON 482 in the Consumer Economics & Finance concentration.

**Overall, we would expect the impact of these changes on your classes to be quite small.**

Due to sloppiness on my part, one of my earlier emails to you about some other proposed changes in our curriculum was mistakenly included in the attached proposal as evidence that you had been informed about these changes. I apologize for that error.

Best wishes  
Sean Fox

John A. (Sean) Fox, Professor and Head  
Dept. of Agricultural & Consumer Economics  
University of Illinois, Ph: 217-300-5356  
<http://ace.illinois.edu/>

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.18.60

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic  
Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



March 29, 2018

Gay Miller, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a request from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to revise the core requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kathryn A. Martensen'.

Kathryn A. Martensen  
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: P. Kalita  
M. Lowry  
J. Fox  
C. Gundersen

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences

Academic Programs  
128 Mumford Hall, MC-710  
1301 West Gregory Drive  
Urbana, IL 61801



March 28, 2018

Kathy Martensen, Assistant Provost  
Office of the Provost  
207 Swanlund Administration Building  
Campus MC-304

Dear Kathy:

I am writing to request campus-level approval for two curricular proposals from the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics. The first proposal contains revisions to six concentrations within the ACE major, and the second proposal contains revisions for the ACE major as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to receiving your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Prasanta K. Kalita', written in a cursive style.

Prasanta K. Kalita  
Associate Dean  
ACES Academic Programs

PKK/rhc

cc: M. K. Lowry  
J. A. Fox  
N. D. Paulson  
ACE C&C Binder