

Collection Development Policy

Agricultural Education and Studies

I. General Purpose

Programs supported by the collection at the undergraduate level are Agricultural Education, Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Studies, and Professional Agriculture (off campus).

At the graduate level (M.S. and Ph.D.) the major offered is Agricultural Education. The Agricultural Education and Studies Department also administers the interdepartmental graduate program in Professional Agriculture leading to a Master of Agriculture degree.

Collection emphasis is on materials specific to agricultural education and extension, and also more broadly on general and mixed agriculture materials not likely to be selected for agronomy, horticulture, animal science, entomology, engineering and technology, economics and business, history, or other specialties within agriculture.

II. History

The Department of Agricultural Education and Studies was formed in 1989 from a merger of the Department of Agricultural Education and the Department of Agricultural Studies. Agricultural Education first became a department in 1911. Agricultural Studies administered the Farm Operation Curriculum (diversified production agriculture and general agriculture) with the first B.S. degree granted in 1945. The Farm Operation Curriculum was renamed Agricultural Studies - Farm Operation in the mid 1980s, and became Agricultural Studies in 1991. The department is a part of the College of Agriculture.

III. Iowa State University Program

Undergraduate primary majors (B.S. degree) are offered within the College of Agriculture in Agricultural Education, Agricultural Studies, and Professional Agriculture (off-campus). A secondary major (must be taken in conjunction with a primary major) is offered in Agricultural Extension Education. A minor is offered in Agricultural Education and Studies. All of the above curricula are administered by the Department of Agricultural Education and Studies. Professional Agriculture is an interdepartmental curriculum administered by the Department.

The Agricultural Studies curriculum includes a variety of required and elective courses in the agricultural sciences and economics. The Professional Agriculture curriculum is intended for students who have completed foundation program courses (64 credit hours) and want to complete their degrees off campus. Students are allowed to choose from a variety of specified courses in the agricultural sciences and social sciences.

At the graduate level, the Department offers the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural Education, and administers the interdepartmental program in Professional Agriculture (ProAg), leading to the Master of Agriculture (M.Ag.) degree. ProAg is an off-campus program that provides holders of bachelor degrees in agriculture who are actively engaged in farming, agribusiness or education, the opportunity to obtain an advanced professional degree. The majority of the 32 required credits needs to be from agricultural economics, agricultural systems technology, agronomy, animal science, and horticulture.

More broadly, overall goals of the Department include fostering the development of agricultural production, management and decision-making skills, helping develop skills and knowledge in the delivery of agricultural technology, and helping develop professionals for agricultural industry, extension, and education.

IV. Subject Boundaries

Agricultural education, including extension, is classed in the LC call number range S530-S559. This range is contained within the overall outline for Agriculture (General), S1-S972. Several call number ranges within Agriculture (General), however, support the work of other academic departments: Economics, S560-S571.5; Agronomy, S583-S667; Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, S671-S760.5; and Agronomy, S900-S972.

Further, the Agricultural Education and Studies Department faculty and students frequently draw upon the literature of the broad discipline of education, so materials are occasionally selected here (LC call number range L-LT) as warranted and requested, to meet departmental teaching and research needs.

V. General Collection Guidelines

A. Linguistic

Primarily, but not strictly limited to, English language materials.

B. Geographical Areas

Emphasis on U.S. and North America but since both agriculture and education are universal topics, and Iowa State University is involved in international programs in agriculture, geographic areas are not restricted to certain countries.

C. Types of Materials Collected

There are only a few major journals that focus specifically on agricultural education and extension; all major ones are selected as the budget allows. A few non-specialized popular farm magazines are included. Access to the serial and monographic literature is provided through several large online databases in agriculture and education, primarily Agricola, CAB, and ERIC.

Textbooks are selected at the school and college levels as needed and requested by faculty, since these texts are important tools in the education process.

Popular and general interest books relating to agriculture are selected as the budget permits and to the extent that they are not likely to be chosen for a specific department or discipline such as agronomy, animal science, food science, history, economics, etc.

D. Format of Materials Collected

The emphasis has traditionally been on the print format for books and serials, with some microforms. Department students and faculty make use of ISU Library's ERIC document collection on microfiche. Web access to serials is desirable where available and as the serials budget allows. The ISU Library website provides access to important internet resources in agricultural education/extension, agriculture, and education.

VI. Specific Collection Guidelines

Agricultural Education:

Collect at undergraduate, graduate, and research levels to support degree programs through Ph.D. as well as faculty research needs.

Agricultural Extension:

Collect materials to support undergraduate curriculum (B.S. degree), plus faculty research interests.

Agricultural Studies:

Collect materials as needed to support undergraduate curriculum (B.S. degree), to the extent not selected for other academic departments and programs.

Professional Agriculture:

Collect materials as needed to support undergraduate and graduate curricula (B.S., M.Ag. degrees), to the extent not selected for other academic departments and programs.

VII. Detailed Subject Areas

Agricultural Education

Historical development, leadership, guidance, teaching methods, planning and developing programs, distance learning, adult education, instructional technology, organizational issues, research methods, evaluation, curriculum development, administration, philosophy, international agriculture.

Agricultural Extension

Extension and international agriculture, communications, presentation for agricultural audiences, programming, organizing agricultural information, agricultural extension education, technology transfer, extension education in developing countries.

Agricultural Studies

Leadership programs, farm management and operation, agronomy, animal science, agricultural sciences, economics.

Professional Agriculture

Agricultural social sciences and economics, animal sciences, plant and soil sciences, agricultural systems technology.

VIII. Other Resources Available

IX. Cross-References to Collection Policies

X. Creation Date

June, 2000.

William H. Wiese

XI. Revision History

XII. LC Classes

Agricultural Education: S530 - S559

Agriculture (General): S1 - S972 (Exceptions noted in Section IV)

XIII. Bibliographer Name

William H. Wiese