

AGRICULTURE, SPECIALIZATION IN DAIRY PRODUCTS TECHNOLOGY (MS)

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The MS in Agriculture program provides students with advanced knowledge and skills in their areas of interest to succeed in their future endeavors. The dairy products technology specialization is for students who wish to use their academic preparation in food science and nutrition, dairy science, microbiology, chemistry, engineering, biochemistry and related fields to address research questions that impact the field of dairy foods. The program requires a demonstration of strong analytical thinking, effective oral and written communication, and project management. Graduates enter research and development positions with major food companies, leadership positions in dairy food processing and other allied areas, or further graduate study for the Ph.D. degree.

Requirements for Admission

Students apply via Cal State Apply (<https://www.calstate.edu/apply/>) and must submit a transcript, a personal statement addressing motivation for pursuing a Master's in Agriculture at Cal Poly, and two letters of recommendation. In addition, applicants who did not obtain their undergraduate degree at Cal Poly are also required to submit scores from the GRE General test. Communicating with the Graduate Program Coordinator before applying is strongly recommended.

International Students must meet all the standard eligibility criteria and demonstrate proficiency in English (English Proficiency Exam Requirements)

Prerequisites: A bachelor's degree from a closely related field.

Minimum GPA: Must have attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in the last 60 semester units attempted. An applicant not meeting these academic standards, but who meets the basic university standard of a grade point average in the last 60 semester units attempted may be considered for admission as a conditionally classified graduate student.

Application due date: Applications are accepted for Fall and Spring semesters. Please see Graduate Student Dates and Deadlines (<https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/graduate-student/dates-and-deadlines/>) for application deadlines.

Advancement to Candidacy

Six units of graduate coursework completed with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and completion of the CAFES Graduate Committee Form.

Culminating Experience

Thesis Option: Along with a faculty advisor, students will work on a specific research topic, preparing a written thesis, and present it to the public as a 45-minute thesis seminar, after which the thesis committee will have the opportunity to privately ask related questions as the student defends the thesis.

Program Learning Objectives

1. Demonstrate expertise in manufacturing and analysis of dairy products.
2. Develop, test or select the appropriate technology in ensuring the quality and safety of dairy foods and ingredients based on current conditions and future needs.
3. Demonstrate effective communication skills.
4. Formulate decisions utilizing professional ethics within their respective disciplines.
5. Examine the value and role of diversity of people and ideas when developing agricultural system solutions.
6. Investigate problems relevant to the dairy foods industry using critical thinking and derive appropriate solutions.

Code	Title	Units
REQUIRED COURSES		
AG 5599	Thesis	6
ASCI 5581	Graduate Seminar in Animal Science	2
DSCI 4401	Physical and Chemical Properties of Dairy Products	3
DSCI 4402	Quality Assurance and Control of Dairy Products	3
ESCI 5501	Research Planning	3
FSN 5505	Orientation to Graduate Studies	1
or AG 5581	Graduate Seminar	
STAT 5110	Introductory Statistics for Graduate Students	3
STAT 5120	Intermediate Statistics for Graduate Students	3
Approved Electives		

Select any 4000-5000 level DSCI, ASCI, BIO, MCRO, CHEM, AG, AGB, AGC, AGED, FSN, STAT, BRAE, or PLSC courses

6

Total Units**30**