Agricultural Systems Management

AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS OPTION

Use technology to make agricultural production more efficient.

THIS MAJOR IS A GOOD FIT
IF YOU CAN SEE YOURSELF:

MANAGING information with computers

TAKING A HANDS-ON APPROACH to solving problems

USING YOUR CREATIVITY to develop and test new ideas

This major prepares you to become a leader in information systems for agricultural operations. Design computer programs to guide decisions about irrigation, pest control, and equipment maintenance. Use sensors and other innovations to monitor moisture levels, soil conditions, or plant growth. Make decisions about the most efficient production methods based on data about climate, available labor, and markets. Learn to use global positioning systems (GPS) and geographic information systems (GIS) in precision agriculture.

INSIDE THE CLASSROOM
Take courses in computer technology, business, and agricultural systems. Much of your education will be hands on: Learn to use state-of-the-art management programs in the computing lab. Discover how to wire connections, switches, and motors in the electric power lab. Senior year, you will draw on everything you've learned when your team tackles a real-world issue. You might design a wireless information system for a farm or calculate the costs and efficiencies of different irrigation systems.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

INTERN. Get practical experiences like these: FARM Set up a computerized management system to help make decisions about maintenance, labor, irrigation, and fertilizer applications . . . SYNGENTA Harvest seeds and collect data . . . SIMPLOT SOIL BUILDERS Use portable data loggers to gather information in the field.

STUDY ABROAD. Deepen your understanding of your major—and the world—in countries like these: INDIA Learn about 1,000-year-old farming practices on terraced hillsides . . . MEXICO Evaluate the function of absorbents in cleaning biodiesel . . . TAIWAN Reach speeds of 190 miles per hour on a bullet train.

DO RESEARCH. Make hands-on discoveries. Earn money working with faculty on grant-funded research projects. BIODIESEL EDUCATION GRANT Take part in one of many alternative-fuels research projects . . . WATERS OF THE WEST PROJECT Work with politicians and land managers to solve real-world water problems from pollution to drought . . . U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION GRANT Help field test a new type of irrigation system.

GET INVOLVED. Network and have fun. AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERS Join the ASM branch, meet business leaders and potential employers, and work with a senior design team to build a ¼-scale tractor for the International Student Design Competition . . . STUDENT IDAHO CATTLE ASSOCIATION Attend seminars and conventions and learn about issues facing the beef cattle industry . . . COLLEGIATE FFA and 4-H Attend local, state, and national events.

FASTFACT

Our seniors designed a wireless farm information system that cuts labor costs by detecting when a task needs attention.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Our graduates are highly sought by manufacturers, agribusiness firms, and farm operations. Salaries start at $40,000.

Here are a few possibilities:

DATA MANAGER. Supervise the collection, storage, and analysis of data for a large farm or other agricultural business. Guide management in making important decisions about efficiency and productivity.

PRODUCTION MANAGER. Oversee all or some aspects of production for a farm, ranch, or food product manufacturer. Collect data on productivity, labor, and equipment and plan for changes to improve efficiency and sustainability.

LAND ASSESSOR. Use GIS technology to assess land quality for a financial institution. Collect and analyze data to help make loan determinations.

INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY REPRESENTATIVE. Work for a manufacturer of software or high-tech equipment for farms, ranches, and processing plants. Work with customers to integrate new technologies into their practices.

COMBINE YOUR EDUCATION. A second language can open doors to international careers. Depending on your goals, take more courses in computer science or agribusiness.

CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION. Earn an advanced degree in computer science, business, or engineering.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT MAJOR

WWW.CALS.UIDAHO.EDU/BAE

AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AGRICULTURAL IMFORMATION SYSTEMS OPTION

4-YEAR PLAN 2008-09

	FRESHMAN	SOPHOMORE	JUNIOR	SENIOR
FALL	**ASM 112** 3 Intro. to Agricultural Systems Management **ASM 200** 1 ASM Seminar **CORE 103-149** 4 Core Discovery Course **Engl 101** 3 Intro. to College Writing **Math 160** 4 Survey of Calculus *or* **Math 170** 4 Analytic Geometry & Calculus **PlSc 102** 3 Science of Plants in Agriculture **TOTAL 18**	**Acct 201** 3 Intro. to Financial Accounting *or* **Acct 205** 4 Fundamentals of Accounting **Chem 101** 4 Intro. to Chemistry **Econ 201** 3 Principles of Economics **Engr 105** 2 Engineering Graphics **Electives** 5 Electives—Ag *or* Tech **TOTAL 17-18**	**AgEc 278** 4 Farm & Agribusiness Management **ASM 305** 3 Agricultural Machinery Systems **ASM 331** 3 Electric Power Systems for Agriculture **Bus 250** 3 Intro. to System Design **Elective** 3 Elective—Advanced Writing **TOTAL 16**	**ASM 315** 3 Irrigation Systems & Water Mgmt. **BAE 478** 2 Engineering Design I **BAE 491** 1 Senior Seminar **BLaw 265** 3 Legal Environment of Business **PTTE 428** 4 Teaching & Learning Computer Operating Systems for Technology **Elective** 2 Elective—Ag *or* Tech **Elective** 3 Elective—Humanities *or* Social Science **TOTAL 18**
SPRING	**ASM 240** 3 Computer Applications in Biological Systems **Comm 101** 2 Fundamentals of Public Speaking **CORE 153-199** 3 Core Discovery Course **CS 112** 3 Intro. to Problem Solving & Programming **Engl 102** 3 College Writing & Rhetoric **Elective** 3 Elective—Ag *or* Tech **TOTAL 17**	**Acct 202** 3 Intro. to Managerial Accounting *or* **Elective** 2 (if Acct 205 taken) **BAE 143** 2 Engineering Problem Solving **Econ 202** 3 Principles of Economics **Phys 100** 4 Fundamentals of Physics *or* **Phys 111** 4 General Physics I **Soil 205/206** 4 Soil Ecosystem/Lab **TOTAL 15-16**	**ASM 202** 2 Agricultural Shop Practices **ASM 433** 3 Agricultural Processing Systems **Biol 102** 4 Biology & Society **Geog 385** 3 GIS Primer **Stat 251** 3 Principles of Statistics **Elective** 3 Elective—Approved **TOTAL 18**	**ASM 409** 3 Agricultural Tractors & Power Units **BAE 479** 2 Engineering Design II **CS 120** 4 Computer Science **Electives** 6 Electives—Approved **TOTAL 15**

Total for degree = 128 credits. Course offerings may change from year to year. Always check the current course catalog.

"My major has taught me the pros and cons of new technology so I can make informed decisions."

LUKE MCCALL, *agricultural systems management major*

TO LEARN MORE
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University of Idaho
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences