3. Changes in Curriculum

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (change in graduation requirement)
Department of Agricultural Economics
B.S. in Agribusiness
B.S. in Agricultural Economics

Change in Course
AGEC 481. Seminar.

Course title
From: Seminar.
To: Ethics in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics.

Course description
From: Role of social scientists in the agricultural industry; professional opportunities and responsibilities; individual investigations and reports; and discussions with prominent leaders in the field.
To: Ethical issues facing managers and policy-makers in the agribusiness sector; role of professionals in the agricultural food and resource industries; professional opportunities and responsibilities; individual investigations and reports; and discussions with prominent leaders in the field.
PROPOSED CHANGE IN GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
for the
B.S. IN AGRIBUSINESS
and the
B.S. IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
at
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

In November 2003, the Faculty Senate at Texas A&M University passed a resolution that Texas A&M University “should reduce the minimum hours required for a bachelor’s degree from 128 semester credit hours to 120 semester credit hours.” This resolution was passed after President Gates and the Council on the Educational Environment requested the University’s minimum requirement of 128 semester credit hours be reviewed. Their request was made after reviewing, among others, Vision 2020 benchmark universities’ degree requirements.

The State of Texas has put into action a number of steps that would move students at a more rapid rate through the rigors of higher education. One such step was initiating a $1,000 tuition rebate program to students who attempt not more than three hours in excess of the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete the degree in the catalog under which they will graduate.

In keeping with the above-stated resolution and the mandates of the State of Texas, the Department of Agricultural Economics is proposing a reduction in hour requirements for the B.S. in Agribusiness and the B.S. in Agricultural Economics from 132 credit hours to 120 credit hours for the 2005-2006 academic year (catalog 128). This proposal has been developed to coincide with the Mays Business School’s desire to lower their hour requirements in all business degrees (including the Agribusiness degree which is jointly administered by the Department of Agricultural Economics and the Mays Business School). Since we are lowering the hour requirements for the Agribusiness degree to remain consistent with the Mays Business School’s degree requirements, we are also reducing the hour requirements in the Agricultural Economics degree.