

# SPECIALTY AGRICULTURE

## REQUIREMENTS

**CORE CURRICULUM** The Core Curriculum is designed to foster critical thinking skills and introduce students to basic domains of thinking that transcend disciplines. The Core applies to all majors. Information on specific classes in the Core can be found at [marshall.edu/gened](http://marshall.edu/gened).

### CORE 1: CRITICAL THINKING

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	3	_____
NRE 220	Critical Thinking Course	3	_____
NRE 120	Critical Thinking Course	3	_____
<b>Additional University Requirements</b>			
_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____
_____	Writing Intensive	3	_____
_____	Multicultural or International	3	_____
NRE 470/491	Capstone	3	_____

### CORE 2:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____
ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____
CMM 103	Fund Speech-Communication	3	_____
MTH 140	Applied Calculus (or MTH 229)	3-5	_____
BSC 120/L	Principles of Biology I / Lab	3/1	_____
_____	Core II Humanities	3	_____
_____	Core II Social Science	3	_____
_____	Core II Fine Arts	3	_____

## DEPARTMENT AND MAJOR-SPECIFIC

Students who wish to major in Specialty Agriculture must take the following courses:

CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
CIT 150	Spreadsheet & Database Prin	3	_____	NRE 322	Assess I: Terrestrial Systems	4	_____
NRE 120	Discussion in Environ Sci (CT)	3	_____	NRE 323	Assessment II: Aquatic Ecology	4	_____
NRE 220	Human Dimensions Nat Res (CT)	3	_____	NRE 200	Introduction to Agriculture	3	_____
NRE 490	ES/NRRM Capstone Prep	3	_____	NRE 300	Principles of Soil Science	3	_____
NRE 470/491	Capstone	3	_____	NRE 301	Principles of Soil Science Lab	2	_____
NRRM 200	Analytical Methods: Statistics	4	_____	NRE 302	Animal Production	3	_____
BSC 120/L	Principles of Biology I / Lab	3/1	_____	NRE 401	Horticulture	4	_____
BSC 121/L	Principles of Biology II / Lab	3/1	_____	NRE 402	Sustainable Agriculture	3	_____
CHM 211	Principles of Chemistry I	3	_____	NRE 403	Agricultural Entomology	4	_____
CHM 217	Principles of Chem Lab I	2	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____
CHM 212	Principles of Chemistry II	3	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____
CHM 218	Principles of Chem Lab II	2	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____
ENT 360	Intro to Entrepreneurship	3	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	3	_____
MGT 320	Principles of Management	3	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	3	_____

## MAJOR INFORMATION

- Capstone Experience: It is the responsibility of each student to consult his/her advisor regarding details of meeting the capstone requirement.
- Students are required to know and track their degree requirements for graduation or for entrance to a professional school.
- Coursework listed as "elective" may vary for each student. Students are encouraged to use elective hours toward a minor or toward prerequisites.
- Students are strongly encouraged to select courses that meet two or more Core or College requirements. For example, a writing intensive literature course could satisfy the Core II Humanities requirement as well as the university writing intensive requirement.
- Course offerings and course attributes are subject to change each semester. Please consult each semester's schedule of courses for availability and attributes.
- Minimum 2.0 overall and MU GPA required for graduation.
- Minimum of 120 hours (40 upper level) required for graduation.
- In consultation with the NRE/COS advisors, students will select electives from Marshall University offerings best suited to prepare students for future endeavors. Students interested in specific fields or professional credentials, such as nutrient management, outreach and education, ecotourism, agriculture commodities broker, soil science, soil health, food security, livestock production, or crop production, should speak with their NRE faculty advisor to discuss electives. The student will select electives to reach to 120 credit hours required for graduation. Additional electives may be used to satisfy general education requirements (e.g., writing intensive). A minimum of 40 hours must be 300-400 level courses. Below is a list of courses that could be considered; however, the list is not exhaustive and other courses can be considered based on consultation between the student and NRE/COS advisors. Additional electives may be used to satisfy general education requirements (e.g., writing intensive). A minimum of 40 hours must be 300-400 level courses.

# SPECIALTY AGRICULTURE

Specialty Agriculture in this context refers to sustainable, high-yield agriculture that can be economically sustainable in mountainous regions and small land areas. The Bachelor of Science in Specialty Agriculture provides educational opportunities in agriculture, agribusiness, and agrotourism, covering both traditional and sustainable agricultural sciences. New and emerging technologies for high yield and specialty agriculture are emphasized, as they will improve agribusiness outcomes for smaller farms that are characteristic of the region. Focus of the major includes, but is not limited to, the agricultural aspects of greenhouse production, hydroponics, precision farming, urban agriculture, community gardens, and specialty crop production.

YEAR ONE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	CIT 150	Spreadsheet & Database Prin	3	_____	ENG 201	Advanced Composition	3	_____
	NRE 120	Discussion in Environ Sci (CT)	3	_____	CMM 103	Fund Speech-Communication	3	_____
	MTH 140	Applied Calculus (or MTH 229)	3	_____	BSC 120/L	Principles of Biology I / Lab	3/1	_____
	ENG 101	Beginning Composition	3	_____	GEO 222	Global Environment Issues (CT, WI)	3	_____
	FYS 100	First Year Sem Crit Thinking	3	_____	NRE 220	Human Dimensions Nat Res (CT)	3	_____
	UNI 100	Freshman First Class	1	_____				
	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>16</b>	
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR TWO	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	CHM 211	Principles of Chemistry I	3	_____	BSC 121/L	Principles of Biology II / Lab	3/1	_____
	_____	Core II Humanities (WI)	3	_____	CHM 212	Principles of Chemistry II	3	_____
	_____	Core II Fine Arts	3	_____	CHM 218	Principles of Chem Lab II	2	_____
	NRE 200	Introduction to Agriculture	3	_____	NRRM 200	Analytical Methods: Statistics	4	_____
					NRE 302	Animal Production	3	_____
	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>16</b>	
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR THREE	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	NRE 323	Assessment II: Aquatic Ecology	4	_____	NRE 490	ES/NRRM Capstone Prep	3	_____
	NRE 300	Principles of Soil Science	3	_____	NRE 322	Assess I: Terrestrial Systems	4	_____
	NRE 301	Principles of Soil Science Lab	2	_____	MGT 320	Principles of Management	3	_____
	NRE 403	Agricultural Entomology	4	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____
	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____				
	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>17</b>		<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>14</b>	
	Summer Term (optional):							

YEAR FOUR	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE	CODE	COURSE NAME	HRS	GRADE
	NRE 402	Sustainable Agriculture	3	_____	NRE 470	ES Internship (or NRE 491)	3	_____
	ENT 360	Intro to Entrepreneurship	3	_____	NRE 401	Horticulture	4	_____
	_____	Major Specific Elective	3	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____
	_____	Major Specific Elective	4	_____	_____	Major Specific Elective	3	_____
	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>		<b>14</b>	
	Summer Term (optional):							

● General Education Requirement  
■ College Requirement  
◆ Major Requirement  
◆ Area of Emphasis

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Milestone Course: This is a key success marker for your major. See your advisor to discuss importance of this course in your plan of study.

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## INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- American Fisheries Society (Marshall Chapter)
- Collegiate 4-H at Marshall University
- Creek Geeks
- Marshall Environmental Science Association (MESA)
- Park and Recreation Organization for Students (PROS)
- Scuba Club

## RELATED MAJORS

- Business
- Safety Technology
- Entrepreneurship
- Biological Sciences
- Environmental Science
- Natural Resources and Recreation Management

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Have a minimum of 120 credit hours (some colleges or majors require more);
- Have an overall and Marshall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher;
- Have an overall Grade Point Average of 2.00 or higher in the major area of study;
- Have earned a grade of C or better in English 201 or 201H;
- Have met all major(s) and college requirements;
- Have met the requirements of the Core Curriculum;
- Have met the residence requirements of Marshall University, including 12 hours of 300/400 level coursework in the student's college (see section entitled "Residence Requirements" in the undergraduate catalogue);
- Be enrolled at Marshall at least one semester of the senior year;
- Have transferred no more than 72 credit hours from an accredited West Virginia two-year institution of higher education.

Colleges and specific programs may have unique requirements that are more stringent than those noted above. Students are responsible for staying informed about and ensuring that they meet the requirements for graduation.

# SPECIALTY AGRICULTURE — 2024-2025

## YEAR ONE



Have questions? Need to talk? You already have a Friend-At-Marshall ready to help you succeed. Find your FAM Peer Mentor here: [www.marshall.edu/fam](http://www.marshall.edu/fam)



Stay on the Herd Path and come to class! Class attendance is more important to your success than your high school GPA, your class standing, or your ACT/SAT scores.



In order to graduate on time, you need to take an average of 15 credits per semester. Are you on track? Take 15 to Finish!



Meet with your Advisor to ensure you take the necessary prerequisites that are required for your sequences.



Declare a major before your 30th hour. Participate in a Career Exploration Experience (job shadow) to help decide on your major and career goals.



Join or create a club or organization on campus about a particular issue you care about. Marshall has more than 200 student organizations.



Attend an intercultural festival or event on campus or in town.

## YEAR THREE



Join professional associations in your field, like: American Fisheries Society, Ecological Society of America, Association of Southeastern Biologists.



No need to wait until graduate school. Discuss undergraduate research opportunities with faculty in your major right now.



Are you on track to graduate? Meet with your advisor for your Junior Eval to make sure you know what requirements you have left.



Strengthen your resume and enhance your presentation skills. Present what you've learned at an academic conference off campus.



Networking is key! Attend a Career Expo to seek employment opportunities and network with employers in your field.



Develop relationships with professors who can serve as future references by attending their office hours.



Think about who can help you grow as a student and a professional (professors, advisors, alumni, etc.) and ask at least one to be your mentor.

## YEAR TWO



Are you completing enough credits to graduate on time? Dropping or failing a class can put you behind. Use summer terms to quickly get back on track.



Take a Community Based Learning (CBL) class that connects course content to the community. Stay engaged and make a difference.



Join the Marshall Mentor Network and connect with professionals in your field to discuss your major, career path, and more.



Don't enter your field with zero experience! Secure an internship related to your field of study.



Have you considered adding a minor? Think about personal areas of interest you'd like to explore or how you might enhance your major with a related skill set.



College is a great time to experience the world! Consider studying abroad in the summer, during Spring Break, or for an entire semester.



Meet with a career education specialist to conduct a "gap analysis." Figure out the skills you'll need for the career you want while you still have time to build them.

## YEAR FOUR



This is it! Are you on track to graduate? Meet with your advisor for your Senior Eval to see what requirements you have left.



Pursue research and funding opportunities for undergraduates.



Apply to be a New Student Orientation Leader or a Campus Tour Guide.



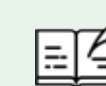
Did you do really well in a hard course? Become a Tutor or a Supplemental Instructor.



Be at the top of your professional game! Prepare a final resume and practice your interview skills with a career coach in Career Education.



Conservation and sustainability outreach is available. Join up!



Want to continue your education and increase your opportunities? Talk to a faculty member about whether graduate school fits your career goals.

## TRANSFERABLE SKILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS MAJOR

- Attention to Detail
- Strong Oral and Written Communication Skills
- Organizational Skills

## ASSOCIATED CAREERS

- Agribusiness
- Agritourism
- Animal Production
- Extension Education and Outreach
- Food Science
- Forestry
- Horticulture / Crop Production
- Nutrient Management
- Soil Health / Conservationist

This academic map is to be used as a guide in planning your coursework toward a degree. Due to the complexities of degree programs, it is unfortunate but inevitable that an error may occur in the creation of this document. The official source of degree requirements at Marshall University is DegreeWorks available in your myMU portal. Always consult regularly with your advisor.



Marshall University  
College of Science  
1 John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755  
1-304-696-2372  
[cos@marshall.edu](mailto:cos@marshall.edu)  
[marshall.edu/cos](http://marshall.edu/cos)