DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VICTOR NJITI, PH.D.
DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Morris-Boykin Agricultural Science Building.
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Agriculture is the leading industry in Mississippi, with major production in poultry, forestry, cereal crops, horticultural crops, vegetables, cattle, and hogs. In response to this demand, Alcorn State University's Department of Agriculture is committed to preparing students for successful careers in Agricultural Sciences. The department offers programs in eight specialized areas: Agribusiness Management, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Biotechnology, Animal and Pre-Veterinary Science, General Agricultural Education, Natural Resources and Environmental Science, Plant, Soil, and Horticultural Sciences, and Poultry Science.

Each program is designed to provide a unique blend of coursework, including lectures, lab courses, seminars, and internships. The Alcorn Agricultural Experiment Station, which spans 1,456 acres, cultivates various food, feed, and fuel crops using different agronomic practices. It features modern facilities, greenhouses, and animal farms that enhance practical learning and complement classroom education.

The Morris Boykin Agricultural Building, Biotechnology Building, and Ecology Building house modern and spacious classrooms, as well as well-equipped teaching labs. The department currently has 25 full-time faculty members, covering a wide range of expertise. Among them, 10 faculty members have established research programs in their respective fields. The agriculture faculty consistently secures competitive funding and actively trains and mentors undergraduate student researchers, in addition to advising master's students.

Our programs are designed to offer the latest curriculum and best practices to meet the present and future needs of the agriculture industry.

Department's objectives:

1. To effectively prepare students for careers in agriculture, advanced education, and lifelong learning.
2. To provide opportunities for students to connect with the agricultural community through interaction with private industries, government agencies, and other industry professionals.
3. To prepare students for graduate and professional schools

Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Sciences: Plant, Soil, and Horticultural Sciences Emphasis (120 Credit Hours)

Program outcomes:

1. Apply relevant statistical concepts to on-field and off-field agriculture experiments.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of crop production, breeding principles, and scientific writing techniques.
3. Integrate environmentally friendly strategies that promote human and soil health for sustainable crop production.

Freshman Year (33)								
First Semester	**Class**		**Hrs.**		**Second Semester**	**Class**		**Hrs.**
AE 111	Fund. & Concepts in Ag.		3		CH 122	General Chemistry II		3
BI 111	Introduction to Biology I		3		CH 122L	General Chemistry II Lab		1
CH 121	General Chemistry		3		CS 100	Intro. to Computers		1
CH 121L	General Chemistry Lab		1		EN 112	Composition II		3
EN 111	Composition I		3		ND 101	Health and Wellness		1
HI 111	World Civilization I		3		PH 132	General Psychology		3
UL 101	University Life		1		PS 122	Crop Production		3
					PS 122L	Crop Production Lab		1
	TOTAL		**17**			**TOTAL**		**16**
Sophomore Year (30)								
CH 221	Organic Chemistry I		3		PS 220 or PS 330	Prin of Cell Tissue Culture or Intro to Biotechnology		3
CH 221L	Organic Chemistry I Lab		1		PS 220L or PS 330L	Prin of Cell Tissue Culture Lab or		1
EN 213	Studies in Literature		3		SA 223	Oral Communication		3
MA 121	College Algebra		3		PS 305	Plant Dev. & Physiology		3
PS 205	Principles of Genetics		3		AR 214 MU 213	Art Appreciation or Music Appreciation		3
PS 315	Soils		3					
PS 315L	Soils Lab		1					
	TOTAL		**17**			**TOTAL**		**13**
Junior Year (26)								
PS 316	General Horticulture		3		PS 320	Biomass and Bioenergy		3
PS 316L	General Horticulture Lab		1		PS 448	Soil Management		3
PS 345	Landscape Gardening		3		PS 449	Vegetable Production		3
PS 346	General Entomology		3		ZZ 312	Free Elective		3
PS 346L	General Entomology Lab		1					
PS 437	Soil Cons. Land Use		3					
	TOTAL		**14**			**TOTAL**		**12**
Senior Year (31)								
AG 486	Agriculture Seminar		1		AG 439	Internship		3
PS 439	Soil Microbiology		3		AG 458	Special Problems in Ag		3
PS 446	Soil Morph & Classification		3		PS 475	Plant Breeding		3
PS 441	Gen Plant Pathology		3		PS 480	Soil Chemistry		3
PS 459	Soil Fertility		3		PS 490	Research Methods		3
					PS 497	Ag. Environmental Law		3
	TOTAL		**13**			**TOTAL**		**18**

*** A grade of C or higher is required to graduate in agriculture courses and in senior and junior-level non-agriculture courses.**