COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL
AND LIFE SCIENCES

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Agricultural Experiment Station; Matthew Doumit, Associate Dean and
Director of Academic Programs.

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences provides quality programs
in agricultural, food, family and consumer sciences, and related areas to
all of Idaho. In addition to academic programs, the college also advances
knowledge in these areas by research conducted through the Idaho
Agricultural Experiment Station and provides information transfer and
application of new knowledge to the state and the nation through the
Cooperative Extension System. The college also actively participates in
international development and student and faculty exchange programs
around the world. The College of Agriculture was established in 1901 and
was renamed the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in 2001. The
Margaret Ritchie School of Family and Consumer Sciences became part
of the college in 1983.

Advantages

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences offers a quality education in
a professional and friendly atmosphere. Each student has an academic
advisor who is readily available to assist in academic and career
planning. There is also a Peer Mentor program to help first-time students
become acquainted with the college and the university. Undergraduate
students often have the opportunity to experience their major by working
on research projects and internships directed by faculty members.
The college also offers leadership opportunities through a variety of
departmental and college student organizations.

Faculty

The faculty are the key to quality education. In the College of Agricultural
and Life Sciences, there is a low student/teacher ratio, and most classes
are taught by faculty members. They bring to their students a strong
commitment to teaching and a richness of depth, experience, and
research.

Units

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences offers 43 programs through
7 academic units. The units are Agricultural Economics and Rural
Sociology; Agricultural Education, Leadership and Communication;
Animal Veterinary and Food Sciences; Entomology, Plant Pathology
and Nematology, the Margaret Ritchie School of Family and Consumer
Sciences; Plant Sciences; and Soil and Water Systems.

Facilities of the College

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is housed in seven buildings
on campus and in many other facilities around the state. Some of the
unique facilities include a child development laboratory, a state-of-the-art
biotechnology research laboratory, an agricultural engineering laboratory,
a food science and toxicology research center, and research farms of
more than 14,000 acres for beef, dairy, sheep, plant science, a certified
organic orchard, and other programs. In addition to facilities at Moscow,
there are offices in 42 counties and 3 offices serving federally recognized
tribes and research and extension centers at 9 locations throughout
Idaho.

Agricultural Experiment Station

The Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station was established in 1892
to support the research function of the College of Agricultural and
Life Sciences, and has the responsibility to conduct applied and basic
research leading to problem solving and new knowledge for agricultural
industries, rural communities, and family living. The Idaho Agricultural
Experiment Station is integrated into all departments of the college. Most
of the college’s faculty have research appointments in the experiment
station. The Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station is coordinated with
and provides research for teaching and extension to more effectively
meet the needs of Idaho citizens.

The Idaho agricultural research program is statewide. Research is
conducted in a number of areas related to agriculture and on all major
agricultural commodities. The administrative center for the research
program is located on the Moscow campus. There are 10 research and
extension centers in strategic agricultural areas around the state where
resident research and extension personnel are located.

The Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station shares the responsibility
of developing and educating future scientists through undergraduate
research and graduate assistantships. Currently, there are approximately
150 graduate students enrolled in the College of Agricultural and Life
Sciences, with assistantships or stipends for their training. These
appointments are generally for two years for a M.S. and three years for a
Ph.D., during which time the students conduct research as a part of their
graduate education.

University of Idaho Extension

The Cooperative Extension System was established by the Smith-Lever
Act, signed May 8, 1914, to help extend research to the people of the
United States in order to improve their farms, families, and communities.
The Idaho legislature approved the Cooperative Extension concept in
1915. In 1917, additional state legislation brought the county boards of
commissioners into the cooperative three-way federal, state, and county
partnership.

The Extension System is an integral part of the University of Idaho and
the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and is administratively
coordinated with the teaching and research functions of the college. The
extension function is organized to extend the knowledge created through
research to the people of the state of Idaho so that they can apply the
findings to their particular situations, thereby solving their problems and
improving their quality of life.

The headquarters of University of Idaho Extension is in Moscow. District
offices are located at Caldwell, Coeur d’Alene, Twin Falls, and Idaho Falls.
The state is the campus for University of Idaho Extension.

Educators live and work in the areas to which they are assigned by
mutual agreement of the university and the counties or tribes involved.
Agricultural, family and consumer sciences, community development,
natural resources and youth educators are located in 42 of Idaho’s 44
counties, provide service to 3 federally-recognized tribes and are also
involved in multi-county programming.

Supporting the county faculty are state Extension specialists located at
Idaho Falls, Parma, Caldwell, Aberdeen, Coeur d’Alene, Boise, Twin Falls,
Moscow, Salmon, and Kimberly. These specialists keep up to date by
conducting relevant research and through cooperation with research scientists of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Extension educational programs are conducted in seven broad areas. These are:

1. Food production systems
2. Health and wellness
3. Small farms and horticulture
4. Water
5. Forest, range, and other natural resources
6. Community Development
7. 4-H youth development.

Programs are both disciplinary and interdisciplinary and are designed to address the issues facing Idahoans. Major programming issues include water quality, youth at risk, waste management, food security, obesity, community vitality, agricultural sustainability, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, math).

University of Idaho Extension helps people improve the social, economic, and environmental qualities of their lives through research-based education and leadership development focused on issues and needs. To accomplish this mission, University of Idaho Extension works under the basic philosophy that programs planned with people will achieve greater success than programs planned for them. Extension takes the resources and research of the land-grant university out into the state so that Idaho's citizens can benefit from their university.

General College Requirements for Graduation

University Requirements
See regulation J (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/general-requirements-academic-procedures/j-general-requirements-baccalaureate-degrees/) for requirements that all students in the university must meet.

College Requirements
See the individual department section for degree requirements within each department.

Major Curricula

The specific requirements for the undergraduate majors are listed in the individual department section. Each student is assigned an advisor who assists in the planning of their program; however, the student has the final responsibility for the completion of all university, college, and departmental requirements.

Degrees and Curricula Offered

Students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences are encouraged to pursue a broad education. In each curriculum, minimum requirements are specified in agriculture, life, or family and consumer sciences disciplines; in the biological, physical, and social sciences; and in humanities to qualify the graduate to enter professional fields in agriculture, life and family and consumer sciences. Each curriculum also permits students to choose elective courses that will assist in personal and professional growth, development of communication skills, and a better understanding of the world in which we live.