M.S. in Applied Economics

Program Requirements
A core of economic theory and quantitative methods courses (or equivalent) is required. Students are required to maintain a 3.0 grade point average overall in their core courses and the courses in their graduate program. Failure to meet these requirements, as well as receipt of more than one grade less than a "B-" in the core courses will be grounds for termination. The core includes:

Required Core Courses
AGBE 467  Quantitative Method in Ag Econ  3
ECNS 401  Microeconomic Theory  3
ECNS 501  Microeconomic Theory  3
ECNS 502  Macroeconomic Theory  3
ECNS 561  Econometrics I  3
ECNS 562  Econometrics II  3
ECNS 594  Seminar  1
ECNS 594  Seminar  1
ECNS 590  Master's Thesis  10

In addition to theory and quantitative methods core courses, students will successfully complete ECNS 569 Research Methodology. Supplementary coursework and research may focus on agricultural economics, natural resource economics, or general applied economics. Through continued discussions with the advisor and other faculty, students will select additional courses and either a thesis topic (Plan A) or research paper topic (Plan B) to complete a program of study consistent with their interests.

Students may choose to study special problems on an individual basis. Students desiring "Individual Problem" credit as either ECNS 592 Independent Study, AGBE 592 Independent Study, or AGBE 591 Special Topics should consult with a faculty member and agree upon a plan of study before the beginning of the semester in which the credits are to be undertaken. The Graduate School must approve all such courses, and limits the number of credits applicable toward degree requirements as: maximum of 3 credits for Option A or 6 credits for Option B.

Under Plan A, required minimums are: 20 semester credits (including the core courses of graduate coursework), and 10 semester credits of thesis. For those who have satisfied coursework prerequisites, the required degree coursework should be completed in two semesters. The thesis must be acceptable to the student's graduate committee and to The Graduate School, and it must demonstrate independent and original research.

Under Plan B, a thesis is not required. This option includes at least 30 semester credits of graduate coursework. Students who select Option B are required to include a Professional Paper and Project (ECNS 575); maximum of 4 credits in a semester and a maximum of 6 credits for the program) as part of their program. For those who have satisfied coursework prerequisites, the required degree coursework (other than the research paper) should be completed in two or three semesters. The paper must be original, of professional quality (meet style and format requirements set forth in The Graduate School Guide for Preparation of Thesis and Professional Papers), be acceptable to the student's graduate committee, and receive final approval by the Department Head.

Two examinations complete degree requirements. Each student is required to pass a Microeconomics Theory Core Exam – a written exam administered by the Department's Graduate Affairs Committee. The exam is offered early spring semester, and may be offered one additional time each year; it will consist of questions covering the fundamental concepts of microeconomic theory and their application.

In addition to the Core Exam, each student is required to pass an oral examination in defense of their thesis (Option A) or research paper (Option B). The oral examination is administered by the student's graduate committee and is open to all members of the faculty. Students are expected to present a typed draft, in final form, of the thesis or research paper to each member of their graduate committee at least seven days prior to the scheduled date of their examination. The examination for Option A students should not be scheduled until the student's thesis committee agrees that the thesis is essentially in a form acceptable to the University Library (that is, copies of the typed draft should be readable and have a table of contents, list of tables and figures, chapter titles, section headings, bibliography, and consecutively numbered pages). The examination for Option B students should not be scheduled until the paper is in a form that satisfies style and format requirements.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Adobe Garamond Pro.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.