

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE



## Practical, Sustainable Focus on Our Most Basic Needs

Experience a holistic approach to the study of food and fiber production, and their association and interaction with societal concerns. At Truman, our focus is on a sustainable agricultural system – including food production, processing, and consumption.

Receive hands-on instruction on our University Farm. Participate in groundbreaking initiatives, and help shape the success of student organizations. Numerous research opportunities are available where you can expand upon your classroom knowledge, enhance your critical thinking and communication skills, and begin building a very impressive resume to help you with your future aspirations.

Take an active role in building your future. Become a leader in a new, sustainable world.

[AGRICULTURE.TRUMAN.EDU](http://AGRICULTURE.TRUMAN.EDU)



“Truman’s Agricultural Science Department allows students not only to have plenty of one-on-one attention with professors, but also with other Agricultural Science majors. All of us majors are like a family and are willing to help each other out, whether that might be tutoring for a class or assistance in finding a summer internship.”

**Miranda Biddle, Class of 2016**  
 Pursuing at Truman: Agricultural Science  
 President of Truman’s Chapter of the Collegiate Farm Bureau; President of Sigma Alpha (professional agricultural sorority)  
 Pursuing after Truman: Law school or a position in the field of agricultural policy  
 Internship completed/planned: Public policy intern for American Farm Bureau Federation in Washington, D.C. (2015)  
 Study abroad: Completed Spanish minor in Spain (2014)  
 Hometown: Alledo, IL

### PURSUING AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

**BS**

DEGREE OFFERED

MAJOR OFFERED  
 Agricultural Science

MINORS OFFERED  
 Agricultural Studies,  
 Agricultural Business,  
 Equine Studies

**110**

approximate number of students pursuing this major

**60**

approximate number of students pursuing one of these minors

**5** full-time faculty members

**1** part-time faculty members

DEPARTMENTAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS  
 Sigma Alpha (professional ag sorority), Pre-Vet Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Delta Tau Alpha (ag honorary), Alpha Gamma Rho (fraternity-professional/social), Equestrian Team, Cattle Show Team

## Student Organizations

- **Alpha Gamma Rho:** Join Truman’s social and a professional fraternity primarily for Agricultural Science majors.
- **Beef Cattle Show Team:** Participate in the showing and selling of cattle from the University-owned Gelbvieh herd.
- **Collegiate Farm Bureau:** Serve as the voice in government for the men and women involved in production agriculture and agri-business. Receive opportunities to work with local, state and national leaders in government and agriculture policy.
- **Delta Tau Alpha:** Receive recognition for your high standards of scholarship, leadership, and character as an agriculture major.
- **Equestrian Team:** Check out our very successful Equestrian Team if you are interested in competing in either Western or English disciplines. ([truman.edu/equestrian-team/](http://truman.edu/equestrian-team/))
- **Pre-Vet Club:** Prepare for a career in veterinary science. Pre-Vet Club is open to interested students from any major.
- **Sigma Alpha:** Join this agricultural sorority for a balance of fellowship and service.

## Curriculum

- **Major:** Agricultural Science Major (Bachelor of Science) with areas of specialization in:
  - Agricultural Business
  - Equine Science
  - Horticulture and Agronomy
  - Pre-Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science
- **Minors:** Majoring in something other than Agricultural Science? Minors allow you to broaden your coursework and experiences at Truman. Declare a minor in any of the following areas.
  - Agricultural Business
  - Agricultural Studies
  - Equine Studies
- **Learning Plan:** In addition to the core agriculture courses required of all Agricultural Science majors, you



“I am continually impressed at the numerous research opportunities available to Truman students. This provides them with a chance to work closely with a professor and go more in depth on a topic they are interested in, and provides a huge advantage to students interested in pursuing graduate degrees.”

**Kelly Walter**  
 Assistant Professor of Agricultural Science

will develop a customized Learning Plan of agriculture electives and related courses to suit your unique career aspirations and allow for specialization.

## Consortium of Five Agriculture Universities

- The Consortium of Five Universities was developed to enhance food security through education.
- Shared resources between Truman State University, Missouri State University, University of Central Missouri, Northwest Missouri State University, and Southeast Missouri State University extend the capacity of each institution.
- Receive expanded course selection with online elective agricultural curriculum.

## University Farm

The 400-acre University Farm just 1.5 miles from campus features...

- a riding/breeding horse herd,
- a herd of Gelbvieh beef cattle,
- agronomy research plots,
- greenhouses,
- an orchard,
- vineyards,
- garden plots, and more!

## Research

- Start a mentored research project with a faculty member.
- Apply for funding to pursue independent projects.

## Internships

- **Farm to School Program:** Interested in fruit and vegetable production? How about food marketing? Farm to School Program internships are available during the summer. Gain additional experience in safe production and handling procedures. Research and develop protocols in preparation for the University Farm undergoing Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) and Good Handling Practice (GHP) audit verification procedures.

## Careers

- Over the past 12 years, Truman’s Agricultural Science graduates have averaged a 51% acceptance rate to University of Missouri’s Veterinary Medicine school, compared to a 39% rate for other applicants.
- Approximately two-thirds of Agricultural Science majors go directly into careers after graduation, pursuing positions in agronomy, animal science, or agricultural marketing with agricultural businesses, large and small. Other students find career opportunities in conservation or natural resource management with governmental organizations.