Agricultural Studies is an interdisciplinary major requiring courses from each of the five departments in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences. A relatively large set of elective courses allows students to customize their program to meet their individual needs. The agricultural studies major also requires a minor, which provides students with a deeper understanding of one aspect of agriculture.

The major is a gateway into the agricultural field for those who don’t know what they want to do (can’t choose a specific major) and it serves those students who know exactly what they want to do and are looking to tailor a program to meet their specific needs.

Because of the flexibility offered by this major, CAFES faculty in every department can be part of each individualized student program. The department of Agricultural Economics is the academic home for this major which provides some consistency in advising students in this program.

Flexible Options

- The Agricultural Studies program gives you the flexibility to design a program to meet your needs.
- If you know you like agriculture but are undecided about a specialization.
- You’ll be prepared for a variety of career options in sales or production agriculture. In fact, it is designed more for students seeking employment immediately after graduation.
- Students are exposed to the array of disciplines in the College, allowing them to see important links between disciplines and to approach issues from a multidisciplinary perspective.
- The facilities include excellent classrooms, general and specialized laboratories for different disciplines, computer labs, a greenhouse and laboratory farms.


UW-River Falls operates two laboratory farms which are an integral part of the educational program. Many classes in animal sciences, horticulture, crops and soils science, environmental sciences, and agricultural engineering meet on the farms for the laboratory portions of the course.

In addition to the production of crops, the laboratory farms support horse, beef and dairy cattle herds, a swine herd and a sheep flock. Demonstrations and experimental plots are also provided for student use. Cropland and livestock production facilities are used for classroom and hands-on educational purposes. Modern facilities house the animals and are used to demonstrate the relationships between management, nutrition, breeding, and environment.