Community Economic Development Specialization
November 2002

The curricula for Specialization in Community Economic Development (CED) is based on a combination of academic and practitioner courses that provide graduate credit. The majority of the work is based in academic work and emphasizes rural economic development and the four major focus areas of the LSU AgCenter's CED program. Course requirements can be met by attending traditional graduate level classes offered at LSU or other colleges and universities in Louisiana, short courses (for graduate credit) offered through LSU or other colleges and universities, or through classes offered through Distance Education. Any courses not listed in the following curricula must be approved by the CED Specialization Committee.

Agents wishing to specialize in CED must complete (1) three hours in a rural or community economic development course, (2) six hours in two of the following four areas: (a) small business management, (b) resource based economic development, (c) workforce development or (d) community leadership, and (3) six hours of community development practitioner courses. Three hours in any area can be fulfilled through an independent study with permission from the committee.

Requirements for Specialization in CED

Rural or community economic development * 3 hours

Focus areas course work 6 hours
  Small business/farm management*
  Resource based economic development *
  Workforce/organizational development
  Community leadership

Practitioner course work (examples) 6 hours
  Southern Rural Development Center Community Development Institute
  University of Missouri Community Development Academy

* Taught at LSU via Distance Education
Course Suggestions for Fulfilling CED Recommendations

Rural and Community Development
AGEC 4503 Rural Resource and Community Development
SOC 4321 The Community
SOC 4351 Rural Social Organization
SOC 4711 Human Ecology
SOC 7351 Seminar: Topics in Rural Sociology

Small Business/Farm Management
AGEC 4403 Agricultural Finance
AGEC 4433 Agricultural Business, Planning, Management
AGEC 4603 Agricultural Policy

Resource Based Economic Development
AGEC 7623 Rural Development Economics
AGEC 7503 Natural Resource Economics
AGEC 7710 Resource Based Economic Development
ECON 7320 Seminar in Environmental and Resource Economics
ECON 7325 Applied Resource Economics

Workforce/Organizational Development
SOC 4311 Complex Organizations
SOC 4411 Sociology of Work
SOC 4413 Gender and Work
SOC 4341 Social Change
ECON 6500 Workshop on Economic Education
ECON 6550 Special Topics in Economic Education
ECON 7070 Theory of Economic Growth
ECON 7130 Public Finance Theory
ECON 7240 Seminar in Labor Economics
ECON 7480 Seminar in Industrial Organization
ECON 7250 Wage and Employment Analysis
ELRC 7301 Orientation to the World of Work
ELRC 7332 Educational and Occupational Information

Community Leadership
SOC 4621 Small Groups
EXED 7723 Leadership and Organization
EXED 4025 Principles of Adult Education
EXED 8900 Group Processes and Facilitation in Extension Education