

Guidelines for the Non-thesis Agricultural Economics Concentration Research Project

As part of the non-thesis Agricultural Economics Concentration, a student must complete a Non-thesis Agricultural Economics Concentration Research Project (NAECRP) and register for 2 credit hours of AGEC 593, Independent Study. A student may elect to complete these 2 credit hours under the supervision of a member of the student's committee or another faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics. However, all AGEC 593 NAECRP must be approved by the student's committee. Form F, Non-thesis Agricultural Economics Concentration Research Project Approval, must be completed and signed by the supervising faculty member and the student's committee upon satisfactory completion of the NAECRP. The grade (S or NC) will be assigned by the supervising faculty member. No more than 2 credit hours of AGEC 593 may be counted toward the degree program.

The NAECRP will include two components, a written paper and an oral presentation to the student's committee and the supervising faculty member (if that faculty member is not on the students' committee). Upon completion and approval of the project by the student's committee, a copy of the paper must be placed in the student's file with Form F as the cover page.

A suggested *general outline* for the paper is:

- Cover Page (Form F)
- Study Background and Justification
- Prior Studies (Literature Review)
- Study Objectives
- Data and Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- Implications
- References Cited
- Tables
- Figures

The style guidelines for *American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE)* must be followed. All pages must be numbered. The references and table/figures must be formatted according the *AJAE* specifications. The paper must not exceed 30 pages, including tables, figures, and references. The oral presentation shall be scheduled no later than two weeks prior to the end of the semester in which the student is to be given credit in AGEC 593. The oral presentation must include visuals (for example, a PowerPoint presentation). Oral presentations shall not exceed 20 minutes, with an additional 10 minutes for questions and are open to faculty and graduate students. Questions related to the NAECRP paper will also be part of the student's final oral examination conducted by the student's Faculty Committee.