



Bachelor of Science Applied Economic Management  
**Community Economic  
Development**

Photo by Sam Dean for Virginia Tech.

The Community Economic Development major prepares students to work with local, state, or federal government as well as non-governmental organizations in managing issues related to improving economic conditions in rural areas.

This degree focuses on rural job creation, labor markets, growth-agriculture conflicts, and land-use management.

According to the Department of Education, the median salary for our students, four years post graduation, is nearly \$76,000.

#### Key skillsets

- Economic analysis
- Community impact assessments
- Geographic informational analysis

#### Potential careers

- Extension agent
- Economic developer
- Community financial specialist
- Community engagement officer
- Community and tourism assessor

# CHECKLIST

Pathways general education: 45 hours

Degree core requirements: 19 hours

Major requirements: 19 hours

Analytical methods requirements: 3 hours

Area of specialization and free electives: 25 hours

Restrictive electives: 9 hours

## A HIGHLIGHT OF COMPANIES WHO HIRE OUR GRADUATES

USDA Farm Service Agency, Virginia  
Department of Housing, AmeriCorps,  
CropLife America, Virginia Cooperative  
Extension, World Health Organization,  
a variety of community economic  
development offices, and many more.



*View full course catalog*

## EXAMPLES OF COMMON CORE AND MAJOR REQUIREMENT CLASSES

- **Foundations of Agribusiness**  
Introduction to the primary management tools as they relate to farm production enterprises and agribusinesses.
- **Agricultural Production and Consumption Economics**  
Focuses on the economic principles of production, applications to decision-making and the allocation of resources for an agricultural firm, in addition to consumer behavior and demand for agricultural products.
- **Agricultural Law**  
Legal problems of farm and agribusiness management. Practical application of principles of contracts, negligence, debt instruments, and commercial transactions of the farm and agribusiness organization.
- **International Agricultural Development and Trade**  
Examination of the role of agriculture in less developed countries and how that role is affected by public policies.
- **Rural and Regional Development Policy**  
Description of rural areas, their economic structure, and conditions for broad-based economic development. Emphasis on the role of markets in the development process. Introduction to tools to evaluate policies and programs, identify distributional impacts, identify appropriateness for long-term sustainable development, and analyze tradeoffs between policy goals.