

Program Description

This is a one-year, intensified program designed to allow students the opportunity to specialize in the area of swine management. It provides students with a greater knowledge of swine enterprise management through experiential learning, clerkship programs and placement training (internships).

Academics

In addition to the clerkship, students are required to complete courses in reproduction, feeds and feeding, live animal and carcass evaluation, farm business management, swine management and principles of animal environments. Students also may choose classes from a variety of elective areas such as agricultural economics, crop and soil sciences, agricultural engineering and animal science. Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of beef cattle and sheep production.

Facilities

The MSU Swine Farm is a modern, bio-secure facility that was built in 1997. It is located on the southern edge of campus and consists of one continuous structure which houses high-health, farrow- to-finish production. The herd is comprised of about 225 purebred Yorkshire and Y x L sows. The farm is used by faculty and staff who are conducting research, teaching and extension/outreach programs.

Student Clubs and Organizations

Students may choose to participate in the Block and Bridle Club, Rodeo Club or the Livestock Judging Team. The Block and Bridle Club welcomes students who have an interest in Animal Science. Club meetings featuring guest speakers as well as social activities.

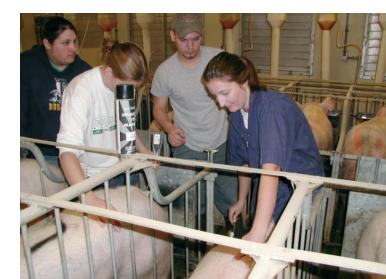
Internships

Learning goes beyond the classroom and the clerkship for swine management students as they participate in placement training, also known as internships. Students apply what they have learned in the classroom while working with professionals from the swine management industry. Internships are an extremely valuable part of our program, providing students with opportunities to broaden their knowledge of the swine industry and gain professional swine management skills.

Clerkship

The swine clerkship at the MSU Swine Teaching and Research Center is designed to provide students with a thorough hands-on experience in modern, swine production. Students will work with members of the farm staff to accomplish day-to-day, standard procedures. Students will develop skills in:

- Breeding Management
- Farrowing
- Record Keeping
- Sanitation
- Health Management
- Grower/Finisher Management
- Safety
- Biosecurity
- Nursing Management



Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Swine Management certificate program will find rewarding careers in agriculture and the swine industry. Careers may include pork producer, production manager, farm assistant manager, herdsperson, sales representative, and farm technical support.



Admission Requirements

The Swine Management certificate program is for students who are interested in pursuing careers in swine production, as well as, those who want to improve and acquire new technical skills to use while running their farm.

To be admitted into the program, students must have a high school diploma or equivalent and at least a 2.0 GPA. ACT or SAT scores used as needed in the admission process.

Previous coursework in writing, speaking, mathematics, biological sciences, vocational agriculture, and computers would be beneficial. This is an excellent program for recent high school graduates, workers seeking to retrain or retool, and those seeking a career change or to explore new options.

For More Information

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Swine

Management

Certificate Program