

**Department of Agricultural Education and Communications
Texas Tech University**

Ph.D. Experience Plan Requirement

All doctoral students in consultation with their major professors are expected to develop a written experience plan to be approved along with their program of study. Each experience plan shall be a detailed plan that takes into consideration previous experience and builds upon and broadens that. The plan is to be reviewed by the student's graduate committee on an annual basis. The graduate coordinator will be in charge of monitoring that the plans are filed.

The experience plan requirement will benefit students in their future careers. What graduate students think are their career goals are not necessarily where they will find employment. The experience plan is designed to augment students' backgrounds of experience in order to help them be well-rounded, well-prepared, graduates of the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications at Texas Tech University.

A person with a Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Communications and Education is expected to have experiences in all areas, including teaching, communications, extension, international, and research. Guidelines for the experience plan include the following: (1) ten or more experiences, including a grant proposal, a professional meeting, and an article, poster, or presentation proposal; (2) a checklist format with times to be completed; (3) a broad expanse of experiences, not just those related to previous experiences or career goals; and (4) expected reporting times and formats, either written or verbal.

The following is a partial list of possible settings and opportunities that occur annually. Specific requirements for observation and participation should be delineated in each individual plan. The description should include the level of participation in the activity and what the student learned as an outcome of participation.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATION & OUTCOME	DATE
AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS		
National FFA Ag Communications CDE		
Texas FFA Ag Communications CDE		
Texas FFA Convention Times Newspaper		
ACT club meetings		
Regional ACT meetings		
National ACT conference		
Ag Communications industry meetings		
Industry internship		
OTHER: _____		
EXTENSION LEADERSHIP		
County Extension office		
State Extension Specialist or field specialist		
Extension orientation for new staff		
Extension in-service education		
Extension materials development		
Extension field demonstrations		
Extension field demonstrations		
4-H camps		
Collegiate 4-H club meetings		
Volunteer Leader training		
Area Extension Education meetings		
OTHER: _____		
INTERNATIONAL		
International field experience		
Cooperative exchange between U.S. and international students		
International visitor assistance		
Language study		
OTHER: _____		
LEADERSHIP		
FFA LDE Events		
Professional internship		
OTHER: _____		

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATION & OUTCOME	DATE
TEACHER EDUCATION		
Collegiate FFA club meetings		
Fall district VATAT meetings		
Summer VATAT conference		
Student teacher visits		
VATAT planning meetings		
Inservice education activities for teachers		
High school agriculture department		
OTHER: _____		
MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES		
National FFA Convention		
State FFA Convention		
District and Area FFA conferences		
FFA CDE Events		
State Fairs		
County Fairs		
Livestock shows		
4-H Camps		
4-H Conference		
Young Farmer conference		
OTHER: _____		
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT		
Research meetings		
Professional meetings		
Departmental seminars		
Professional journals		
Grant writing		
Program evaluations		
Data collection		
Needs assessment		
OTHER: _____		

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATION & OUTCOME	DATE
ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP		
Undergraduate classes		
Undergraduate mentoring		
Post-secondary student conferences		
Post-secondary recruitment visits		
Departmental committees		
Departmental meetings		
TEACH program		
Distance course delivery		
Distance program delivery		
OTHER: _____		