AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT

OVERVIEW
Cal Poly’s Agribusiness Department is a leading, dynamic and entrepreneurial agribusiness program providing applied business education for careers in the global food industry. The program emphasizes management preparation for careers in agribusiness as part of the world’s food system, with emphasis on marketing strategy, retail and supply chain management, finance and operations.

MAJOR
AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS

MINOR
AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS

81%
percent of agricultural business students have at least one internship while at Cal Poly.

100
top employers who participate in the annual winter career fair for students to connect with internship and career opportunities.

THE AGRIBUSINESS INDUSTRY EMPLOYS ONE-FOURTH OF THE U.S. LABOR FORCE.

“Through the Agribusiness Management Club, I have been able to network with industry professionals and expand my knowledge of the opportunities that the agricultural industry has to offer. It has even helped me land internships with the J.M. Smucker Company and Farm Credit West, where I can apply what I’ve learned in the classroom directly to the industry.”

ANDREW ARROYO (Agricultural Business, ’22)
Students are exposed to the agriculture world’s dynamic environmental, political, economic and social scenarios. With Cal Poly’s state-of-the-art technology and famed Learn by Doing experiential education, students gain exceptional interpersonal, communication, critical thinking, problem-solving, and applied business skills — all prerequisites to successful careers in a variety of fields spanning the entire international arena.

The Agribusiness Department is engaged in teaching, research, outreach and service, and students are involved in each and every facet. The department fosters robust partnerships with agribusiness firms, allied businesses and alumni, ensuring students are exposed to real-world issues and gain a keen awareness of the social and environmental context for agribusiness. Students gain additional awareness by participating in international experiences, internships, field trips and club activities.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

AG SHOWCASE

Each winter quarter, the Agribusiness Management Club hosts the Ag Showcase, the largest student-run career fair in the college. With nearly 100 companies in attendance, students are given the opportunity to collaborate and network with industry professionals and representatives from a variety of fields. Not only are students provided with opportunities for internships and careers, but they exemplify Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing motto by displaying their readiness for a career in the industry.

TWELVE

The number of times that Cal Poly has won the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) competition since the contest started (eight more times than any other university). Students have the opportunity to create and present a complete marketing plan for a new agricultural or food product. Being a part of the NAMA team exposes students to a rich and rewarding experience that takes learning out of the classroom and into a real-world environment where they are engaged and challenged.