The Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture confers Associate of Applied Science Degrees in Animal Science and Horticulture. This two-year program of technical and applied education is only available at the Storrs campus. The School was established in 1941 by the University of Connecticut through a bequest from Mr. Ratcliffe Hicks of Tolland, Connecticut.

The School provides an excellent opportunity for students with a variety of educational backgrounds and experiences to further their education in the areas of horticulture and animal science. Students include recent high school graduates as well as adults who are interested in continuing education or a career change. Course work offers a balance between technical and theoretical aspects of each subject with emphasis on hands-on learning.

RHSA graduates have the skills and knowledge to enter challenging and exciting careers. They are highly qualified for competitive positions and often manage or own businesses and production operations. Many RHSA graduates continue their education and pursue baccalaureate or higher degrees.

Admission Requirements. Admission is open to qualified graduates of approved secondary schools. See the Admission section of this Catalog for required courses and units. Foreign language study is not required for admission into the two-year program; college preparatory level courses are recommended, but not required. Applicants must submit a high school transcript, Scholastic Assessment Test scores, and a personal statement describing their interest, experience, and career goals in the field of agriculture. Applicants who are not graduates of a secondary school must present a copy of a State Equivalency Diploma and a personal statement.

Students from some New England states may be eligible to enroll in the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture at a reduced tuition rate through the New England Regional Student Program. Eligibility for Associate degree programs requires: (1) earned a total of 64 degree credits; (2) earned at least a 2.0 grade point average for the total number of calculable credits for which they have been registered; (3) passed all courses required by the faculty of the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture; and (4) earned at least 32 credits at the University of Connecticut in Ratcliffe Hicks courses numbered 1-99.

Plan of Study. Students should work closely with their advisors to select appropriate courses. Each student should prepare a tentative plan of study, outlining all courses, with an academic advisor as early as possible.

A final plan of study, approved by the major advisor and the RHSA Director, must be filed with the Director of the School and the Degree Auditor no later than the end of the fourth week of classes of the semester in which a student expects to graduate.

General Education Requirements for Both Majors

Mathematics and Computers
SAAG 090  Agricultural Calculations
SAAG 001  Computers in Agriculture

Humanities and Social Science
POLS 173 Introduction to American Political Process
ENGL 104  Basic Writing
SARE 050  Principles of Agricultural & Resource Economics
One course in either literature or arts or other humanities as approved by the Advisor and Director

Natural Science
Two of the following courses:
SAAS 004  Anatomy & Physiology of Domestic Animals
SAPL 003  Introduction to Plant Science
SAPL 022  Introduction to Soil Science
BIOL 100  General Biology
BIOL 102  Foundations of Biology

Major Requirements

Animal Science Core
SAAS 004  Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals
SAAS 005  Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals
SAAS 006  Nutrition and Feeding of Livestock
SAAS 007  Animal Breeding and Genetics
SAAS 020  Introduction to Animal Science
SAPB 015  Health and Disease Management of Animals and Poultry

Scholarships

The Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture offers up to ten Heritage Scholarships for qualified individuals entering the two-year program. Selected applicants receive up to $1,000 toward educational expenses in their first semester. Based on academic performance, Scholarships may be renewed for three additional semesters. Continuing students with outstanding academic performance may also be considered for Heritage Scholarships. Incoming students are reviewed for Heritage Scholarships prior to entering the program. Selection is based on academic and career-related accomplishments, and potential for continued success. Applications and additional information are available from the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture, 1376 Storrs Road, U-90, Storrs, CT 06269-4090.

Many other scholarships in Agriculture and Natural Resources are available to Ratcliffe Hicks students.

Associate Degree Curricula

Majors. RHSA students major in Horticulture or Animal Science. Horticulture majors in RHSA may concentrate on floriculture or nursery management and landscaping. Graduates pursue careers in floriculture, landscape and grounds maintenance, greenhouse and garden center operations, nursery management, interiorting, park and land management or botanical gardening.

Animal science majors focus on equine studies or production agriculture, including both dairy and livestock. Graduates seek positions in the horse industry, production enterprises, animal health, breeding and genetics, nutrition, meat science and food handling, or related service industries.

Faculty Advisors. Faculty advisors are assigned to students upon entry into the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture according to a student's major and area of special interest. Advisors assist students in the selection of appropriate courses and help them develop an individualized program that will meet educational and career goals.

Registration. Ratcliffe Hicks students are restricted primarily to RHSA courses, numbered 1-99. The following 100-level courses have been pre-approved for all RHSA students:
ENGL 104
One of the following for the Literature/Arts Requirement: ART 135, DRAM 101, DRAM 110, FREN 171, MUSI 191, or WS 104
One of the following for the Natural Science Requirement: BIOL 100 or 102

No more than 13 credits of 100-level course work (including courses listed above) may be used toward the AAS degree. RHSA students must have approval of the major advisor to register for 100-level courses not listed above. RHSA students may not register for 200-level courses or skill code courses (W, Q, C). Inappropriate registration may result in administrative changes to a student's schedule or credit restrictions toward graduation requirements.

Degree Requirements

Upon recommendation of the faculty, the degree of Associate of Applied Science is awarded by vote of the Board of Trustees to students who have met the following requirements: (1) earned a total of 64 degree credits; (2) earned at least a 2.0 grade point average for the total number of calculable credits for which they have been registered; (3) passed all courses required by the faculty of the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture; and (4) earned at least 32 credits at the University of Connecticut in Ratcliffe Hicks courses numbered 1-99.
Horticulture Core
SAPL 003 Introduction to Plant Science
SAPL 022 Introduction to Soil Science
SAPL 025 Greenhouse Operations
SAPL 041 Plant Pest Control
SAPL 042 Integrated Pest Management
SAPL 062 Plant Propagation

Area of Specialization for Both Majors
In addition to the general education requirements and the major core requirements listed above, students must complete at least 12 credits of course work related to an area of specialization within their major. These courses must be Ratcliffe Hicks courses numbered 011-099 and must be approved by their advisor.

Internship, Independent Study Courses, and Special Topics. Students may apply no more than six credits of these courses toward the minimum graduation requirement of 64 earned credits.

Scholastic Standards
The Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture follows the same academic regulations and procedures regarding scholastic standards and probation for Lower Division students as all other schools and colleges of the University with the following exceptions: The Pass/Fail option is not authorized for students in the school and first semester students are subject to dismissal from the University as deficient in scholarship if their semester grade point average is less than 1.2.

Supplemental Information
Transfer to Four-Year Program. Upon completion of the associate degree program, students may petition to transfer into the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources or other baccalaureate programs of the University. Students should contact the Director’s Office, W.B. Young Building, Room 211, to obtain an application and verify procedures. The Ratcliffe Hicks School will review applications for transfer and submit a recommendation to the Transfer Admissions Office. Admissions decisions will be based primarily on courses completed in the School and earned grade point average (minimum 2.5). Students transferring to a baccalaureate program at the University of Connecticut will receive transfer credit for all credits earned with a grade of C- or higher, except that no credit will be given for any course graded Satisfactory-Unsatisfactory, or for SAAG 90, Agricultural Calculations.

Field Trips and Transportation Costs. Many courses require off-campus field trips. Students should budget money for participation.

University Fees and Expenses. For fees and expenses see statement under Undergraduate Fees and Expenses.

Housing Regulations. Students who desire housing will be assigned rooms in residence halls with baccalaureate students. See the section devoted to Residence Halls under General Information for additional information.

Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture Website
http://www.canr.uconn.edu/rh/