

NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Course Catalog for the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

NCTA is an outstanding college, known for its small classes, friendly faculty and highly successful students. The college is highly focused on its mission – preparing students for successful careers in agriculture and veterinary technology. The quality of NCTA's academic programs has been recognized by national organizations which have ranked NCTA among the best two-year colleges in the country.

We work hard to provide students with the maximum opportunity to be successful in a college program. NCTA is open admissions and low cost. A generous scholarship and financial aid package, and low tuition rate for all, attracts students from Nebraska and elsewhere. You will find some new classes and programs in this year's catalog, along with some new opportunities broaden your collegiate experience.

Our faculty focus on tangible learning activities and hands-on education relevant to modern agricultural careers. NCTA is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and federally authorized for international students. The applied technical skills students learn in classroom activities are immediately useful in their careers.

We prepare leaders and entrepreneurs in agricultural industries and we do so in a warm and friendly environment. NCTA is small, easy to navigate, and very welcoming. The Curtis community is highly supportive of NCTA students and college activities. We treat students, faculty, staff and all members of our college community with respect and kindness.

Before students even arrive at NCTA for their new semester, our faculty and staff work diligently to help them achieve success. We provide opportunity academically, financially and socially. NCTA provides a culture embracing diversity, critical analysis, leadership development, and fulfilling academic enhancement activities.

We strive to keep tuition low and higher education more affordable. An analysis of three years of financial aid records shows that more than 90% of NCTA students have received financial aid. On average, Nebraska residents with aid have received grant and scholarship awards that exceeded the cost of tuition and fees by \$700 per year. After paying their bill for tuition and fees, students find the average financial aid award provides more than \$700 to pay for rent, food, transportation, books and other college expenses.

NCTA intercollegiate athletics focus on sports associated with agriculture and the rural lifestyle. Aggie students can join student clubs, participate in exciting programs, or compete with peers on traveling teams. You can be a team member of rodeo, ranch horse, livestock judging, shooting sports, crops judging, or the stock dog club. NCTA Aggies often achieve success when competing nationally. Our crops judging team has won national titles, we've cheered on a nationally-ranked barrel racer from Aggie Rodeo, and our livestock and agribusiness academic teams repeatedly have earned national placings.

Student clubs, teams and organizations provide students with opportunities for developing leadership skills, technical career skills, industry contacts and a career network. You will find more than 20 clubs, organizations and intramural sports at NCTA, including Agribusiness

Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Student Technicians of Veterinary Medicine and Women in Ag.

NCTA also has an extensive intramural sports program and a campus wellness-fitness center for your daily physical fitness workout.

The college has a broad array of academic programs in agriculture and veterinary technology. New this fall, students can enroll in our dairy production option of Agricultural Production Systems. In this new partnership with South Dakota State University students have three semesters of coursework here at NCTA with one semester of hands-on dairy work at Brookings.

The agricultural equipment program has expanded with welding courses which can prepare students for testing and certification through the American Welding Society. Our partnership with Reinke Irrigation is a mainstay in training irrigation technicians through a 1-year course. These newer courses, including equine management, bolster our traditional outstanding strengths in veterinary technology, animal science, plant science, and agribusiness.

At NCTA, faculty staff and students celebrate agriculture and a rural lifestyle. You'll see students on horseback riding across campus and you'll see students wearing spurs in the dining hall. Our 580-acre working farm is just north of us, easily accessible for classroom activities. We have an extensive array of animals for class activities including cattle, horses and sheep in livestock management, or dogs, birds, snakes, rodents, and other exotics in veterinary technology.

Graduates may enroll in a University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bachelor of Applied Science program here at Curtis. While working on their bachelor's degrees students have full access to NCTA services including living at a residence hall, college advising and financial aid assistance, library and computer access, and campus athletics. The BAS program is offered through UNL's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

This is a great time for our students to be entering the field of agriculture. With an increasing demand placed on our agricultural industries to provide even more food for a growing world, we play a leading role in educating future producers and industry leaders. Students graduating from NCTA are prepared and eager to be engaged in the future workforce.

Let me know how I may assist you in pursuing your career path here at NCTA.

Ron Rosati, Dean