

## Career opportunities

The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production prepares students into “agro-socio economist” who focus on livelihood, agriculture, agribusiness and community development. Graduates may work in international agencies, NGOs, government, and private sector and cover activities at different scales, from policy and planning, agribusiness, research and extension, to community engagement. Graduates can continue their education in several master’s degrees and doctoral programmes.

## For more information

### MR. HANNINGTON ODONGO JAWOKO

Head of Department/ Lecturer

P.O. Box 1410, Mbarara-Uganda

**Mobile:** +256 772 589499/ +256 752 589499

**Email:** jodongo@must.ac.ug

**Skype:** hanodo4



*A student in the field engagement activity with one of the modal farms*



### FIS Vision:

A centre of excellence in interdisciplinary studies and research that promotes fundamental understanding of problems and enables communities to pragmatically cope with the changing human conditions.

### FIS Mision:

To provide quality training and research that integrates methodology and practice from more than one discipline in order to holistically address community needs.

### FIS Goal:

Produce graduates and conduct interdisciplinary research geared towards innovative interventions that address multifaceted societal needs.

## FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (FIS)



## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOODS AND FARM PRODUCTION (BSc. ALFP)



*Mbarara University of Science & Technology*

Website: [fis.must.ac.ug](http://fis.must.ac.ug)

Email: [fis@must.ac.ug](mailto:fis@must.ac.ug)

## Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production (BSC.ALFP)

The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production (BSc.ALFP) is a four year programme offered by the Department of Environment and Livelihoods Support Systems under the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies (FIS). The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production (BSC.ALFP) offers a unique programme that brings an interdisciplinary approach to agricultural development, integrating perspectives from agricultural Sciences and social sciences. The Interdisciplinary approach to training offers a holistic insight and ensures that graduates are able to effectively act as change agents in delivering agricultural transformation within a pro-poor growth agenda, and how to support equitable mechanisms that allow farmers to access market opportunities and engage in processes of agricultural commercialization.

The programme emphasizes the importance of understanding livelihoods context and the institutions that mediate productive use of key resources. In order to better prioritize, analyze and evaluate new technology, practice or policy reforms This also considers outcomes and pathways to broader respond to the ever-changing landscapes of contemporary challenges facing the future of Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production (BSC.ALFP) offers a unique programme that brings an interdisciplinary that wil support broader agricultural growth and nation development.

The following thematic areas are covered to reflect the need for knowledge and skills in optimizing livelihood options, strengthening community support and current extension farming skills for effective farm production systems:

1. Basic principles in livelihood approaches and agricultural sciences
2. Farming systems
3. Supporting rural livelihoods transformation

## Overall Goal

The overall goals to train a critical mass of professionals with applied knowledge and skills in the multidimensional nature of farmers livelihoods in order to promote sustainable farm production and management systems.

## Specific Objectives

- Demonstrate applied knowledge and skills in development and adopting a livelihood approach in farm production management systems;
- Develop the necessary capacities, attitudes and commitment towards implementation of livehood oriented programmes.
- Articulate disaster risk farm projects and determine community relevant preparedness and response strategies.
- Conduct quality research that will provide a foundation for improving systems thinking needed for planning and evaluation of farm production systems.
- Develop, manage and implement personal and community farm based entrepreneurial projects.
- Work in teams and demonstrate ability to foster partnerships and collaborations with both local and international institutions and other development agencies through planning and implementing livelihoods promotion projects.

## Graduate Knowledge Skills and Competences

### A. Knowledge

By the end of the training the graduate will have acquired knowledge in the following.

1. Agricultural science principles in crops, animals, climate, food and water
2. The inter-related character of livelihoods and farm production.
3. Farming systems and livelihoods analysis.
4. Agricultural innovations systems
5. Farm enterprise and economics
6. Interdisciplinary methodologies
7. Action research, extension and advisory services
8. Project planning, implementation and evaluation approaches
9. Multi-stakeholder innovations platforms.
10. Contemporary debates rethinking agricultural transformation.

### B. Intellectual skills

On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe and assess a range of established theories and concepts
2. Review, synthesize and critically evaluate published materials from a range of sources.

3. Critically review and evaluate evidence and use this to construct reasoned, evidenced argument.
4. Apply conceptual and theoretical approaches to empirical material
5. Apply knowledge to practical development problems.
6. Critically evaluate policy, policy implementation and the value of new technology.
7. Plan, conduct and write reports on independent projects.

### D. Transferable Skills

On completion of the training graduates will be able to:

1. Develop and implement agricultural enterprises
2. Communicate scientific and social scientific ideas to different stakeholders
3. Give oral presentations
4. Use of ICT for agriculture
5. Work as part of a team
6. Use library and other information resources.
7. Manage time
8. Plan their careers
9. Facilitate and negotiate agriculture based development programs

## Contribution to National Development

The programme promotes the holistic insight that ensures graduates are able to effectively act as change agents in delivering agricultural transformation within the sector. By creating a responsive human resource equipped with positive values and attitudes, this mindset change will contribute to socio-economic transformation, critical analysis, decision making and planning needed for effective agricultural innovative practices that leads to positive livelihood outcomes.



*The Agricultural Livelihoods and Farm Production students going for field study*