

# AGRI BUSINESS

  
**BlueRidge**

COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

A photograph of a farm scene. In the foreground, there is a field of green crops, possibly corn. Behind the field is a red barn with a white roof. To the right of the barn are two tall, silver metal silos. In the background, there is a dense line of green trees under a blue sky with white clouds. A horse is visible near the barn.

**SPRING 2021**



## Mission Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides our diverse student population with life-changing education, training, and services that drive economic development within the communities we serve.

## Our Vision

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is the first choice for higher education that drives career growth and economic development in our region and surrounding communities.



*“Just like every piece is important to make a puzzle complete, every person is important to the mission!”*

## Core Values

### Stewardship:

- Put student access, learning, and success first
- Support a safe, collaborating, and engaging environment for employees and students
- Provide an optimum learning environment for students
- Use College resources responsibly
- Demonstrate care for facilities

### Civility:

- Communicate with respect, trust, and care
- Respect differences
- Listen actively
- Be aware of your impact on others
- Discuss differences and resolve conflicts

### Integrity:

- Engage and actively contribute to the overall success of the College
- Think creatively and develop solutions
- Act honestly and ethically
- Provide accurate and thorough information
- Be courageous to be even better

### Entrepreneurship:

- Embrace our business partners
- Think proactively and innovatively
- Be adaptable and flexible for shifting priorities
- Identify areas for continuous improvement
- OWN enrollment
- Take calculated risks wisely

## Nondiscrimination Statement

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College provides opportunity to all prospective and current members of the student body, faculty, and staff on the basis of individual qualifications and merit without regard to race, color, sex, sexual preference, religion, age, national origin, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, familial status, veteran status, or disability. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Printed and/or electronic documents produced by the College do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between an applicant or student. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: [www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo)

**Blue Ridge CTC is following all CDC Guidelines to protect the health and safety of our campus community. While visiting our campus, social distancing, face coverings, and increased hand washing/sanitizing is required.**

## Locations

Main Campus

13650 Apple Harvest Dr.  
Martinsburg, WV 25403

Technology Center

5550 Winchester Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405

Morgan County Center

Located at the Pines Opportunity Center  
109 War Memorial Dr.  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

**Virtually Tour our Campus! Visit:**

[www.blueridgectc.edu/tour](http://www.blueridgectc.edu/tour)

## Agribusiness Contact

Tiffany Hine, Program Coordinator  
[thine@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:thine@blueridgectc.edu)



**APPLY TO THE  
AGRIBUSINESS  
PROGRAM TODAY!**  
[blueridgectc.edu/apply](http://blueridgectc.edu/apply)



# AGRI BUSINESS

SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF  
THE **AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY**  
BY PURSUING A CAREER IN  
AGRIBUSINESS!



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## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Agribusiness Program supplies local agriculture businesses with employees who have training in basic disciplines as well as Animal Science or Food Production. This program is the first step to a career in Agriculture. After completion of the program, students may enter the Agriculture workforce in entry level positions. Positions may include agriculture retail, Agricultural Trade Organizations, veterinary offices, produce markets, general farming businesses, and animal farming management.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Agribusiness students may find rewarding careers in veterinary offices, farmers markets, farms, or animal science industries. Agribusiness students have the opportunity to work in any state. Basic business and agriculture courses and training allows certificate holders to be employed in a variety of industries and localities.

## ENROLL TODAY!

### Contact Admissions:

304-260-4380 | [admissions@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:admissions@blueridgectc.edu)

### For More Information

Tiffany Hine, Agribusiness Program Coordinator

304-433-2677 or [thine@blueridgectc.edu](mailto:thine@blueridgectc.edu)

### Main Campus: 13650 Apple Harvest Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25403

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**DEGREE PROGRAM**

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

**LANDSCAPING  
CONCENTRATION**

**LANDSCAPING SKILL  
SET CERTIFICATE**



## Agribusiness Degree Online

Students are completing their Agribusiness Certificate and Agribusiness A.A.S degree online. Online classes in agribusiness, animal and plant science are supported through local farm, nursery, and greenhouse visits. The program coordinator works with students and farms in the communities to arrange visits. Instructors are available to students via Zoom, phone, text, and email. After graduation, students have the option of continuing their education by transferring to a four-year institution or moving into the workforce.



*"The Agribusiness program courses are laid out clearly but advanced enough to learn relevant and long-lasting information. Agribusiness is the way to go!"*

*- Samantha Stuckey, AGRB Student*



## AGRIBUSINESS TRIVIA

What living animal do scientists believe is the closest relative of the T-Rex dinosaur?



## Advisory Board Member Spotlight: Jeanie Hamilton



Jeanie Hamilton grew up on a beef and cattle farm in Berkeley County, WV and brings her lifetime of agricultural knowledge to the Agribusiness Advisory Board. She is a Loan Officer with Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit (MAFC), and works with purchases and refinances of farms, tractor loans, farm improvement loans, livestock financing, and operating lines of credit. MAFC is also a generous scholarship sponsor assisting students in completing their agribusiness degree.

Jeanie is married to her husband Karl and they have two sons, Brady and Spencer. She is the Treasurer for the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, member of the Apple Harvest Board and a member of the Charles Town Rotary.

The Agribusiness Advisory Board is a board consisting of thirteen community members with an interest in the future of agriculture in the community. This volunteer board provides guidance for the Agribusiness program and continuously promotes the Agribusiness program within the community.

## Course Spotlight: Principles of Sustainable Agriculture

Students learn Sustainable Agriculture is the production of food, fiber, and other plant and animal products using techniques that protect the environment, public health, human communities, and animal welfare. This form of agriculture enables society to produce healthy food without compromising future generations' ability to do the same.



### Sustainable Agriculture can be achieved through:

- Applying integrated pest management
- Building and maintaining healthy soil
- Crop rotation
- Integrating livestock and crops
- Managing water wisely
- Minimizing air
- Planting cover crops
- Promoting biodiversity
- Reducing or eliminating tillage
- Water and climate pollution

This course also focuses on running a self-owned farm business. Students complete a comprehensive business plan for starting a new business or taking over an existing one.

## Blue Ridge CTC Instructor Earns Certification to Improve Online Education for Students



*“I made this certification a priority because I knew the positive impact it would have for students.”*

Martinsburg, WV. Blue Ridge CTC Associate Professor and Agribusiness Program Coordinator Tiffany Hine is the first faculty member to earn the Quality Matters (QM) Online Teaching Certification. As online learning has expanded over the last year, Quality Matters training continues to be vital as Faculty work to continuously improve a student's experience in a virtual classroom.

To earn the Quality Matters Online Teaching Certification, Hine completed seven intensive courses related to online instruction. Each course is distinctive and includes practical concepts for instructors to apply within their courses. For Hine, earning this certification was a priority, as the Agribusiness program at Blue Ridge CTC is now available entirely online.

“I made this certification a priority because I knew the positive impact it would have for students,” said Hine. “Now that the Agribusiness program can be completed online, I wanted to ensure students receive the highest quality education in my classroom. For the hands-on skills required to be successful, practical learning still occurs in the field. By enhancing a student's online learning experience, students are better prepared to experience real-life, day-to-day activities of agriculture.”

While Hine is the first to earn the QM Online Teaching Certification, the College actively promotes professional development training to enhance online learning. Since 2011, 130 faculty members have completed one or more professional development workshops through Quality Matters. Currently, the College has 8 QM Certified Reviewers on staff.

Quality Matters is the global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments. It provides a scalable quality assurance system for online and blended learning used within and across organizations. To learn more about Quality Matters, visit [www.qualitymatters.org](http://www.qualitymatters.org)

## Agribusiness 101 Receives Quality Matters Certification for Course Design Quality



Blue Ridge Community and Technical College's Agribusiness 101 (Agribusiness Introduction) earned the Quality Matters (QM) Certification Mark following a rigorous review process. The QM Certification Mark is the internationally recognized symbol of online and blended course design quality and represents Blue Ridge Community and Technical College's ongoing commitment to creating learning environments that provide learners with a clear pathway to success.

The certification is the result of Blue Ridge Community and Technical College's dedication to continuous improvement, including the innovative work of faculty involved with the certified course. The course is now listed on the [QM directory of certified courses](#).

"The Quality Matters Official Review provided the opportunity to reflect on this course and examine it from the learner perspective," said Tiffany Hine, Associate Professor. "From accessibility to learner engagement to assessments, the review used internationally-recognized standards and best practices to examine critical course components related to the learner experience and ultimately learner success."

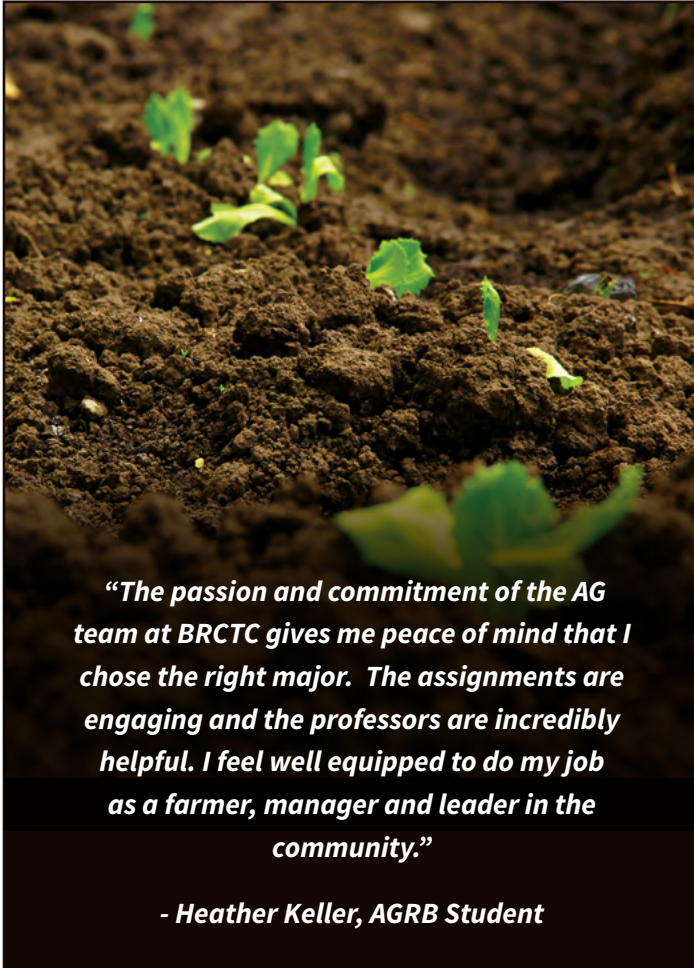
The QM Official Review provided independent validation of the quality, learner-focused course design found in Agribusiness 101. Reviews are conducted by QM-Certified Reviewers and use the Quality Matters Rubric and associated Standards, which are based on research and best practices. A course earns the QM Certification Mark once it meets QM Rubric Standards at the 85% threshold or better and meets all Essential Standards.

### About Quality Matters:

[Quality Matters \(QM\)](#) is the global organization leading quality assurance in online and innovative digital teaching and learning environments. It provides a scalable quality assurance system for online and blended learning used within and across organizations.

When you see QM Certification Marks on courses or programs, it means they have met [QM Course Design Standards](#) or [QM Program Review Criteria](#) in a rigorous review process.





## Bulk Density in Soil Structure

Soil Structure can be soft and crumbly or loose and full of holes. One way to measure soil structure is through bulk density.

**Bulk Density**



**Dry Weight of Soil/Soil Volume**

If the density is too high it means the soil is compacted, restricting root growth and causing poor plant growth. It can also increase runoff and erosion on sloping land or waterlogged soils in flat areas. Farmers reduce compaction by minimizing soil disturbance and production activities when the soil is wet, increasing organic matter, using cover crops, and reducing tillage.

*Citation: Soil Quality (2018). American Farm Bureau Foundations for Agriculture Educator's Guide.*



## AGRIBUSINESS TRIVIA ANSWER

**The chicken!**