Program Basics
The program integrates a Master's degree in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics with service in the U.S. Peace Corps. Students complete their first year of M.S. courses prior to Peace Corps service. Some credit can be granted during Peace Corps service via independent study. Students complete the M.S. at the University following the Peace Corps service.

Advantages:
- Students gain specialized knowledge that may benefit them in the Peace Corps placement.
- The integrated approach takes less time than it would to complete Peace Corps service and a master's degree independently of each other.
- Students have a concrete plan for activities immediately after Peace Corps, reducing readjustment time and facilitating their job search.

Example Program

**Year 1**

**Fall:**
- Math for Economists
- Mathematical Statistics
- Microeconomic Theory

**Spring:**
- Econometrics
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Analysis of Food System Performance

**Summer (optional):**
- Field Data Collection & Analysis (alternate years)
- Independent Study

**Years 2 & 3**
Peace Corps training. Peace Corps Service, Independent Study (via MSU advisor)

**Year 4**

**Fall:**
- Agriculture in International Development
- M.S. Thesis analysis and write-up

Eligibility and Admissions Process
Students must apply to both the department and the Peace Corps. (U.S. Citizenship is required for Peace Corps service.) In some cases, enrolled M.S. students will be able to apply to the Peace Corps as a program applicant during their first semester of graduate study. A diverse pool of applicants and participants to the program is encouraged.

Funding
MSU is offering fellowships specifically for students interested in pursuing the Peace Corps Master's International option. While registered at MSU as Master's degree candidates, participants will also be eligible for department research assistantships and fellowships. These are allocated on a competitive basis.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.

For more information: http://aec.msu.edu/grad.htm